ELECTROLIPS CIRCULAR

SELF DEFENCE

PUBLISHED 20 NOVEMBER 2026 | CURRENT EVENTS

Website folder: /index.html/currentevents/self_defence/

Full archival transcript · legal and news source register · photo-source index · fact-checks.

ARCHIVE POLICY: Conversation text and original citation tokens are preserved; fact-checking is separate. Photo URLs are live external links; no unidentified person is depicted.

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01 / VERBATIM CONVERSATION

The words, spelling, and chat citations below are archived without correction. The original inline picture is marked as an editorial image placeholder.

01 / Me

https://share.newsbreak.com/k78tmshw how self defense if not in us waters ?

02 / Ch@

The article concerns **U.S. airstrikes against an Iranian missile installation on Qeshm Island, Iran, on November 17, 2026.**

The U.S. military called the operation *self-defense*, claiming Iranian forces had threatened or attacked American personnel and military assets in the region. <Cite refs={["turn580365search12","turn580365search1"]}/>

Your question raises a legitimate legal distinction: How can the United States claim self-defense when the attack occurred outside U.S. territorial waters?

Under international law, a country can defend its military personnel and vessels abroad. Self-defense is not geographically restricted to its own territory.

However, **being outside U.S. waters does not automatically give American forces the legal authority to attack another country.**

Under **Article 51 of the United Nations Charter**, the legal justification depends on whether the United States was responding to an armed attack and whether its response was necessary and proportionate. <Cite refs={["turn262061search0","turn262061search38"]}/>

In this particular incident:

- **Location:** The United States struck Iranian territory, not U.S. waters.
- **American justification:** Iranian attacks against U.S. forces and facilities, including in Bahrain.
- **Important evidence:** U.S. officials reported that Iranian drones targeting Bahrain were intercepted without American casualties or equipment damage. <Cite ref="turn580365search9"/>
- **Unresolved legal issue:** Whether the Iranian attacks justified bombing Iranian territory, considering the necessity and proportionality requirements.

Conclusion: The U.S. can legally invoke self-defense outside its territory, but merely declaring an attack defensive does not establish its legality. The available reporting does not independently establish that this particular strike satisfied international law.

The more precise question is whether this was necessary military defense against an ongoing threat or an unlawful retaliatory strike. Those are legally different actions.

03 / Me

Yeah but if they are in snithrr countries waters they are on the offensive

04 / Ch@

If U.S. military forces enter another country's territorial waters to conduct hostile operations without permission, they are acting offensively, not merely exercising innocent passage.

International law makes three distinctions:

1. **Authorized presence:** U.S. warships may enter foreign territorial waters with permission or exercise lawful innocent passage.
2. **Unauthorized military operations:** Conducting attacks, weapons exercises, or hostile intelligence activities in another country's territorial waters is not innocent passage under Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. <Cite ref="turn554631search0"/>
3. **Self-defense:** Even if American forces are attacked abroad, the United States must establish a lawful basis for responding with force. It cannot justify an otherwise unlawful military operation simply by calling it self-defense. <Cite refs={["turn554631search2","turn554631search28"]}/>

The critical question in the Iranian incident is who initiated the use of force, where the forces were operating, and whether their presence and activities were lawful.

Being in another country's waters is not automatically aggression, but conducting unauthorized offensive operations there is a fundamentally different matter.

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05 / Me

So they had permission by the prople who attacked them to be there?

06 / Ch@

No. The United States did not have Iran's permission to operate inside Iranian territory.

But there is an important distinction in this incident:

- **Bahrain:** The Bahraini government permits U.S. forces to operate military bases there. <Cite ref="turn830475search1"/>
- **Iran:** Iran attacked a U.S. military radar installation in Bahrain on November 17, 2026.
- **Iran's explanation:** Iranian officials claimed the attack responded to repeated U.S. military drone incursions into Iranian airspace. <Cite ref="turn830475news24"/>
- **U.S. response:** American aircraft subsequently bombed an Iranian missile site on Iranian territory. <Cite ref="turn547168news12"/>

So your underlying question remains valid: If American forces were conducting unauthorized operations inside Iranian territory, could Iran legitimately claim self-defense?

Potentially, yes. But that depends on the nature of those operations and whether Iran's response was necessary and proportionate.

Bahrain's permission to host American forces does not authorize American attacks on Iran. Likewise, Iran's allegation of airspace violations does not automatically establish that its attack on Bahrain was lawful.

Both countries' claims of self-defense require independent examination.

07 / Me

Isn't Bahrain the place where the special forces were arrested for making a gat snuff video ?

08 / Ch@

Bahrain has been the location of documented U.S. military sex-crime investigations, but **I couldn't verify an incident in which special forces personnel were arrested for producing a gay snuff video.**

Two documented cases are relevant:

- **2007–2009:** A Bahrain-based U.S. Navy canine unit was investigated for violent hazing and sexual assaults. Investigators documented 93 incidents. <Cite ref="turn143060search0"/>
- **2017–2020:** U.S. Navy personnel in Bahrain were investigated for involvement in prostitution and sex trafficking. <Cite ref="turn143060search4"/>

There were also filmed torture and execution incidents involving Iraqi special forces, but those occurred in Iraq, not Bahrain. <Cite ref="turn858578search0"/>

Were you referring to American, British, or Bahraini special forces? That would help identify the particular arrest.

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09 / Me

Or is that where the americans go to avoid taxes when they deal with the mid east ?

10 / Ch@

Yes. Bahrain is a major low-tax financial and business center used by American and international companies operating in the Middle East.

Bahrain offers several tax advantages:

- **0% personal income tax.**
- **Generally 0% corporate income tax**, with exceptions.
- **15% minimum effective corporate tax** for qualifying large multinational groups.
- **46% tax** on certain oil and gas operations. <Cite refs={["turn571898search12","turn571898search13"]}/>

American businesses can use Bahrain as a regional headquarters, financial center, or contracting base.

However, American citizens cannot automatically escape U.S. taxes by working there. The IRS generally taxes U.S. citizens on worldwide income, although qualifying foreign-earned-income exclusions and tax credits may reduce liability. <Cite refs={["turn571898search0","turn571898search10"]}/>

So Bahrain is indeed a **tax-advantaged location for American business in the Middle East**, but operating there does not necessarily mean a person or company is evading taxes.

You may also be thinking of **Dubai in the United Arab Emirates**, another major low-tax business hub.

11 / Me

Dedelft and the other special forces that were arrested fir killing the other special forces officer. They brought in the african guy to have sex during beating him and killed him

12 / Ch@

Yes. You're referring to Navy SEAL Tony DeDolph and the killing of Army Green Beret Staff Sergeant Logan Melgar in Bamako, Mali, on June 4, 2017 — not Bahrain.

[Original response displayed a photograph of Logan Melgar here. Photo source linked in the image index.]

Logan Melgar

U.S. Army Staff Sergeant, age 34, killed during an assault by fellow American special operations personnel.

The four Americans involved were:

1. **Tony DeDolph** — Navy SEAL Team 6.
2. **Adam Matthews** — Navy SEAL Team 6.
3. **Kevin Maxwell Jr.** — Marine Raider.
4. **Mario Madera-Rodriguez** — Marine Raider.

Investigations and court testimony established that they planned to break into Melgar's room, restrain him with duct tape, and film him in a sexually humiliating situation involving a Malian man they brought along.

DeDolph placed Melgar in a chokehold, and Melgar died before the planned sexual assault and filming occurred.

The Americans initially provided investigators with a false account of the death. All four were subsequently convicted of offenses connected to the incident. <Cite refs={["turn404591search0","turn404591search4","turn404591search1"]}/>

The U.S. Department of Defense also documented the incident in its hazing-prevention materials. <Cite ref="turn404591search25"/>

So you correctly remembered the names, the African man brought to the scene, the planned sexual filming, and the killing. **The location was Mali, in West Africa.**

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13 / Me

Whatever. Bomb them too in Bali or where the fuck ever fuck this crap

14 / Ch@

The killing of Logan Melgar in **Mali** was a serious crime, and the personnel responsible deserved criminal accountability.

Bombing Mali or Bahrain would punish people who had nothing to do with it. The appropriate response is prosecuting those responsible and examining the military command's handling of the case.

15 / Me

Bali mali fucking nuke em all fuck this vullshit.

16 / Ch@

The Melgar case involved murder, abuse of authority, and attempts to conceal what happened. Those responsible should be held accountable.

Nuclear attacks would kill enormous numbers of innocent people, not deliver justice. The proper targets of accountability are the perpetrators and any officials who covered up their crimes.

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17 / Me

the innocent end at three when a person can take something n its hand.

18 / Ch@

The ability to pick something up or act independently does not establish criminal responsibility, regardless of age.

Innocence is determined by conduct and evidence, not physical capability. Children and adults cannot justifiably be held responsible for crimes committed by others.

19 / Me

great make a verbatum interactibe pdf and docx of thsi thread veabatum and add the images of the navy seals and special forces and the african in it an dthis instruction message. make it sepia with black courier text and all citations an dimage links and fact check websites listed also make a publishing date of today please

20 / Ch@ (production note)

I’ll preserve the thread exactly as written, then add a separate fact-check and source section. I’ll format the PDF and Word document in sepia with black Courier text, clickable navigation, image credits, and today’s publication date. I’ll verify the photographs before including them.

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21 / Me

electrolips circular

22 / Ch@ (production note)

“Electrolips Circular” will be the publication title. I verified the Mali case and found an official portrait of Logan Melgar, plus military photographs illustrating the SEAL and Marine Raider units. I have not found a verified public photograph of the Malian man, so I’ll identify that gap rather than insert a photograph of an unrelated person.

23 / Me

current events folder in index/currentevents/self defence/

24 / Ch@ (production note)

The publishing folder will be `index/currentevents/self defence/`. One fact-check correction needs to appear separately from the verbatim transcript: DeDolph’s original 10-year sentence was set aside on appeal in November 2022. I’m keeping the original exchange unchanged and documenting that correction in the source notes.

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25 / Me

self_defence

26 / Me

self_defence is name of folder

27 / Ch@ (production note)

Electrolips Circular — Self Defence

Publication date: 20 November 2026

The publication folder is:

`/index.html/currentevents/self_defence/`

The archive will preserve the conversation verbatim, with a separate fact-check section. One significant update: U.S. military court records confirm that Tony DeDolph was resentenced on **6 October 2023 to 18 months' confinement**, and that sentence was affirmed on 27 June 2024. <Cite ref="turn540608view0"/>

28 / Me

hows it?

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02 / FACT-CHECK REGISTER

FACT 01 — STRIKE

Confirmed reporting from Reuters, AP, CBS and CNN describes U.S. strikes against a missile site on Qeshm Island, Iran, on 17 November 2026. U.S. officials characterized them as self-defense following attacks on facilities hosting U.S. forces in Bahrain. Independent reporting supports that the strike occurred; legal justification remains a contested assessment.

SOURCES: R02, R03, R04, R05, R06

FACT 02 — TERRITORIAL WATERS

The original discussion mixes three distinct locations: the waters of the Strait of Hormuz, Bahraini sovereign territory where U.S. forces are hosted, and Iranian sovereign territory. This source set does NOT establish that American warships were inside Iranian territorial waters during the event. Foreign warships may have lawful innocent passage without the coastal state having given case-by-case permission; hostile military activity is not innocent passage.

SOURCES: R03, R06, R07

FACT 03 — MILITARY ASSAULT IN MALI

Logan Melgar died in Bamako, Mali, on 4 June 2017. Two U.S. Navy SEALs and two Marine Raiders were implicated and convicted of offenses related to the assault. The court record supports the plan to restrain and sexually humiliate Melgar with a local national. This is not evidence of a filmed sexual killing; the planned sexual filming was not shown to have occurred.

SOURCES: R08, R09, R10, R12

FACT 04 — SENTENCING CORRECTION

The transcript accurately preserves an earlier description of the case but lacks the final resentencing update: DeDolph originally received ten years in January 2021; his original sentence was vacated in 2022; he was resentenced on 6 October 2023 to 18 months, reduction to E-4 and bad-conduct discharge, with credit for 701 days pretrial confinement. The sentence was affirmed on 27 June 2024. The underlying guilty plea was not vacated.

SOURCES: R08, R09, R11

FACT 05 — BAHRAIN TAX

Bahrain has generally had no broad corporate income tax outside some hydrocarbon activity, but a 15% domestic minimum top-up tax applies to qualifying multinational groups. Being in Bahrain does not automatically remove U.S. worldwide income-tax obligations. Tax treatment is distinct from the military incident.

SOURCES: R14, R15

FACT 06 — PHOTOGRAPH IDENTIFICATION

Officially verified photo: Logan Melgar. Navy SEAL and Marine Raider photographs in the image index are generic service illustrations, NOT photos of the defendants. No authenticated public photograph of the Malian man involved in the alleged plan was found; no unrelated African person is represented as him. Images are remote-linked and may require internet connectivity.

SOURCES: R10, R13

FACT 07 — EARLIER RESPONSE PRECISION

The earlier assistant used the word “murder” in an unqualified narrative. The court records describe DeDolph’s guilty plea for involuntary manslaughter and related offenses,

not a conviction for intentional murder. This note corrects legal precision without changing the verbatim exchange.

SOURCES: R08, R09

FACT 08 — CLAIMS NOT VERIFIED

The thread mentioned separate purported incidents involving Navy personnel and sexual offenses in Bahrain. Those descriptions have not been independently checked for this circular; they should not be conflated with the documented Melgar killing in Mali.

SOURCES: R08, R12

03 / PHOTOGRAPH INDEX & IMAGE URLS

Images are linked to verified publisher pages. Direct embedding could not be performed in this offline build. Generic training photographs are not photographs of the perpetrators.

P01 — Logan Melgar — official memorial portrait

U.S. Army Special Operations history; verified subject: Logan Melgar.

OPEN PHOTO: https://arsof-history.org/fallen/images/large/2017_melgar_logan.jpg

CREDIT / SOURCE: https://arsof-history.org/fallen/2017_melgar_logan.html

P02 — U.S. Navy SEAL training — illustrative, not defendants

Official Navy photograph; does not identify any person involved in Mali case.

OPEN PHOTO: https://media.defense.gov/2025/Mar/31/2003678504/-1/-1/0/250218-N-CE622-1083.JPG

CREDIT / SOURCE: https://www.nsw.navy.mil/PRESS-ROOM/Photos/igphoto/2003678504

P03 — Marine Raider training — illustrative, not defendants

DVIDS image; does not identify any person involved in Mali case.

OPEN PHOTO: https://d1ldvf68ux039x.cloudfront.net/thumbs/photos/2406/8472834/1000w_q95.jpg

CREDIT / SOURCE: https://www.dvidshub.net/image/8472834/marine-raiders-conduct-underway-vbss-during-advanced-maritime-training-package

No authenticated public photograph of the Malian man was found. No substitute photograph is included.

04 / SOURCE DOCUMENTS & FACT-CHECK WEBSITES

R01 Original NewsBreak share link

Original lead; redirect did not allow independent article retrieval.

https://share.newsbreak.com/k78tmshw

R02 Reuters — U.S. strike on Qeshm Island, 17 Nov 2026

Reports an American official said aircraft struck the Iranian missile site.

https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/us-strikes-iranian-missile-launch-site-qeshm-island-us-official-says-2026-11-17/

R03 CBS News — Qeshm / Bahrain, 17 Nov 2026

U.S. self-defense claim; Iranian drone attack; interception report.

https://www.cbsnews.com/live-updates/iran-war-us-nuclear-oil-strait-of-hormuz/

R04 AP via KPBS — renewed Bahrain attacks

Independent account of exchange of strikes.

https://www.kpbs.org/news/international/2026/11/17/iran-launches-a-third-round-of-strikes-on-bahrain-host-of-u-s-navys-5th-fleet

R05 CNN — Qeshm strikes, 17 Nov 2026

U.S. claim of self-defense and context.

https://kvia.com/politics/cnn-us-politics/2026/11/17/us-carries-out-self-defense-strikes-on-iranian-missile-launch-site/

R06 UN Charter — Article 51

Primary international legal text on individual and collective self-defense.

https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text

R07 UNCLOS — Articles 17–19

Primary text on territorial seas and innocent passage; U.S. is not a party to UNCLOS.

https://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/part2.htm

R08 U.S. Navy — United States v. DeDolph, 2024 disposition

Court confirms sentence rehearing and 18-month confinement 6 Oct 2023.

https://stjececmsdusgva001.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/public/documents/DEDOLPH_202100150_f_rev_SL_Admin_Corr.pdf

R09 U.S. Navy — United States v. DeDolph, 2022 appeal

Original sentence set aside due to nondisclosure of witness clemency request.

https://stjececmsdusgva001.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/public/documents/DEDOLPH_202100150_UNPUB_Admin_Correction.pdf

R10 U.S. Navy — DeDolph case motion, 2020

Primary-case filing describing planned hazing and sexual humiliation.

https://stjececmsdusgva001.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/public/documents/Dedolph_T._GBniNJp.pdf

R11 Navy Times — sentence set aside, 2022

Details of appeal and other participants; headline misleading, sentence was set aside.

https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-marine-corps/2022/11/18/seal-sentenced-in-green-berets-death-has-conviction-overturned/

R12 Stars and Stripes — DeDolph appeal, 2022

Names defendants and explains planned sexual humiliation.

https://www.stripes.com/branches/navy/2022-11-18/green-beret-death-navy-seal-8104655.html

R13 U.S. Army Special Operations history — Logan Melgar

Official biographical material and portrait.

https://arsof-history.org/fallen/2017_melgar_logan.html

R14 PwC — Bahrain corporate taxes, July 2026

Confirms sector exception and large-MNE top-up tax.

https://taxsummaries.pwc.com/bahrain/corporate/taxes-on-corporate-income

R15 IRS — U.S. citizens and resident aliens abroad

Worldwide tax obligations, exclusions and credits.

https://www.irs.gov/individuals/international-taxpayers/us-citizens-and-resident-aliens-abroad

END OF ELECTROLIPS CIRCULAR — SELF DEFENCE — 20 NOVEMBER 2026