

Submitted to NYT by Miriam Thompson 11-11-1014

To the Editor,

Re: In Secret, Obama Extends U.S. Role in Afghanistan Combat (11/22/14)

Key points in the 11/22 article (Obama Extends U.S. Role) and what I find most alarming include: “secret order... “objection of some of (Pres. Obama’s) top civilian aides...”military pretty much got what it wanted...” It would appear our Military chiefs can overrule civilian authority and the overwhelming majority of Americans who oppose sending troops back into Iraq, confirmed by the corruption in and collapse of Iraqi troops despite billions in military and training aid and American ground troops, and the deadly human toll to our troops and Iraqi and Afghan civilians. Unending war has failed and only serves to advance extremists in the region (with arms they have captured from us). When will our elected representatives listen to the American people? Perhaps that disconnect explains why 2014 was the worst voter turn out since the early 40’s. Our democracy needs determined political troops at home in the struggle for better representation.