

## No More Games: Russia Vows to Track and Target Any US Aircraft ‘West of the Euphrates’

Moscow sends a crystal-clear message to Washington: The games in Syria are over.

By [Russia Insider](#)

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Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

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*We didn't believe it at first, but it's true: Russia's Defense Ministry says it will target any aircraft from the US-led coalition flying west of the Euphrates.*

**“In the areas of combat missions of Russian air fleet in Syrian skies, any airborne objects, including aircraft and unmanned vehicles of the [US-led] international coalition, located to the west of the Euphrates River, will be tracked by Russian ground and air defense forces as air targets,”** the Russian Ministry of Defense [stated](#).

The announcement comes after the US shot down a Syrian jet near Raqqa. Washington says the Syrian jet had dropped bombs near US-backed forces, but Damascus insists the plane was downed while flying a mission against Islamic State militants.

Coalition's airborne objects in Russian Air Force's Syria missions areas to be tracked as targets - Moscow <https://t.co/6722N0VpQ6>  
[pic.twitter.com/PHqYQjI6Yo](http://pic.twitter.com/PHqYQjI6Yo)

— RT (@RT\_com) [June 19, 2017](#)

This basically means that Russia is now taking complete control of most of Syria's airspace:



Moscow has also cut [its military communication line](#) with the US in Syria.

[#BREAKING](#) Russia says US did not warn its military on downing Syrian plane

— AFP news agency (@AFP) [June 19, 2017](#)

We hope Washington gets the memo this time. Because it doesn't sound like Russia is bluffing. Planes will be “painted”. And is the US prepared to risk it?

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