

# Inventing Enemies, Manipulating Public Opinion, Selling Escalated War on Syria

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

Global Research, April 11, 2017

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)  
Theme: [Media Disinformation](#), [Terrorism](#),  
[US NATO War Agenda](#)  
In-depth Report: [SYRIA](#)

*Selling war requires inventing enemies, fear-mongering, substituting fake news for truth-telling, manipulating public opinion, and manufacturing consent.*

*Media (MSM) play along, feeding the public a steady diet of managed news misinformation, suppressing full and accurate reporting - featuring state-sponsored press agent journalism instead of the real thing, most people none the wiser.*

Since **GHW Bush's** 1991 Gulf War, America raped and destroyed Iraq, Somalia, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria and Yemen.

It colluded with Kiev's war on Donbass, partnered in three Israeli wars on Gaza, and toppled governments in Haiti, Honduras, Paraguay, Ukraine, Egypt and Brazil, along with other coup attempts.

**Obama** terror-bombed seven countries, destabilized others. Hostile Sino/Russia policies risk nuclear war. In the last generation alone, US aggression caused millions of casualties, endless chaos and horrific human suffering.

**Trump** so far continues reckless policies of his predecessors, escalating wars instead of ending them.

**His April 7 naked aggression on Syria appears prelude for greater war**, risking direct confrontation with Russia.

Neocons infesting Trump's administration lied, claiming Moscow knew about the April 4 Kahn Sheikoun CW attack in advance, [AP News](#) reported, citing an unnamed senior US official.

The accusation is false, yet AP reported it with no due diligence checking, saying

“(t)he official wasn’t authorized to speak publicly on intelligence matters and demanded anonymity.”

The source claimed a Russian drone overflew a Syrian hospital, treating CW attack victims. Hours later,

“a Russian-made fighter jet bombed the hospital in what American officials

believe was an attempt to cover up the usage of chemical weapons.”

**Fact:** No evidence suggests Syrian responsible for the Khan Sheikhoun attack.

**Fact:** No evidence suggests either Russian or Syrian aircraft bombed any hospital any time during over six years of conflict.

**Fact:** AP’s report is fake news, part of a campaign to build public support for escalated US aggression on Syria.

**Fact:** As president and commander-in-chief of America’s military, Trump bears full responsibility for ongoing US wars of aggression – the highest of high crimes against peace.

On April 8, investigative journalist [Mike Cernovich](#) said National Security Advisor **McMaster** “is manipulating intelligence reports given” Trump.

“He’s plotting...a massive ground war” on Syria, aided by former CIA director/convicted felon **General David Petraeus**.

“The McMaster-Petraeus plan calls for 150,000 American ground troops in Syria. Many special operations veterans including **General Joseph Votel** have raised serious concerns about McMaster’s plans for Syria.”

“Sources also suggest that McMaster is sharing classified information with Petraeus, whose security clearance was revoked.”

Other administration officials oppose the diabolical McMaster/Petraeus plan. If Trump buys it, “America will find itself in another massive” regional war.

## **A Final Comment**

On Monday, [The Hill](#) cited an unnamed senior administration official, disputing the claim about alleged Russian foreknowledge of the April 4 CW attack, saying:

“At this time, there is no US intelligence community consensus that Russia” knew about the CW attack in advance, adding:

“We don’t have positive accountability yet, but the fact that somebody would strike the hospital potentially to hide the evidence of a chemical attack, about five hours after, is a question that we’re very interested in.”

Neither Russia nor Syria had anything to do with what likely was a CIA-orchestrated incident to enlist support for escalated war.

It’s likely coming with potentially dreadful consequences.

**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: How the 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).

The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © [Stephen Lendman](#), Global Research, 2017

---

[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)