

Trump and Erdogan Spoke by Phone: US to Stop Arming Syria YPG Kurds?

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Washington has been supplying Kurdish fighters in northern Syria with heavy weapons and other material support for many months, ignoring Turkish criticism.

On Friday, President Erdogan said

“(w)e have clearly expressed our stance” on this issues. Russia shares Ankara’s concern, he added, “but there is no similar attitude on the part of the United States” and its “coalition” partners.

He believes arming Kurds to fight ISIS is a pretext for other US objectives. Weapons supplied can be used against Turkey.

Later on Friday, Trump and Erdogan spoke by phone. According to Turkish Foreign Minister Melvut Cavasoglu, the US president “instructed (the Pentagon) in a very open way that the YPG will no longer be given weapons. He openly said that this absurdity should have ended much earlier.”

Ankara claimed Washington supplied Kurdish YPG fighters with around 4,000 truckloads of weapons. They continued coming long after fighting against ISIS in northern Syria ended.

It’s unknown to what extent CIA operatives are involved in aiding Kurdish fighters, along with arming ISIS and other terrorists in Syria, Iraq, elsewhere regionally and in other countries.

It’s also unknown what knowledge and input Trump has over combat activities in US war theaters. He delegated warmaking to administration and Pentagon generals.

They’re directing things, not him, one among other signs of weak leadership – compounded by Washington’s notorious history of saying one thing and doing another, including betraying allies.

Is Kurdish betrayal next? Or will the White House try having things both ways, pretending to halt arms shipments, covertly continuing them to maintain pressure on Damascus.

Neither the National Security Council or State Department confirmed Trump's pledge to Erdogan. The White House provided no details on his conversation with Turkey's president.

Halting military support will anger Kurdish fighters, proving America can't be trusted, perhaps getting them to seek closer ties to Damascus.

Washington waged war on Syria for regime change and control over the country, wanting Iran isolated ahead of a similar strategy against its government.

Peace and stability defeat its agenda. Endless wars serve it. Resolving conflict in Syria remains a formidable task, impossible to achieve easily.

Washington and its rogue partners will continue trying to obstruct it, making unacceptable demands, refusing to relinquish northern and southern Syrian territory it illegally occupies.

Syria's liberating struggle has miles to go, its outcome uncertain given America's resolve to control the country.

Russia, Iran and Damascus oppose US imperial objectives, supporting the only acceptable alternative.

It's covered in SC Res. 2254, calling for ceasefire and a diplomatic solution.

International law affirms Syrian sovereignty, territorial integrity and right of its people alone to decide who'll lead them, free from foreign interference.

Getting Washington to observe it is another matter entirely.

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