

CBS betrays its own Gaza reporter after Israel kills him

The Grayzone's Max Blumenthal and Aaron Mate on the shocking spectacle of CBS News host Tony Dokoupil lying about the network's own Gaza reporter, falsely painting him as a Hamas operative after Israel killed him while he covered a humanitarian festival in the ruins of the besieged enclave.

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#Max

Yeah, I mean, we talked about how the killing is continuing in Gaza, and a lot of people who followed the genocide—maybe it was exhausting after two years and they want to move on. Journalists are still being killed in Gaza. Three of them were just killed in an Israeli drone strike. The justification from Israel was that they were flying a drone, and they said it was a Hamas drone. But actually, it was a camera drone to get footage of a festival being held in Gaza by an Egyptian humanitarian organization. And here's how CBS's Tony Dokoupil, who was hired by Bari Weiss because of his pro-Israel credentials, reported on the Gaza-based cameraman for CBS being murdered by Israel.

#Guest

Turning to one of the deadliest days in Gaza since October's ceasefire between Hamas and Israel, an Israeli airstrike today killed three journalists. Israel said it was targeting a group operating a drone affiliated with Hamas. One of those journalists, Abed Sha'at, had worked for CBS as a photographer. His colleagues described the 30-year-old as a brave person doing dangerous work. He was married just two weeks ago.

#Max

So did Tony Dokoupil just accuse his own reporter of being a Hamas fighter? That's what it sounded like. So CBS is saying their reporters fight for Hamas?

#Aaron

Amazingly, yes, he is, because he's giving the Israeli narrative. He's not even saying what they were actually doing, which was covering a humanitarian mission. At least if you want to pretend to be

balanced, you'd mention the other side of it. He only gives the Israeli side, which is that they were involved in a drone attack. So yeah, he's accusing his own colleague of being a militant. He's doing Israeli propaganda. It's like, with CBS News, even if you work there, if Israel wants to kill you, you'll be sold out, and Israel will justify your murder. People have even joked that if CBS News accused Bari Weiss or this guy—whatever his name is—of being in Hamas, they'd find a way to parrot the Israeli line too. That's how devoted they are to Israel.

#Max

I've never seen a network sell out its reporter harder. I've been sold out by several news outlets, but never like that. No, but that's what happens if you're Palestinian, or Muslim, or Arab, and you're working for the supremacist regime of Bari Weiss—who got our friend Refaat Alareer killed. Yeah.

#Aaron

And if you're going to report on a story about journalists being murdered, there's something called context. Generally, when you're delivering the news, you give people the basic information. And you might also mention that at least 260 Palestinian journalists have been killed by Israel since October 7th—a toll that keeps growing every single month. You'd think that might be worth mentioning, but of course he doesn't. Instead, he's willing to parrot the Israeli lie that these slain journalists were militants. Yeah, I agree. I've never seen a journalist sold out to this degree before. I mean, Reuters actually did this with one of their cameramen who was killed by Israel. Reuters also repeated some Israeli lie about him. So CBS News is following in that tradition. It just shows that the only loyalty in journalism, when it comes to Israel-Palestine, is to Israel. It's not even to their own colleagues and staffers who risk their lives to bring people the news.

#Max

It's shocking. But this is the point of CBS News under Bari Weiss: not just to advance Israeli propaganda, but also to launder propaganda. It was CBS that first reported the 16,500 Iranian peaceful protesters killed by the mullahs, based on so-called sources. It was CBS that tried to launder the lie that Renee Good, the woman who was shot in the face in Minneapolis, had badly injured the ICE agent—claiming he had internal bleeding. That was actually contradicted even by DHS. They just used the banner of CBS and its reputation as a legacy media organization to launder propaganda for Trump-Israel ties, whatever entity it is. And that's why Bari Weiss is there. She will zealously advance that agenda.