

that he hadn't found evidence that the Syrian government used chemical weapons until Friday afternoon, hours after the ISO's article appeared. In other words, the ISO reached its guilty verdict before the Pentagon claims it reached theirs.

Second, the pseudo-left groups criticize the bombing campaign on the grounds that it does not go far enough and that more military intervention is required.

Writing for the NPA, Daher writes with concern that

“Donald Trump has reiterated his wish to withdraw from Syria, in spite of resistance among his closest advisors.”

He notes that such a retreat “is being encouraged by the principal powers intervening in Syria: Russia, Iran and Turkey.” Daher concludes by declaring that the “crimes of the Assad regime continue with the silence and complicity of the international and regional powers.” In an April 13 interview published on the website of *International Viewpoint*, the magazine of the Pabloite United Secretariat, Daher calls for the US to arm the Syrian rebels:

“We should also support the provision of weapons and arms to these democratic forces in the region to combat both counter-revolutionary forces.”

The ISO's April 13 article criticizes the Obama administration because it “denied rebels access to anti-aircraft or anti-tank weaponry that would have given them a potentially decisive advantage against the Syrian military, which could have led to the fall of the regime altogether.” The article continued:

“From the beginning of the Arab Spring uprising in Syria, U.S. policy has been aimed at making sure some form of the current regime continues in Syria, with or without Assad. As the regime's savage counterrevolution advanced, thanks to Russian military might, the U.S. has come to accept that Assad will stay, and the Russians will be the powerbrokers in the country.”

Jacobin magazine, the journal supported by the DSA, has not published a single recent article on the US threats against Syria nor on the bombings themselves. While *Jacobin* editor Bhaskar Sunkara remained silent about Trump's threats to bomb Syria in the days before the attack, he found time to publish multiple tweets about the New York Knicks basketball team. *Jacobin*'s silence denotes consent and complacency.

The same is true for the Australian pseudo-left organization Socialist Alternative, which maintains close relations with the ISO in the US, and *International Viewpoint*, the magazine of the Pabloite, ex-Trotskyist United Secretariat. These groups are nothing more than propaganda wings of American, British, and French imperialism. They provide the intelligence agencies with a megaphone, spouting their justifications for war and coloring them with “left” sounding verbiage.

These groups are pro-war because they belong to a privileged upper-middle-class layer that stands to benefit, materially, from the imperialist pillaging of the Middle East. Their pro-war proclamations reflect the right-wing shift among sections of the wealthiest 10 percent of American and European society whose stock portfolios have skyrocketed as a result of the

financialization of the world economy and the global stock market boom.

Polls show massive opposition in the US, France, and the UK to the Syria strikes. This reflects the growing opposition of the working class to war, which takes place under conditions of a growth of the class struggle worldwide as evidenced most acutely in the three countries who launched Friday night's strikes. The pseudo-left and the imperialist powers fear that the struggles of the working class will merge with broad antiwar sentiment among workers and youth. The building of a mass movement in the working class opposed to war and inequality will take place in a conscious struggle *against* those groups who call themselves "left" while helping the imperialist powers fling bombs across the former colonial countries.

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