

Drone Pilots, Please Don't Fly

Nick Motten of Knowdrones.com has created a video ad to run on TV that calls out to drone pilots asking them to stop flying. The ad is quite graphic and emotionally demanding. It has stirred up some controversy and interest in areas where it has been shown so far.

Here is the Ad:

Airing ads is a very expensive business. But, Nick has been getting great responses to the ads when he has aired them. What follows is a report from his website, KnowDrones.com

You can support this effort through the [GoFundMe Page](#).

We need your help to continue an extraordinary campaign that uses a 15-second television commercial to show the **UNCENSORED TRUTH** about drone murder to hundreds of thousands, or more, U.S. television viewers!

We are now entering the second phase of this advertising campaign, and we are asking you to **please contribute toward a total of \$8,000 that will be needed**, minimally, to run the TV ad in areas surrounding drone control centers at Hancock Air National Guard Base outside Syracuse, NY; Niagara Falls Air National Guard Base; Whiteman AFB near Knob Noster, MO; and Cannon AFB near Clovis, NM.

The campaign is being coordinated with local cable companies and networks by Information in the Public Interest, an activist social justice ad agency that produces issue-advertising for only progressive peace, environmental and social justice causes, operated by Cres Vellucci, a member of Veterans for Peace and other anti-war groups. Contributions are not tax deductible because the agency does political

work. All the money collected goes directly to buying airtime for the commercials. \$25 may buy a spot on CNN, \$50 a spot on MSNBC (depending on the rates in local areas).

Please contribute whatever you can, and circulate this appeal far and wide.

Thank you for considering this request.

In solidarity,

Nick Mottern, <http://www.knowdrones.com/>

Cres Vellucci, Vets for Peace and Information in the Public Interest

So Far:

On February 27, this **first-ever TV commercial** began a week-long run on various cable channels in Las Vegas, NV, including CNN and MSNBC, showing viewers living near the Creech AFB drone control center what they probably have never seen before – **children killed and mutilated by U.S. drones**. It's graphic but necessary.

On Mar 31, the same commercial began a month's run on CNN, MSNBC and even FoxNews in and around Beale AFB outside Sacramento, CA, a base critical to supporting U.S. killer drone operations.

We consider these showings to be a remarkable achievement because **until now the images of those killed and injured by U.S. drones have been kept off of American television screens**.

In addition to showing drone victims, the voice-over on the ad says: ***"Drone pilots, please refuse to fly."***

There is growing news coverage about the commercials. Here is a link to an article in the *Sacramento Bee*, the major paper in northern California and part of the McClatchy Company news chain: <http://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article17894003.html>

This resulted in this article in *Air Force Times*, which will be read by many Air Force people and their families around the world:

<http://www.airforcetimes.com/story/military/2015/04/09/commercials-against-drone-strikes/25532163/>

Vice News followed with this report:
<https://news.vice.com/article/graphic-new-veteran-sponsored-ads-are-asking-drone-pilots-not-to-fly>

Here is a link to an RT report also resulting from the showing of the ad near Beale: <http://youtu.be/GTdlqqdrZ1U>

And this is a report on KFBK, a radio station with a wide reach in northern California:
<http://www.kfbk.com/articles/kfbk-news-461777/new-tv-ads-take-aim-at-13461862/>

The Guardian published this piece:

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/apr/01/anti-drone-television-ad-us-air-force-bases-california-nevada>

*** All video clips and footage in the advertisements come from the independent short documentary film, ***Wounds of Waziristan*** (www.woundsofwaziristan.com), directed by filmmaker and journalist, Madiha Tahir and co-produced by Messiah Rhodes and AJ Russo. The half-hour film features two survivors of drone attacks. One of them, Saddam, can be seen in the ad holding the photo of his dead niece. The documentary was released on *Vice Motherboard* as well as *Democracy Now!* marking the first time that Americans saw an extended portrayal of the consequences of drone attacks.

Here are links to additional coverage of this campaign. Please note particularly David Swanson's report that was critical in generating other coverage and which includes a list quotes addressing the illegality and immorality of drone

war as well as a drone war fact sheet.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/search/david+swanson+refuse+to+fly/14c6e0f2c7d26fe6> —

<http://m.reviewjournal.com/news/las-vegas/anti-drone-protesters-arrested-creech-air-force-base>

<http://www.publicnewsservice.org/2015-03-05/peace/nv-protesters-american-drones-killing-children/a44947-1>