

Undeclared US-NATO-Israel War of Aggression against Syria: “Al Qaeda Terrorism” to Wage a Coup d’Etat against an Elected Secular Government

By [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)

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“Al Qaeda Terrorism” to Wage a Coup d’Etat against an Elected Secular Government

The Damascus December 8 Coup d’Etat was led by Jihadist terrorists supported by US-NATO-Israel.

President Bashar Al Assad has left the country. The coup d’Etat in Syria bears similarities to the March 2014 Ukraine Euro-Maidan, which was marked by a U.S sponsored coup d’Etat supported by two terrorist Nazi parties, Right Sector and Svoboda.

The main actors in the December 8, 2024 coup d’Etat who were described by the media as “rebels” are Al Qaeda affiliated mercenaries, all of whom are supported by Western and Israeli intelligence.

According to the the BBC “democracy” is to be reinstated under the leadership of rebel leader **Abu Mohammed al-Jawlani**. What the media fails to mention is that Abu Mohammad al-Julani, is the leader of an Islamist terrorist entity entitled **Tahrir al-Sham** which was previously affiliated to **Al Qaeda**.

*Abu Mohammad al-Julani, is said to have served as: “the second emir of **Tahrir al-Sham** since 2017. Before cutting ties with Al-Qaeda in 2016, Julani had served as the emir of the now-defunct **al-Nusra Front, the former Syrian branch of Al-Qaeda.***

And the West applauds, celebrating the victory of Tahir Al Sham. Their unspoken objective is to install an Islamist State led by terrorist proxies.

There is no evidence of mass popular support for the terrorists. (See image below)



Western politicians including (corrupt) EC President von Der Leyen applaud “the fall of President Bashar al-Assad’s “cruel dictatorship”.

The secular Al Assad government has waged in the course of the last 13 years a war against US-NATO-Israel sponsored terrorists. It’s amply documented. He has massive popular support. He was reelected in May 2021



Today our heart and our mind are with the people of Syria who have fought the US-NATO-Israel sponsored terrorists in the course of the last 13 years. .

Michel Chossudovsky, December 8, 2024

The following article was published in September 2017. The author was in Damascus in the month leading up the commencement of the war in March 17-18 2011.

Undeclared US-NATO-Israel War against Syria

by

Michel Chossudovsky

September 2017

Introduction

From Day One in March 2011, the Islamist “freedom fighters” were supported, trained and equipped by NATO and Turkey’s High Command.

The following eight concepts are intended to clarify the nature of the war on Syria, which started more than 13 years ago on March 17-18, 2011.

It was never “a civil war”. It was an undeclared war of aggression using Al Qaeda affiliated terrorists as the foot-soldiers of US-NATO and their Middle East allies.

From day one, terrorists were involved in the killing of civilians.

It started in Daraa as an insurgency integrated by Salafist mercenaries.

Most of what is presented below is backed up by mainstream and official sources of information.

1. The Daraa “Protest Movement” on March 17-18 2011

Daraa is a small border town. National protest movements are invariably initiated in large urban areas.

The Daraa “Protests” had all the appearances of a staged event involving covert support to “Islamic terrorists”.

Government sources pointed to the role of radical Salafist groups. In chorus, the Western media described the events in Daraa as a protest movement against Bashar Al Assad. Tacitly acknowledged by the media, many of the alleged “demonstrators” were professional killers.

In a bitter irony, the deaths of policemen were higher than those of “demonstrators”. It was not a protest movement, it was an armed insurgency.

In Daraa, roof top snipers were targeting both police and protesters.

Reading between the lines of Israeli and Lebanese news reports (which acknowledge the police deaths) a clearer picture of what happened in Daraa on March 17-18 had emerged. The Israel National News Report (which can not be accused of being biased in favor of Bashar al Assad) confirmed that:

“Seven police officers and at least four demonstrators in Syria have been killed in continuing violent clashes that erupted in the southern town of Daraa last Thursday. ... **and the Baath Party Headquarters and courthouse were torched,** in renewed violence on Sunday. (Gavriel Queenann, [Syria: Seven Police Killed, Buildings Torched in Protests](#), Israel National News, Arutz Sheva, March 21, 2011, emphasis added)

The Lebanese news report also acknowledged **the killings of seven policemen in Daraa.**

[They were killed] “during clashes between the security forces and protesters... **They got killed trying to drive away protesters during demonstration in Dara’a**”

The Lebanese Ya Libnan report quoting Al Jazeera also acknowledged that protesters had **“burned the headquarters of the Baath Party and the court house in Dara’a”** (emphasis added)

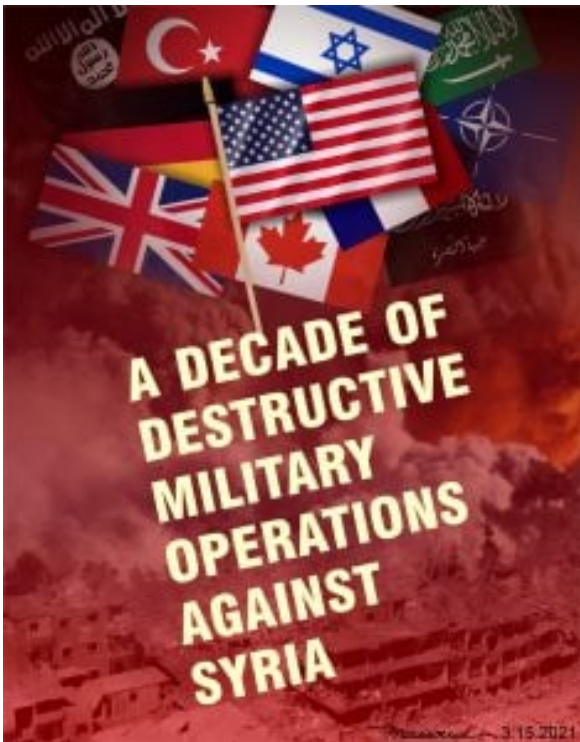
These news reports of the events in Daraa confirmed that from the very outset this was **not a “peaceful protest” as claimed by the Western media.**

Moreover, from an assessment of the initial casualty figures (Israel News), there were **more policemen than “demonstrators” who were killed.**

This is significant because it suggests that the police force may have initially been outnumbered by a well organized armed gang of professional killers.

2. Recruitment and Training of Terrorists From the Very Outset in 2011

Image on the right is from Massoud Nayeri



From Day One, the Islamist “freedom fighters” were supported, trained and equipped by NATO and Turkey’s High Command. According to Israeli intelligence sources:

NATO headquarters in Brussels and the Turkish high command are meanwhile drawing up plans for their first military step in Syria, which is to arm the rebels with weapons for combating the tanks and helicopters spearheading the Assad regime’s crackdown on dissent. ... NATO strategists are thinking more in terms of pouring large quantities of anti-tank and anti-air rockets, mortars and heavy machine guns into the protest centers for beating back the government armored forces. ([DEBKAFfile](#), NATO to give rebels anti-tank weapons, August 14, 2011)

This initiative, which was also supported by Saudi Arabia and Qatar, involved a process of **organized recruitment** of thousands of jihadist “freedom fighters”, reminiscent of the enlistment of Mujahideen to wage the CIA’s jihad (holy war) in the heyday of the Soviet-Afghan war:

Also discussed in Brussels and Ankara, our sources report, is **a campaign to enlist thousands of Muslim volunteers in Middle East countries and the Muslim world to fight alongside the Syrian rebels.** The Turkish army would house these volunteers, train them and secure their passage into Syria. (Ibid, emphasis added)

These mercenaries were subsequently integrated into US and allied sponsored terrorist organizations including Al Nusra and ISIS.

3. June 2014. The Staged ISIS “Invasion” of Iraq

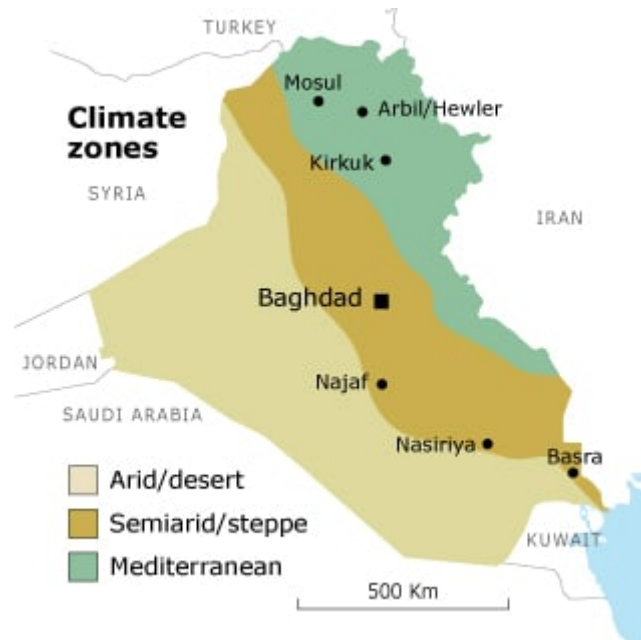
The Islamic State is protected by the US and its allies.

If they had wanted to eliminate the Islamic State brigades, **they could have “carpet” bombed their convoys of Toyota pickup trucks when they crossed the desert from Syria into Iraq in June 2014.**



The Syro-Arabian Desert is open territory (see map below). With state of the art jet fighter aircraft (F15, F22 Raptor, CF-18) it would have been -from a military standpoint- a rapid and expedient surgical operation

But the objective was not to eliminate them, the objective was to support them.



4. September 2014. Obama’s “Counter-Terrorism Campaign”. US-NATO and Coalition “Humanitarian” Airstrikes “Directed Against ISIS”

In September 2014, Obama ordered a “counter-terrorism” bombing campaign against the ISIS in both Syria and Iraq. This major bombing campaign was initiated two months months after the entry of the ISIS convoy of Toyota pickup trucks into Iraq in June 2014. The bombing campaign has now entered into its third year. Its objective was NOT to go after the Islamic State (ISIS-Daesh). The coalition consisted of some 40 countries five allied Arab monarchies, which are known to provide support to both ISIS and al Qaeda. The “40-nation coalition that unleashed more than 200 airstrikes in Syria on a single night with [state-of-the-art U.S. fighter planes](#) and help from five allied Arab monarchies” Among the advanced weapons system allegedly used against the ISIS was the F-22 Raptor.



The total number of US and coalition sorties against Syria and Iraq is of the order of 111,410. This translates into an average of 147 sorties a day (over a period of 755 days).

- **More than 8,300 strike sorties have been carried out against Syria** according to US Department of Defense sources.
- **The non-strike sorties have been used for the purposes of reconnaissance, logistics and coordination with terrorist commandos on the ground.**
- **31,900 targets in Syria and Iraq have been hit by US war planes** (see table below) including public buildings, residential areas, economic infrastructure (all of which was waged under a fake campaign against ISIS- Daesh).

Over a two year period (September 2014- September 2016)

Its all for a good cause. **None of these strikes were directed at the Syrian people, according to official statements.**

And these humanitarian statements have never been challenged by the Western media.

The initiative was part of the “Global War on Terrorism”. It was in violation of international law. **What we are dealing with are extensive war crimes directed against the people of Syria and Iraq.**

5. 2014-2016: 31,900 “Targets Damaged/Destroyed” by US and Coalition Air Raids

Targets Damaged/Destroyed as of Sept. 26, 2016

OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE TARGETS DAMAGED/DESTROYED*

 Tanks	164
 HMMWV's	388
 Staging Areas	2,050
 Buildings	7,948
 Fighting Positions	8,638
 Oil Infrastructure	2,638
Other Targets	10,074
TOTAL	31,900

*Numbers may fluctuate based on battle damage assessments
Current as of 26 September 2016

Source: CENTCOM CCCI

Strikes in Iraq and Syria



As of 4:59 p.m. EST September 27, the U.S. and coalition have conducted a total of 15,310 strikes (9,973 Iraq / 5,337 Syria).

- U.S. has conducted 11,829 strikes in Iraq and Syria (6,761 Iraq / 5,068 Syria)
- Rest of Coalition has conducted 3,481 strikes in Iraq and Syria (3,212 Iraq / 269 Syria)

The countries that have participated in the strikes include:

- In Iraq: (1) Australia, (2) Belgium, (3) Canada, (4) Denmark, (5) France, (6) Jordan, (7) The Netherlands, and (8) UK
- In Syria: (1) Australia, (2) Bahrain, (3) Canada, (4) Denmark, (5) France, (6) Jordan, (7) The Netherlands, (8) Saudi Arabia, (9) Turkey (10) UAE and (11) UK

As of August, 2016, U.S. and partner nation aircraft have flown an estimated 111,410 sorties in support of operations in Iraq and Syria.

Cost of Operations

As of August 31, 2016, the total cost of operations related to ISIL since kinetic operations started on August 8, 2014, is \$9.3 billion and the average daily cost is \$12.3 million for 755 days of operations. A further breakdown of cost associated with the operations is [here](#).

Source of Tables US Department of Defense, copyright US DoD, 2016

6. The Cost of Obama's Air Campaign: 9.3 Billion Dollars

755 days, 12.3 million dollars a day since August 2014

These are the costs of destroying Iraq and Syria. killing tens of thousands of Syrians, triggering a refugee crisis. These costs are ultimately financed by tax dollars. We are dealing with the conduct of extensive war crimes. The mainstream media remains on silent this issue.

These 12.3 million dollars a day are the cost of destroying Syria and Iraq and killing their people.

In the table above the "official" breakdown is provided, the figures refer to US strikes against Syria and Iraq.

31,900 targets as part of a war on terrorism. Ironically, the number of terrorists has increased dramatically as a result of the "counter-terrorism" campaign, not to

mention the NATO sponsored international campaign of recruitment of terrorists.

7. U.S. Weapons to Al Qaeda and ISIS

According to [Jane's Defence Weekly](#), quoting documents released by the [U.S. Government's Federal Business Opportunities \(FBO\)](#), the US –as part of its “counterterrorism campaign”– has provided Syrian rebels [aka moderate Al Qaeda] with large amounts of weapons and ammunition.

Infantry Weapons

US arms shipment to Syrian rebels detailed

Jeremy Binnie, London and Neil Gibson, London - IHS Jane's Defence Weekly

08 April 2016

The US and its allies (including Turkey and Saudi Arabia) have relied on the illicit trade in light weaponry produced in Eastern Europe, the Balkans, China, etc. for delivery to rebel groups inside Syria, including ISIS-Daesh and Al Nusra. In turn, operating out of the occupied Golan Heights, Israel's IDF has provided weapons, ammunition, logistical support to Al Qaeda rebels operating in Southern Syria.

While Washington's Middle East allies undertake shady transactions in a buoyant market for light weapons, a significant part of these illicit weapons shipments is nonetheless directly commissioned by the US government.

These shipments of weapons are not conducted through internationally approved weapons transfers. While they are the result of a Pentagon (or US government) procurement, they are not recorded as “official” military aid. They use private traders and shipping companies within the realm of a thriving illicit trade in light weapons.

*Based on the examination of a [single December 2015 Pentagon sponsored shipment of more than 990 tons](#), one can reasonably conclude that **the amounts of light weapons in the hands of “opposition” rebels inside Syria is substantial and exceedingly large.***

Documents released by the US government's Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) website have provided an indication of the types and numbers of Eastern European weapons and ammunition the United States is providing to Syrian rebel groups as part of a programme that continues despite the widely respected ceasefire in that country.

The FBO has released two solicitations in recent months looking for shipping companies to transport explosive material from Eastern Europe to the Jordanian port of Aqaba on behalf of the US Navy's Military Sealift Command.

Released on 3 November 2015, the first solicitation sought a contractor to ship 81 containers of cargo that included explosive material from Constanta in Romania to Aqaba.

The solicitation was subsequently updated with a detailed packing list that showed the cargo had a total weight of 994 tonnes, a little under half of which was to be unloaded at Agalar, a military pier near the Turkish town of Tasucu, the other half at Aqaba.

The cargo listed in the document included AK-47 rifles, PKM general-purpose machine guns, DShK heavy machine guns, RPG-7 rocket launchers, and 9K111M Faktoria anti-tank guided weapon (ATGW) systems. The Faktoria is an improved version of the 9K111 Fagot ATGW, the primary difference being that its missile has a tandem warhead for defeating explosive reactive armour (ERA) fitted to some tanks.

[Screenshot from Jane's Defense Report](#)

[For further details click here](#)

8. Weapons "Made in Canada" Delivered to Saudi Arabia, A State Sponsor of Terrorism

Ottawa's deal with Saudi Arabia is coordinated with Washington. It essentially serves the Pentagon's military agenda in the Middle East, it channels billions of dollars to the US military industrial complex.

Amply documented, Saudi Arabia is the state sponsor of Al Qaeda affiliated "opposition groups" in Syria including the Islamic State (ISIS). Riyadh -acting in liaison and on behalf of Washington- plays a central role in the financing of the Islamic State (ISIS) as well as the recruitment, training and religious indoctrination of terrorist mercenary forces deployed in Syria and Iraq.

What this signifies is that Canada is selling weapons to a country which is supporting and sponsoring terrorist organizations. Moreover Saudi Arabia is currently involved in a war of aggression against Yemen in blatant derogation of international law.

The weapons are "Made in Canada" produced by General Dynamics Land Systems, London, Ontario., a subsidiary of US defense contractor General Dynamics.

General Dynamics has subsidiaries in 43 countries including Canada.

OVERVIEW

General Dynamics Land Systems - Canada is a part of General Dynamics Land Systems, which is part of the Combat Systems business group of General Dynamics Corporation. We are a leader in light armoured vehicle platforms and sub-system integration. We are equally adept at providing re-role, upgrades and repair services, and full fleet support.

Ottawa's official stance is that these weapons which include "combat vehicles with machine guns and anti-tank cannons" are to be used by Saudi Arabia solely for purposes of national defense. They are not to be used against civilians.

Opponents of Canada's \$15-billion arms deal with Saudi Arabia took Ottawa to court. The action was led by law **Professor Daniel Turp** together with students of the University of Montreal. In a recent judgment (January 23) by Federal Court in Montreal, the case was dismissed: "Justice Daniele Tremblay-Lamer ruled that the court's role was not to "pass moral judgment" on the decision by then-foreign affairs minister Stéphane Dion to issue export permits allowing the deal."

9. The Liberation of Aleppo

While Aleppo has been liberated against the scourge of US-NATO supported terrorism, most mainstream media are accusing Syrian government forces of committing atrocities against civilians, describing Aleppo as a humanitarian crisis. What they fail to mention is that for the last four years the Eastern part of Aleppo has been occupied by Al Qaeda terrorists who are now upheld as "opposition" rebels.

The terrorists are described as the victims of Syrian government aggression. From the very outset, the atrocities committed by the terrorists are casually blamed on Syrian government forces and their allies.

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About the author:

Michel Chossudovsky is an award-winning author, Professor of Economics (emeritus) at the University of Ottawa, Founder and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal, Editor of Global Research. He has undertaken field research in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa and the Pacific and has written extensively on the economies of developing countries with a focus on poverty and social inequality. He has also undertaken research in Health Economics (UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UNFPA, CIDA, WHO, Government of Venezuela, John Hopkins International Journal of Health Services (1979, 1983) He is the author of 13 books including *The Globalization of Poverty and The New World Order* (2003), *America's "War on Terrorism"* (2005), *The Globalization of War, America's Long War against Humanity* (2015). He is a contributor to the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. His writings have been published in more than twenty languages. In 2014, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Merit of the Republic of Serbia for his writings on NATO's war of aggression against Yugoslavia. He can be reached at crgeditor@yahoo.com

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