Neocon Fury Over Trump's Syria Policy. "Get Assad Out" is No Longer "Our Priority"

*Neocon senators **John McCain** (R. AR) and **Lindsey Graham** (R. SC) likely believe war is peace. Freedom is slavery, and ignorance is strength – with attribution to **George Orwell**.*

They're furious about **Secretary of State Tillerson**, saying "the longer-term status of **President Assad** will be decided by the Syrian people."

Separately, US UN envoy **Nikki Haley** said "(y)ou pick and choose your battles, and when we're looking at this, it's about changing up priorities and our priority is no longer to sit there and focus on getting Assad out."

McCain said he's "deeply disturbed" about their comments.

> "Their suggestion that Assad can stay in power appears to be just as devoid of strategy as **President Obama**'s pronouncements that 'Assad must go.'"

> "Once again, US policy in Syria is being presented piecemeal in press statements without any definition of success, let alone a realistic plan to achieve it."

> "Such a policy would only exacerbate the terrorist threat to our nation."

Graham said letting Assad remain in power would be "the biggest mistake since [Obama] failed to act after drawing a red line against [fabricated claims about] his use of chemical weapons."

It would "ignore the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people…" It would be a victory for Syria, Russia and Iran, "crushing news" for America.

Here are the facts McCain, Graham, likeminded neocons and media suppress.

> "The Dirty War on Syria…relies on a level of mass disinformation not seen in living memory" – **Tim Anderson.**

Syria is Obama's war, naked aggression, now **Trump**'s. It's not civil as falsely reported.

It's flagrantly illegal under international law, the laws of war and constitutional law. Nations may not attack others except in self-defense, and only if authorized by Security Council

members – not presidents, prime ministers, lawmakers or anyone else.

Syria was invaded by US-created and supported terrorists – ISIS, al-Nusra and others. So-called "moderate rebels" don't exist, one of many Big Lies about ongoing conflict.

All wars depend on deception and Big Lies. Truth-telling exposes them, why belligerents and supportive media scoundrels suppress them.

Syria was aggressively attacked. Assad acts responsibly in defending his nation and people.

He's not slaughtering them. Nor is he using chemical or other banned weapons.

Syria is an independent nation threatening no others. Russia and Iran support its sovereignty, territorial integrity and right of its people to decide who'll lead them – free from foreign interference, as international law requires.

America, NATO, Israel and their rogue allies support naked aggression, regime change, and puppet rule replacing legitimate governance.

McCain, Graham and likeminded congressional neocons want endless US aggression continued in multiple theaters.

Trump's proposed safe zones in Syria is a thinly veiled balkanization scheme, wanting the country partitioned, establishing Kurdish and Arab-run areas separate from Damascus – destroying the Syrian Arab Republic as it now exists.

Russia, Iran and the Syrian people forthrightly oppose this scheme. Despite all-out Moscow conflict resolution efforts, war still rages.

Washington's objective remains unchanged – destroying and controlling the country, isolating Iran.

Its turn awaits. Washington and Israel want the Middle East map redrawn, establishing unchallenged shared control.

The diabolical scheme risks direct confrontation with Russia, the unthinkable possibility of nuclear war?

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

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Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at 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. 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.