

Reports Syria: President Assad's brother-in-law, Assef Shawkat, and Gen Dawoud Rajha, defence minister killed in blast

By [Global Research](#)

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“State TV said President Assad’s brother-in-law, Assef Shawkat, and Gen Dawoud Rajha, the defence minister were victims of a blast during a high level security meeting. The Interior minister was also injured.

Gen Shawkat was the deputy defense minister and was among the most feared figures in Assad’s inner circle. He is married to Assad’s elder sister, Bushra.

Reports said the officials had been killed by a bodyguard in a suicide bombing in the capital of Syria but other reports said a device was placed within the building. A “terrorist bomb” which exploded at a national security building in Damascus during a meeting of ministers and security officials wounded several people, some of them critically, state television said.
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