

## **Obama Abandons Scheme to Train Nonexistent** Syrian "Moderates"

By <u>Stephen Lendman</u> Global Research, October 10, 2015 Region: <u>Middle East & North Africa</u>, <u>USA</u> Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u> In-depth Report: <u>SYRIA</u>

*On Friday, Defense Department publication <u>Stars and Stripes</u> (S&P) headlined "Pentagon plans new approach to train Syrian rebels." More on this below.* 

Fact: None exist. Anti-Assad forces are virtually all imported death squads from scores of other countries – US armed, funded, trained and directed, including ISIS, Al Qaeda, and Jabhat Al Nursa elements among others, used as proxy foot soldiers to terrorize Syrians, part of Washington's scheme to replace Assad with a pro-Western puppet.

S&P lied claiming the Pentagon plans "a new approach to equip Syrian rebels...relying more on...Kurdish forces in" northern Syria.

"The work we've done with the Kurds in northern Syria is an example of an effective approach. We have a group that is capable and motivated on the ground," Defense Secretary Carter claimed.

So that is exactly the kind of example we'd like to pursue with other groups in other parts of Syria going forward.

Carter and Pentagon commanders have no effective strategy to counter Russia's intervention against ISIS and other terrorist groups. Effective blitzkrieg continues destroying their weapons, munitions, and facilities, as well as decimating their ranks.

Thousands fled cross-border for safety or took refuge in residential communities. They're no match against powerful Russian weapons, sophisticated technology and Putin's determination to crush them, a righteous undertaking the entire free world applauds.

BBC News reported Saudi Arabia intends sending more weapons to beleaguered "rebel" groups – aka ISIS and other terrorist ones despite Riyadh claiming otherwise.

After one week of operations, Russia's Defense Ministry said it launched 120 combat sorties, hitting 110 targets, destroying:

- 71 armored vehicles
- 30 other vehicles
- 19 command facilities

- 2 communications centers
- 23 fuel and ammunition depots
- 6 facilities for making IEDs, including car bombs
- several artillery pieces, and
- several training camps

Escalated activities in the last 24 hours included 67 sorties, targeting 60 terrorist facilities with devastating force – killing two senior ISIS commanders and hundreds of fighters, Russia's Defense Ministry reported.

Riyadh can supply weapons but not the will to fight. Most terrorists will stay the course to win, not die from Russia's devastating onslaught, including powerful bunker-buster bombs able to destroy underground facilities, no longer safe havens.

On Friday, Russian General Staff Deputy Chief Lt. Gen. Igor Makushev said "(m)ilitants are sustaining substantial losses under the strikes of Russian aircraft and have to change their tactics, to scatter their forces, to carefully disguise and hide in settlements."

In these circumstances the Russian Aerospace Forces continue systematic air strikes and increase their intensity to effectively destroy the targets.

Claims of civilian casualties are fabricated, part of Washington-led anti-Russian propaganda. Moscow has photographic evidence of each target struck, no civilian ones or near them.

Washington's so-called rebel-training program was a complete hoax, \$500 million wasted, maybe \$1 billion or more. Pentagon officials notoriously conceal waste, fraud and abuse – trillions of dollars unaccounted for post-9/11 alone.

Expect continued US support for ISIS and other terrorist groups to continue. Recruiting may not be as easy with Russia involved.

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

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