

# Escalating Aggression in Syria. Trump's Punitive Strike Prelude to Broader War?

By [Stephen Lendman](#)  
Global Research, April 15, 2018

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)  
Theme: [Military and WMD, US NATO War Agenda](#)  
In-depth Report: [SYRIA](#)

VISIT MY NEW WEB SITE:

[stephenlendman.org](http://stephenlendman.org)

([Home - Stephen Lendman](#)).

Contact at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net).

*Was US-led terror-bombing of Syrian sites overnight Friday, based on a Big Lie, prelude to greater aggression coming - Israel involved along with Washington, Britain, France, and perhaps other rogue nations?*

Mikhail Gorbachev fears this possibility, saying US-led bombing of Syrian targets "would lead to nothing good," adding:

"I think that nobody needs the attack in the form it is spoken about and with such results. It very much looks like training before you start shooting in earnest."

Russia's passivity in the face of escalated US-led aggression risks the worst ahead, including all-out war in Syria, likely spreading regionally and beyond, maybe going global, possible nuclear war.

Iran is a prime target. Longtime US/Israeli strategy aims to replace its sovereign independence with pro-Western puppet governance - the key regional goal of both countries.

On Saturday, an incident occurred at an alleged Iranian weapons depot in Mount Azzan near Aleppo.

One or more explosions were reported by Western, Israeli and other regional media.

Syrian media said the site was bombed by an Israeli warplane. Hezbollah-connected media denied it, saying an explosion occurred inside the depot or unrelated to an airstrike.

Some sources reported around 20 dead or wounded - no confirmation from official sources about the incident, occurring 24 hours after US-led aggression, targeting multiple Syrian

sites.

Nor have separate reports of aerial attacks on Syrian government targets in Deir Ezzor been confirmed. Government forces are battling US-supported terrorists in the area.

On Saturday, Mike Pence warned of a greater “price to pay” ahead, saying Trump “made clear (he’s) prepared to sustain this effort...if chemicals weapons are used again against men, women and children.”

No evidence proves Syrian forces ever used them. Trained by Pentagon contractors in their use, US-supported terrorists resort to this terror tactic often.

Another CW false flag like Douma is likely coming – probably followed by greater US-led aggression than occurred overnight Friday.

Russian passivity risks making a bad situation far worse. Diplomacy as a way to contest US-led aggression is a failed strategy – shooting blanks against a ruthless adversary, willing to do whatever it takes to achieve its objectives no matter how many times before it failed.

Endless US wars in multiple theaters prove this reality.

Over seven years of war in Syria shows if Moscow doesn’t challenge Washington forcefully, it’ll likely continue endlessly, escalating toward something far more serious than already.

A draft US/UK/French Security Council resolution reportedly demands Assad engage in peace talks “constructively and without preconditions” – diabolical code language suggesting escalated aggression coming even if the resolution isn’t adopted.

Washington doesn’t negotiate. It demands, aiming for regime change since launching aggression in March 2011.

Overnight US-led attacks on Syrian targets achieving nothing strategically may have been target practice for what’s to come. Something far more serious seems likely.

Will Russia finally challenge Washington forcefully enough to show it no longer will tolerate its hostile actions?

Or will it remain a passive bystander, relying on ineffective diplomacy, letting a bad situation likely get much worse?

The stakes in Syria are huge. Failing to contest Washington’s imperial agenda in the country strongly beyond rhetoric practically assures escalated war to come.

\*

*Stephen Lendman is a Research Associate of the CRG, Correspondent of Global Research based in Chicago.*

VISIT MY NEW WEB SITE: [stephenlendman.org](http://stephenlendman.org) (Home - Stephen Lendman). Contact at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net).

*My newest book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: How the US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."*

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html>

The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © [Stephen Lendman](#), Global Research, 2018

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Stephen Lendman](#)

#### About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net). His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html> Visit his blog site at [sjlendman.blogspot.com](http://sjlendman.blogspot.com). Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)