

Hands Off Syria: Protests Around The World Against The Planned Assault

By **Countercurrents.org**

02 September, 2013

Countercurrents.org



A Trafalgar Square, London, protest on August 31, 2013 against potential strikes on Syria. (Reuters / Olivia Harris)

As US president Barack Obama announced that he will seek congressional authorization for a military intervention in Syria, protesters from around the world rallied against any war against Syria. Polls in the US, UK, France and other

countries show strong opposition against the possible war.

Media reports said:

Anti-Syria War-rallies were also held in Australia, Jordan, Poland, Turkey, Tunisia, Canada, and other countries in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

Thousands gathered in Trafalgar Square in London in a 'Hands off Syria' rally.

Their banners carried messages: "War solves nothing," "Cut war not welfare" and "Stop the war coalition".

One of the speakers, Labour Party MP, Diane Abbott said that an "illegal" war in Syria "wouldn't solve anything," adding that "if the answer is an American military intervention than you have asked the wrong questions."

British-Pakistani writer, Tariq Ali, stressed that the anti-war protest has "the support of an overwhelming majority of the British and the American people," warning that military

intervention will only prolong the Syrian civil war.



*The London anti-Syria War-rally on August 31, 2013.
(AFP Photo / Carl Court)*

The Stop the War Coalition said the protest also include a march in central London through the Houses of Parliament and Downing Street.

It's the second 'Hands off Syria' rally in the British capital this week after a rally in front of

the UK government's headquarters on Wednesday.

People from different countries informed these protests through electronic media, a few of which are presented below:

[Dave Evans @Intervision2013](#)

Thousands gather in Trafalgar Square at Rally to protest against proposed Washington / CIA warmongering in Syria.

pic.twitter.com/DdgkPYTyYs

[8:33 после полудня - 31 августа 2013](#)



[john zangas @johnzangas](#)

[#HandsOffSyria](#) protestors still rallying at [#WhiteHouse](#) but encouraged by the delay in attack on [#Syria @DCMediaGroup](#)
pic.twitter.com/yDSBtF8cOr



[G @SyrianLionesss](#)

In front of the White house, Washington D.C. in support of [#Syria #HandsOffSyria](#)
pic.twitter.com/SBRCdGknIG

[7:21 PM - 30 Aug 2013](#)



[Michael Wille @michaelquotes1](#)

Syrian counter-protest. Only a couple dozen people chanting [#FreeSyria](#)
pic.twitter.com/8U7Q58AgeK

[11:33 PM - 31 Aug 2013](#)

[C.D. Holt @holtcie](#)

Protest against US bombing of Syria in [#Houston](#) now. Westheimer and Post Oak. pic.twitter.com/XOvdX9p5C5

[1:00 AM - 1 Sep 2013](#)



In other US cities protesters voiced their opposition to any military action:

[@MeriamMohamadx3](#) [مریم العزب](#)

[#protest](#) for [#syria](#) in New York City, Times Square today. pic.twitter.com/lh9tAvN3ux

[7:54 AM - 30 Aug 2013](#) from New York



[Mass. Peace Action @masspeaceaction](#)

[#Boston](#) [#Syria](#) protest has marched by John [#Kerry](#)'s house and is now in front of Faneuil Hall pic.twitter.com/tK7A50J65y

[1:21 AM - 1 Sep 2013](#)



In Canada, rallies were held in Toronto, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Montreal. In Toronto, protesters gathered outside the US embassy:

[Dr. J @HeartsOnTheLeft](#)

[#Toronto](#) rallies to say "don't attack Syria"
pic.twitter.com/2xREs5k1Nl

[12:28 AM - 1 Sep 2013](#)



[Yusur Al-Bahrani @YusurAlBahrani](#)

Anti-war [#peace](#) rally: "Don't attack [#Syria](#)" in [#Toronto](#) in front of the [#US](#) consulate.
[#SyriaCrisis](#) pic.twitter.com/LDhqGUy5YE

[1:05 AM - 1 Sep 2013](#)



[@mindrevolt @mindrevolt](#)

[#Turkey](#) a protest against the Syrian war .

[#Syria](#) . pic.twitter.com/HNmatny6zz

[8:38 PM - 31 Aug 2013](#)



[Amir Yusuf Chaudhry @ThePreEminent](#)

[#UK: #StopTheWar](#) Coalition marches in

[#London](#) over [#Syria](#)

pic.twitter.com/hZjJo6yYpp

[12:41 AM - 1 Sep 2013](#)



□ Syria protests today outside Trafalgar Square
[#Syria #Ldn #london #chemicalweapons](#)
[instagram.com/p/dsAIBIoVY1/](https://www.instagram.com/p/dsAIBIoVY1/)
[Joe Mulvany@joemulv89](#)

Media reports also said:

Members of Jordan's communist party gathered in front of the US embassy in Amman on Sunday to express their strong opposition to any military intervention in Syria. The demonstrators chanted slogans against the United States and against the military intervention.

Oliver Darcy presented photographs of the anti-war protests in The Blaze (**Aug. 31, 2013**, “PHOTOS: Scenes From Demonstrations Around the World Protesting Possible Strike on Syria”, <http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2013/08/31/photos-scenes-from-demonstrations-around-the-world-protesting-possible-strike-on-syria/>) The photographs are by Reuters, AFP/Getty Images and AP.



Demonstrators in a rally in Lafayette Park in front of the White House on August 29, 2013. (AFP/Getty Images)



A cutout of US president Barack Obama stands on the sidewalk as demonstrators march in Lafayette Park on August 29, 2013. (AFP/Getty Images)



Members of the local Syrian community march in protest against the US involvement in Syria on Aug. 30, 2013, in Allentown, Pa. (AP)



Members of the local Syrian community march in protest against the US involvement in Syria on Aug. 30, 2013, in Allentown, Pa. (AP)



Members of the local Syrian community march in protest against the United States' involvement in Syria, Friday, Aug. 30, 2013, in Allentown, Pa. President Barack Obama says he hasn't made a final decision about a military strike against Syria—but is considering a limited and narrow action in response to a chemical weapons attack that he says Syria's government carried out last week. (AP)



Phillip Abdouche cheers after marching in protest against the United States' involvement in Syria, Friday, Aug. 30, 2013, in Allentown, Pa. President Barack Obama says he hasn't made a final decision about a military strike against Syria_ but is considering a limited and narrow action in response to a chemical weapons attack that he says Syria's government carried out last week. (AP)



A Jordanian protester chants anti-U.S. slogans and waves the Syrian national flag, during a protest by the Jordanian Communist Party and other leftist groups against any American military strike against Damascus, in Amman, Jordan, Friday, Aug. 30, 2013. President Barack Obama prepared for the possibility of launching unilateral American military action against Syria within days as Britain opted out. Top U.S. officials spoke with certain lawmakers for more than 90 minutes in a teleconference Thursday evening to explain why they believe Syrian

President Bashar Assad's government was the culprit in the suspected chemical attack last week. (AP)



Jordanian anti-riot forces form a chain around a protest by the Jordanian Communist Party and other leftist groups against any American military strike on Syria, in Amman, Jordan, Friday, Aug. 30, 2013. President Barack Obama prepared for the possibility of launching unilateral American military action against Syria within days as Britain opted out. Top U.S. officials spoke with certain lawmakers for more

than 90 minutes in a teleconference Thursday evening to explain why they believe Syrian President Bashar Assad's government was the culprit in the suspected chemical attack last week. (AP)



Jordanian women chant anti-U.S. slogans, during a protest by the Jordanian Communist Party and other leftist groups against any American military strike against Damascus, in Amman, Jordan, Friday, Aug. 30, 2013. United Nations experts are investigating the alleged use of chemical weapons in Syria as the United

States prepares for the possibility of a punitive strike against President Bashar Assad's regime, blamed by the Syrian opposition for the attack. The international aid group Doctors Without Borders says at least 355 people were killed in the Aug. 21 attack in a suburb of Damascus, the Syrian capital. (AP)



Jordanian anti-riot forces form a chain around a protest by the Jordanian Communist Party and other leftist groups against any American military strike against Damascus, in Amman, Jordan, Friday, Aug. 30, 2013. United Nations

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A demonstrator holds a placard against the war in Syria depicting US President Barack Obama during an anti-war demonstration on the Istiklal

avenue in Istanbul, on August 30, 2013. A thousand protesters took part in a rally on August 30, in Istanbul to protest against a possible military intervention in Syria. (AFP/Getty Images)

Pro Syrian demonstrators burn a U.S flag as they protest against possible military action against Syria, in Tunis, Friday, Aug. 30, 2013.



A woman holds a sign as Turkish trade union activists protest against a potential US and NATO military intervention in Syria, in front of the U.S. embassy in Ankara, on August 30, 2013. (AFP/Getty Images)



Pro Syrian demonstrators protest against possible military action against Syria, in Tunis, Friday, Aug. 30, 2013. (AP)



Turkish trade union activists protest against a potential US military intervention in Syria, in front of the U.S. embassy in Ankara, on August 30, 2013. (AFP/Getty Images)

Read more:

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/world/rallies-held-around-the-world-for-against-u-s-led-intervention-in-syria-1.1435411#ixzz2dhlo7uun>



'Hands Off [#Syria](#)' [#Tokyo](#), [#Japan](#)



[thoton](#)

.

[2 days ago](#)



[neo @neofree88](#)

[#Sydney](#), [#Australia](#) a protest against war on [#Syria](#) via Non-Televised Truth
pic.twitter.com/ogTYGmmF6F

[7:09 PM - 31 Aug 2013](#)



Seattle pi reported:

<http://www.seattlepi.com/technology/busine>

[ssinsider/article/Some-US-Troops-Appear-To-Be-Posting-Photos-In-4780002.php](http://ssinsider.com/article/Some-US-Troops-Appear-To-Be-Posting-Photos-In-4780002.php)

Some US Troops Appear To Be Posting Photos
In Protest Of Syrian Intervention

Paul Szoldra, provided by

BUSINESS INSIDER

Published 1:44 pm, Sunday, September 1, 2013

As the [march](#) to limited military intervention in Syria moves forward, some troops are making their views known — albeit anonymously — on social media.

[Photos](#) of servicemembers [have apparently popped up on Reddit](#), seemingly in protest of Syrian intervention. (Since they are not identified, it's impossible to verify they are indeed serving in the military.)

The basic argument is that the line between moderate rebel factions and al Qaeda-affiliated ones are somewhat murky in the two-year-old civil war, so the U.S. should stay away from intervening on the rebel side ([even in response to](#) a large-scale chemical weapons attack).

The posters are essentially saying that they didn't join the military "to fight for al Qaeda in a Syrian civil war."

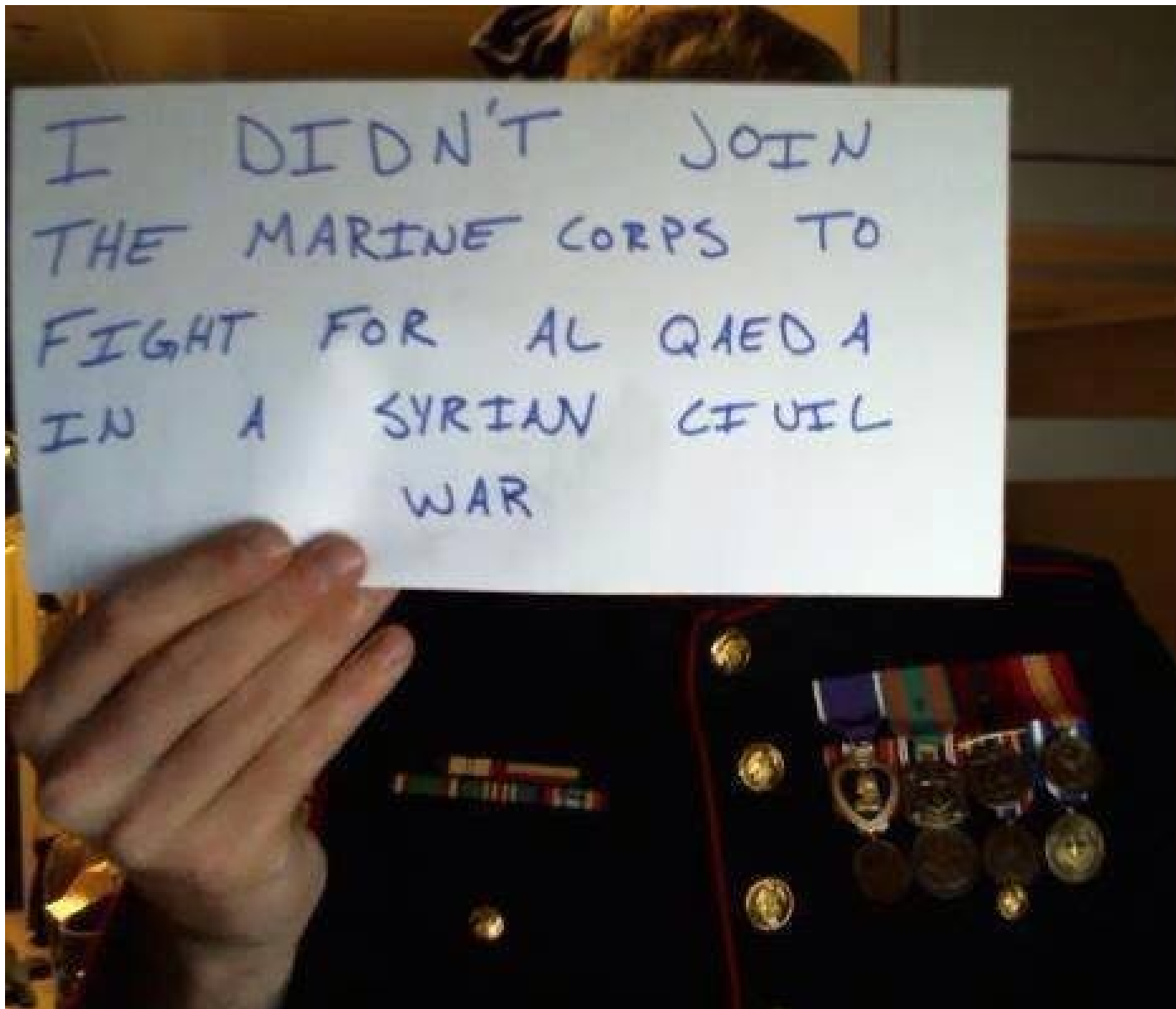
Interestingly, while they can have their own personal viewpoints of course, joining the military means giving up certain rights.

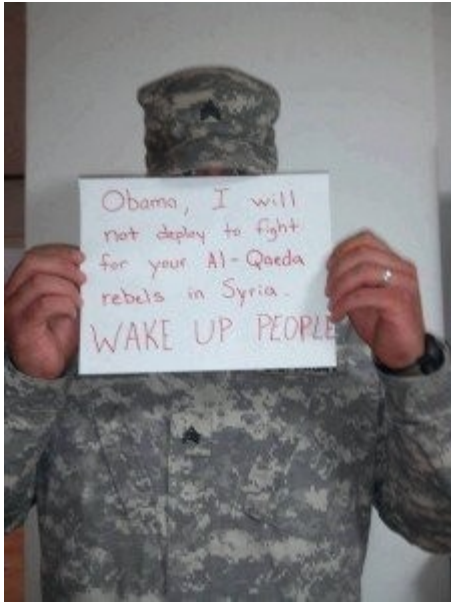
Specifically, the refusal to do things that your commanders want you to do (i.e. attack Syria). The oath of enlistment is pretty clear on that:

"I, [Name], do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God."

It's also worth noting that, while [some military members may agree](#) with the message of the photos, [many don't agree](#) with using the uniform to bolster the argument.

Here are a few more:





Obama, I will
not deploy to fight
for your Al-Qaeda
rebels in Syria.
WAKE UP PEOPLE



I DIDN'T
SIGN UP TO
KILL THE
POOR FOR
THE RICH
NO WAR
W/ SYRIA!