

Forty-five Times Trump Said: Attacking Syria Is a Bad Idea and Might Start World War III

By [Tom McKay](#)

Global Research, April 10, 2017

[Mic](#) 7 April 2017

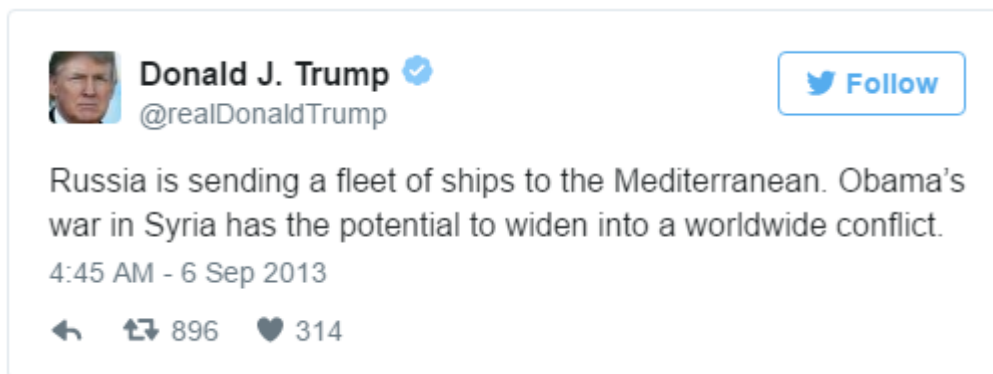
Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Terrorism](#)

In-depth Report: [SYRIA](#)

President [Donald Trump](#)'s administration ordered a [missile attack](#) on the Syrian government's al-Shayrat airbase near Homs on Thursday evening, taking a [rapid about-face](#) on Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to a military conclusion in the wake of a chemical attack which [killed scores](#) and left hundreds injured.

But Trump has repeatedly spoken out against attacking the Syrian government, suggesting U.S. involvement in the conflict could make a bad problem worse and possibly lead to a global war.



In October, Trump blasted then-Democratic presidential nominee [Hillary Clinton](#)'s position on Syria — that the U.S. military should [take out al-Assad's airfields](#), the exact type of strike Trump ordered Thursday — by saying attacking a Russian-backed government could start World War III.

“What we should do is focus on [ISIS](#),” Trump told Reuters. “We should not be focusing on Syria. You’re going to end up in World War III over Syria if we listen to Hillary Clinton.”

“You’re not fighting Syria any more, you’re fighting Syria, Russia and Iran, all right? Russia is a nuclear country, but a country where the nukes work as opposed to other countries that talk.”

In 2015, Trump [blasted his GOP rivals](#) with near-identical rhetoric:

“They want to start World War III over Syria. Give me a break. You know Russia wants to get ISIS right. We want to get ISIS. Russia’s in Syria. Maybe we should let them do it?”

“Let them do it,” he added. “What the hell are we, crazy?”

Here’s a sampling of Trump’s tweets about Syria:


 **Donald J. Trump** ✓
@realDonaldTrump [Follow](#)

Obama wants to unilaterally put a no-fly zone in Syria to protect Al Qaeda Islamists thebea.st/143tmfM Syria is NOT our problem.

2:58 AM - 30 May 2013

 **Exclusive: Obama Asks Pentagon for Syria ...**
Along with no-fly zone plans, the White House is considering arming parts of the Syrian opposition and formally recognizing the Syrian thedailybeast.com

↩️ ↻️ 699 ❤️ 412

 **Donald J. Trump** ✓
@realDonaldTrump [Follow](#)

We should stay the hell out of Syria, the "rebels" are just as bad as the current regime. WHAT WILL WE GET FOR OUR LIVES AND \$ BILLIONS?ZERO

8:33 AM - 16 Jun 2013

↩️ ↻️ 6,980 ❤️ 7,937



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Let the Arab League take care of Syria. Why are these rich Arab countries not paying us for the tremendous cost of such an attack?

8:25 PM - 29 Aug 2013

575 323



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

What will we get for bombing Syria besides more debt and a possible long term conflict? Obama needs Congressional approval.

2:14 AM - 30 Aug 2013

29,590 18,235



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

"@jasonsweis: @realDonaldTrump agreed, we need our troops on the streets of Chicago, not in Syria"

6:37 AM - 30 Aug 2013

228 168



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Is everyone seeing how incompetently our country is being run by watching the mess with Syria? Our leaders don't know what they are doing!

3:17 AM - 31 Aug 2013

666 388



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

If Obama attacks Syria and innocent civilians are hurt and killed, he and the U.S. will look very bad!

3:26 AM - 31 Aug 2013

11,305 6,355



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

How bad has our "leader" made us look on Syria. Stay out of Syria, we don't have the leadership to win wars or even strategize.

5:28 AM - 31 Aug 2013

3,160 1,850



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

"@jenconservative: @RKDrake @realDonaldTrump I would be totally surprised if the US even HAS any money to spend on Syria!!" We don't!

5:43 AM - 31 Aug 2013

149 142



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

"@Joe1sPro: @realDonaldTrump the president of Syria is killing people inhumanly" But the so called "rebels" may be just as bad (or worse)!

5:48 AM - 31 Aug 2013

88 91



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

President Obama's weakness and indecision may have saved us from doing a horrible and very costly (in more ways than money) attack on Syria!

6:48 PM - 1 Sep 2013

316 156



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

"@mguarino64: @realDonaldTrump " How would you treat the Syria situation if president ?" I'd let them all fight with each other-focus on US!

7:09 PM - 1 Sep 2013

1,492 1,814



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

The Arab League stated that it wants nothing to do with an attack on Syria, but they want us to attack. Are our leaders insane or just stupid

10:15 AM - 2 Sep 2013

624 390



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

We have given Syria so much time and information-there has never been such an instance in wartime history. Syria is now fully prepared!

10:27 AM - 2 Sep 2013

214 107



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

If the U.S. attacks Syria and hits the wrong targets, killing civilians, there will be worldwide hell to pay. Stay away and fix broken U.S.

9:55 AM - 3 Sep 2013

10,124 9,005



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Think of it, the Arab League doesn't want to get involved with Syria - but they want us to do their dirty work. How stupid!

9:58 AM - 3 Sep 2013

2,489 3,509



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

"@BigSexyBDavis: @realDonaldTrump mr trump would attack Syria or no?" No, lets make our country great again as they fight their war!

9:45 AM - 4 Sep 2013

607 454



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

What I am saying is stay out of Syria.

10:00 AM - 4 Sep 2013

16,887 12,050



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

For all of those fools that want to attack Syria, the U.S. has lost the vital element of surprise-so stupid-could be a disaster!

10:12 AM - 4 Sep 2013

672 392



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Many Syrian 'rebels' are radical Jihadis. Not our friends & supporting them doesn't serve our national interest. Stay out of Syria!

1:20 AM - 5 Sep 2013

2,421 2,044



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

.@GOP must stay focused on defunding ObamaCare and the impending budget battle. Don't let Syria rule the agenda.

3:05 AM - 5 Sep 2013

111 77



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

The only reason President Obama wants to attack Syria is to save face over his very dumb RED LINE statement. Do NOT attack Syria, fix U.S.A.

7:13 PM - 5 Sep 2013

4,097 2,212



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

While everyone is waiting and prepared for us to attack Syria, maybe we should knock the hell out of Iran and their nuclear capabilities?

8:43 PM - 5 Sep 2013

285 201



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

AGAIN, TO OUR VERY FOOLISH LEADER, DO NOT ATTACK SYRIA - IF YOU DO MANY VERY BAD THINGS WILL HAPPEN & FROM THAT FIGHT THE U.S. GETS NOTHING!

9:20 PM - 5 Sep 2013

80,334 57,375



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

If President Obama was going to attack Syria, he should've done it a long time ago as a surprise & not after (cont)

[tl.gd/n_1m9ngg](https://t.me/n_1m9ngg)

12:43 AM - 6 Sep 2013

111 56



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

All former Bush administration officials should have zero standing on Syria. Iraq was a waste of blood & treasure.

3:41 AM - 6 Sep 2013

572 529



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

We should not attack Syria but if they make the stupid move to do so, the Arab League, whose members are laughing at us, should pay!

7:07 AM - 6 Sep 2013

319 138



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

The terrorists in Syria are calling themselves REBELS and getting away with it because our leaders are so completely stupid!

7:17 AM - 6 Sep 2013

2,417 2,918



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Syria has been given so much time that much of the things we were going to bomb have been moved into civilian areas! A politician's war.

8:33 PM - 7 Sep 2013

223 91



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Follow

President Obama, do not attack Syria. There is no upside and tremendous downside. Save your "powder" for another (and more important) day!

9:21 PM - 7 Sep 2013

7,378 3,968



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Don't attack Syria - an attack that will bring nothing but trouble for the U.S. Focus on making our country strong and great again!

7:59 PM - 9 Sep 2013

6,525 4,155



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

The Russians are playing a very smart game. In the meantime they are buying lots of time for Syria and making U.S. look foolish. Dangerous!

7:09 AM - 11 Sep 2013

286 116



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

"@ASBrowntown: .@realDonaldTrump you want to send more Americans out to war? Why don't you sign up?" I am against an attack on Syria dummy!

8:17 AM - 11 Sep 2013

321 261



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

"@bingham_tammy: @realDonaldTrump why wasn't Obama more concerned w/Benghazi #americans killed. Syria not our business"

9:13 AM - 11 Sep 2013

355 195



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Obama must now start focusing on OUR COUNTRY, jobs, healthcare and all of our many problems. Forget Syria and make America great again!

9:19 PM - 11 Sep 2013

1,874 1,028



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

We should stop talking, stay out of Syria and other countries that hate us, rebuild our own country and make it strong and great again-USA!

1:29 PM - 13 Sep 2013

3,230 2,330



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

We will now be helping Syria and Iran by attacking ISIS - ironic, isn't it!

8:10 PM - 25 Aug 2014

145 170



Donald J. Trump ✓




@realDonaldTrump

Follow

So Obama wants to bomb ISIS in Iraq & arm them in Syria? What is he doing!




4:45 AM - 18 Sep 2014

1,087 1,057


 **Donald J. Trump** 
@realDonaldTrump 

Do you believe that Obama is giving weapons to "moderate rebels" in Syria. Isn't sure who they are. What the hell is he doing. Will turn on us

4:52 PM - 20 Sep 2014

  897  1,090




However, Trump did suggest several times that were he to attack Syria, he would do so without much buildup.

 **Donald J. Trump** 
@realDonaldTrump 

[@wala_3ssaf](#) No, dopey, I would not go into Syria, but if I did it would be by surprise and not blurted all over the media like fools.




8:09 PM - 29 Aug 2013 · Manhattan, NY




  2,215  2,241

 **Donald J. Trump** 
@realDonaldTrump 

If we are going to continue to be stupid and go into Syria (watch Russia), as they say in the movies, SHOOT FIRST AND TALK LATER!




8:19 PM - 29 Aug 2013

  426  198

 **Donald J. Trump** 
@realDonaldTrump 

How can General Martin Dempsey tell Obama that delaying the Syria bombardment will have no consequences? He is no Patton or MacArthur.

3:41 AM - 4 Sep 2013

  43  44

Tom McKay is a staff writer at Mic, covering national politics, media, policing and the war on drugs. He is based in New York and can be reached at tmckay@mic.com.

The original source of this article is [Mic](#)
Copyright © [Tom McKay](#), [Mic](#), 2017

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

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Tom McKay](#)

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
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