

Syria: Escalation, Terrorism and Military Invasion. A Proxy War against Russia and Iran?

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Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)
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In-depth Report: [SYRIA](#)

Author's Note

The US has already special forces inside Syria. Their “official” mandate under the “Global War on Terrorism” is to confront the ISIS which happens to be supported by Turkey, Saudi Arabia in liaison with Washington.

The deployment of US ground forces inside Syria is now contemplated against Syrian government forces following an initiative of US State Department officials.

Some 51 State Department “diplomats” signed a memo distributed through the official “dissent channel,” seeking military strikes against the Syrian government of Bashar al-Assad whose forces have been leading the pushback against Islamist extremists who are seeking control of this important Mideast nation. (Robert Parry, [Consortium News](#), June 17, 2016)

The agenda is no longer to confront the ISIS under a bogus counterterrorism mandate. Quite the opposite. It consists in coming to the rescue of al Qaeda affiliated opposition forces (Moderate Terrorists) who are being decimated by Syrian government forces with the support of Russia, Iran and Hezbollah.

Were US-NATO troops to be deployed in an outright invasion, the West’s coalition forces would not only be fighting Syrian government forces, they would also be clashing with Iranian and Russian forces, which in turn could lead the World into a broader war scenario.

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US-NATO is not prepared to let go in Syria.

While the US sponsored Al Qaeda and ISIS rebels have largely been defeated, with the support of Russia, Iran and Hezbollah, the Obama administration is now intent upon replenishing so to speak its “moderate opposition” brigades inside Syria with a new influx of jihadist fighters.

Following the decimation of Daesh-al Nusrah positions throughout the country, thousands of Islamic militants have fled amidst the outflow of refugees.

The Western military alliance has responded to this defeat of “moderate” rebel positions by replenishing its proxy army, -ie. recruiting and training a new horde of mercenaries and jihadists with the support of Turkey, Israel and Saudi Arabia.

In this regard, the ongoing Battle for Aleppo is absolutely crucial. “Thousands of terrorists” were reported to have crossed the Turkey-Syria border in early May. No doubt, they will be deployed against government forces in Aleppo:

” Syrian Prime Minister Wael Nader al-Halqi also warned that more than 5,000 fresh militants crossed the border into the Northwestern provinces of Aleppo and Idlib from Turkey, stressing that the ceasefire agreement was being violated by certain parties.”



The ongoing border crossing of terrorists into Syria is facilitated by the Turkish authorities.

The Syrian government accused the West of “aiding in the escalation of terrorist activity and arming terrorists.”

This inflow of thousands of Al Qaeda Mujahideen was carefully planned. It was preceded by the deployment of US special forces in Syria to oversee and supervise the newly recruited “moderate opposition rebels” aka Al Qaeda terrorists, most of whom have already undergone paramilitary training.

Of significance, these new foreign jihadist “freedom fighters” will de facto (not officially) be under US-NATO Command with US and allied forces deployed on the ground in permanent liaison with NATO and the US military.

In October 2015, the Obama administration confirmed that the deployment of US Special Forces would “involve fewer than 50 Special Operations advisers, who will work with resistance forces battling the Islamic State in northern Syria but will not engage in direct combat” (WP, October 30, 2015)

Politics

Obama seeks to intensify operations in Syria with Special Ops troops

In recent developments, however, Washington confirmed that another 250 special forces were to be deployed. This took place in April alongside the influx of thousands of new rebel recruits.

250 US Special Forces? These official numbers are meaningless. They do not include those sent in by Britain and France. Moreover, among the new 5000 jihadists who have entered Syria, a large number are in fact highly trained mercenaries (recruited by private companies on contract to US-NATO) operating within rebel ranks. It is worth recalling that last August Britain's [Sunday Express](#) confirmed that British "SAS dress as ISIS fighters in undercover war on jihadis,"

"More than 120 members belonging to the elite regiment are currently in the war-torn country" covertly "dressed in black and flying ISIS flags,"

The influx of jihadists coupled with the deployment of US and allied special forces was carefully coordinated. The US special forces will integrate the ranks of the newly deployed Al Qaeda brigades in Northern Syria which will replace those which were defeated by SAA forces and their allies.

Of strategic significance, the influx of special forces and new jihadist troops is changing the composition and identity of "Syrian opposition" combat forces, most of which are now made up of foreign fighters, including a significantly larger contingent of US-NATO military personnel.

When does a "civil war" become an "invasion"? The fiction of a civil war and "opposition forces" can no longer be sustained when a large number of those forces are US and allied troops operating within Syria.

Sofar, officially it's a "counterterrorism operation" but there are no terrorists to fight because they have been defeated by SAA forces. Hence the new influx of terrorists.

A Proxy War against Russia?

The strategy now appears to be evolving towards US-NATO boots on the ground: a war theater with the deployment of special forces and eventually regular ground troops in larger numbers, with the danger that Western forces could enter into direct confrontation with Russian as well as Iranian forces and military advisers.

In October, US officials accused Russia of aggression directed against US forces inside Syria:

'Putin is deliberately targeting our forces. Our guys are fighting for their lives.'

Moscow is "deliberately targeting" U.S.-backed forces in Syria as part of a military campaign that has killed up to 150 CIA-trained rebels, a U.S. official told Fox News

The claims state that Russia's apparent mission to destroy ISIS is really a facade, and that their real mission is to kill American assets. ([Fox New](#) 14, 2015).

The "Our Guys" category ("fighting for their lives") not only includes bona fide "moderate terrorists" trained by the Western military alliance, it also includes an increasingly large number of Western military advisers, intelligence agents and mercenaries deployed inside Syria.

The increased influx of foreign forces into Syria leads towards a scenario of escalation and confrontation with Russia.

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