

As Iraq Burns, US Plans \$500 Million to Terrorists in Syria

By Tony Cartalucci

Global Research, July 03, 2014

New Eastern Outlook 2 July 2024

Region: Middle East & North Africa, USA
Theme: Terrorism, US NATO War Agenda

In-depth Report: IRAQ REPORT, SYRIA

The New York Times in its article, "Obama Requests Money to Train 'Appropriately Vetted' Syrian Rebels," stated:

President Obama requested \$500 million from Congress on Thursday to train and equip what the White House is calling "appropriately vetted" members of the Syrian opposition, reflecting increased worry about the spillover of the Syrian conflict into Iraq.

The reportage is a stunning entanglement of contradictions, claiming that the additional funding for terrorists fighting in Syria will somehow address "spillover" that is in fact a direct result of US, NATO, and their Persian Gulf collaborators' creation, expansion, and perpetuation of the war in Syria in the first place.

The NYT also stated:

The training program would be a significant step for a president who has consistently resisted providing military aid to the rebels in the conflict in Syria, and has warned of the dangers of American intervention. But military and State Department officials indicated that there were not yet any specific programs to arm and train the rebels that the money would fund, nor could administration officials specify which moderate Syrian opposition members they intended to train and support, or where they would be trained.

Despite the NYT's attempt to portray the US as having "consistently resisted providing military aid" to terrorists operating along and within Syria's borders, the US, UK, NATO, and the Persian Gulf monarchies have provided terrorists hundreds of millions in aid, including weapons, equipment, and even vehicles. NATO-member Turkey has also provided air and artillery cover for terrorists during cross border operations including most recently in the northwest village of Kessab.

And despite assurances that these hundreds of millions in aid was going to similarly "vetted" "moderates," terrorist organizations including Al Qaeda's Al Nusra and Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) have achieved uncontested primacy among militant groups fighting in Syria. If the US and its regional collaborators have provided "moderates" with hundreds of millions in aid, who has provided Al Qaeda with even more to explain their now state-sized holdings not only in Syria but now in northern Iraq?

The answer is simple. There never were any moderates to begin with. An Independent article titled, "I am not fighting against al-Qa'ida... it's not our problem', says West's last hope in Syria," claims:

Speaking from a safe house on the outskirts of the Turkish town of Antakya, Jamal Maarouf, the leader of the Syrian Revolutionary Front (SRF) told The Independent that the fight against al-Qa'ida was "not our problem" and admitted his fighters conduct joint operations with Jabhat al-Nusra – the official al-Qa'ida branch in Syria.

And even with the Independent quoting the would-be recipients of yet hundreds of millions more in Western aid, admitting they work in tandem with Al Qaeda which is now cutting a swatch of horror and mayhem across neighboring Iraq, the truth is from the very beginning, years in fact before the so-called "Arab Spring" even began, the US, Israel, and Saudi Arabia conspired to overthrow Iran and its arch of influence, including the government of Syria, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and surely the Iran-leaning government in Baghdad, by organizing, funding, and arming sectarian militants including Al Qaeda itself.

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Seymour Hersh's 2007 New Yorker article, "The Redirection" prophetically stated (emphasis added):

To undermine Iran, which is predominantly Shiite, the Bush Administration has decided, in effect, to reconfigure its priorities in the Middle East. In Lebanon, the Administration has coöperated with Saudi Arabia's government, which is Sunni, in clandestine operations that are intended to weaken Hezbollah, the Shiite organization that is backed by Iran. The U.S. has also taken part in clandestine operations aimed at Iran and its ally Syria. A by-product of these activities has been the bolstering of Sunni extremist groups that espouse a militant vision of Islam and are hostile to America and sympathetic to Al Qaeda.

Throughout the rest of Hersh's nine-page report, which came out 4 years before the so-called "Arab Spring" unfolded, is outlined in specific detail how the West and its regional allies including Israel and Saudi Arabia, were already funneling in cash and arraying armed sectarian extremists against Hezbollah inside of Lebanon and against the government of Syria. Hersh's report even included a retired CIA agent who portended the sectarian nature of the impending, regional conflict.

There is no denying that this premeditated conspiracy described in 2007 has now been brought to full fruition in the form of a increasingly horrific sectarian conflict the West is now poised to further expand by injecting a half-billion dollars into terrorist operations in direct support of ISIS campaigns on both sides of the Syrian-Iraqi border. For the NYT to claim injecting more cash and weapons into efforts to topple governments currently fighting Al Qaeda's various regional franchises is some sort of attempt to contain "spillover" is disingenuous at best, and at worst a poor attempt to cover up what is essentially Washington's open state sponsorship of the largest terrorist force ever assembled in modern history.

Tony Cartalucci, Bangkok-based geopolitical researcher and writer, especially for the online magazine <u>"New Eastern Outlook"</u>.

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: Tony Cartalucci

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca