

U.S. Walks Back Claim that Syrian Government Carried Out Chemical Weapons Attack

By [Washington's Blog](#)

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While Trump blamed the Syrian government for the alleged recent chemical weapons attack, U.S. officials made it clear today that we don't yet know what happened.

The New York Times [reports](#):

"We are continuing to assess intelligence and are engaged in conversations with our partners and allies," [White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee] Sanders said in a statement.

The Trump administration has not yet confirmed the use of chemical weapons by the Syrian regime.

Reuters [notes](#):

"I believe there was a chemical attack and we are **looking for the actual evidence**," [Secretary of Defense] Mattis told lawmakers, adding he wanted inspectors in Syria "probably within the week."

In a separate article, Reuters [writes](#):

The United States is still assessing intelligence about last weekend's suspected chemical weapons attack in Syria, U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said on Wednesday, striking a cautious tone hours after President Donald Trump threatened missile strikes.

Asked if he had seen enough evidence to blame Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's forces for the attack, Mattis said: "We're still assessing the intelligence — ourselves and our allies. **We're still working on this.**" He did not elaborate.

And [see this](#).

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