

False Flag Operation against Syria? Lessons from the Vietnam War and the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution

By [Timothy Alexander Guzman](#)

Global Research, September 16, 2013

[Silent Crow News](#)

Theme: [Intelligence](#), [US NATO War Agenda](#)

The Obama administration wants war with Syria. It has been planned for quite some time. It does not matter what kind of deal was made. It does not mean that the crisis in Syria is over and that a peaceful solution is in a matter of time. The US will attempt anything to get into another war including a "False Flag" operation, which could be well on its way. Syria has just been given a week to declare its chemical weapons with the condition to allow international inspectors into the country.

The deal was reached between US Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov in Geneva. At the press conference before the agreement, Kerry had said "Sure, he could turn over every single bit of his chemical weapons to the international community in the next week – turn it over, all of it without delay and allow the full and total accounting, but he isn't about to do it and it can't be done". No matter what Russia and the international community do to prevent any escalation of war, the Obama administration wants to launch strikes destabilizing the Assad government and the Middle East. President Bashar al-Assad will not accept continued US threats against his country while Western backed rebels are committing atrocities against civilians, most recently the attack on the Christian city of Maaloula. Syrian government forces eventually regained control of Maaloula. The talks between the US and Russia does not necessarily mean that a peace process will be established after a 2-year civil war. The possibility of a False Flag operation will be an option for the US government. A False Flag operation can take place since the majority of governments and people around the world (including the American people) are against a US attack on Syria.

The stage is set. *RT News* recently reported that multiple sources had informed them that the rebels were going to launch a chemical attack on Israel to cause a "major provocation" to blame the Assad government. Israel would then retaliate with US forces on standby. But that did not happen, because it was possible that *RT News* exposed it just in time. Syria is part of the chess game as Former General Wesley Clark clearly stated to Amy Goodman of *Democracy Now* in 2007:


A. Goodman: Do you see a replay in what happened in the lead-up to the war with Iraq — the allegations of the weapons of mass destruction, the media leaping onto the bandwagon?

Gen. Wesley Clark: Well, in a way. But, you know, history doesn't repeat itself exactly twice. What I did warn about when I testified in front of Congress in 2002, I said if you want to worry about a state, it shouldn't be Iraq, it should be Iran. But this government, our administration, wanted to worry about Iraq, not Iran.

I knew why, because I had been through the Pentagon right after 9/11. About ten days after 9/11, I went through the Pentagon and I saw Secretary Rumsfeld and Deputy Secretary Wolfowitz. I went downstairs just to say hello to some of the people on the Joint Staff who used to work for me, and one of the generals called me in. He said, "Sir, you've got to come in and talk to me a second." I said, "Well, you're too busy." He said, "No, no." He says, "We've made the decision we're going to war with Iraq." This was on or about the 20th of September. I said, "We're going to war with Iraq? Why?" He said, "I don't know." He said, "I guess they don't know what else to do." So I said, "Well, did they find some information connecting Saddam to al-Qaeda?" He said, "No, no." He says, "There's nothing new that way. They just made the decision to go to war with Iraq." He said, "I guess it's like we don't know what to do about terrorists, but we've got a good military and we can take down governments." And he said, "I guess if the only tool you have is a hammer, every problem has to look like a nail."

So I came back to see him a few weeks later, and by that time we were bombing in Afghanistan. I said, "Are we still going to war with Iraq?" And he said, "Oh, it's worse than that." He reached over on his desk. He picked up a piece of paper. And he said, "I just got this down from upstairs" — meaning the Secretary of Defense's office — "today." And he said, "This is a memo that describes how we're going to take out seven countries in five years, starting with Iraq, and then Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and, finishing off, Iran." I said, "Is it classified?" He said, "Yes, sir." I said, "Well, don't show it to me." And I saw him a year or so ago, and I said, "You remember that?" He said, "Sir, I didn't show you that memo! I didn't show it to you!"

Washington has invaded Iraq in 2003. It had ordered a NATO attack on Libya resulting in the death of its long time president Muammar Gaddafi leaving the country in chaos. Sudan has been divided which paved the way for south Sudan's independence with Washington's help. Somalia is targeted by Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA) drone war. Lebanon is constantly targeted by the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and intelligence apparatus (Mossad). The last conflict between Lebanon and Israel was in 2006 when Hezbollah repelled Israel's attack leading to its defeat. Syria is a definitive target on Washington's list. The Obama administration is relentless in its pursuit to start another war. Syria is the next target for Washington and Tel Aviv. If Washington and their allies defeat Syria and Iran, then their goal of controlling the Middle East will become a reality.

The US also wanted war in Vietnam and created the Gulf of Tonkin incident. The Vietnam War was  "allegedly" about the Domino Theory, If America loses one nation to communism then they will lose every country in Southeast Asia. Western powers of Britain, France and the United States chose Vietnam, a country located in close proximity to China to prevent the so called "Spread of Communism" but it was really about war profits for the Military-Industrial Complex and containing China. The Gulf of Tonkin incident was a False Flag operation designed to blame North Vietnam.

On August 5th, 1964 the Washington Post published a story titled "American Planes Hit North Vietnam After Second Attack on Our Destroyers; Move Taken to Halt New Aggression." The New York Times also reported the same incident titled "President Johnson has ordered retaliatory action against gunboats and 'certain supporting facilities in North Vietnam' after renewed attacks against American destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin." The problem with both stories is that there was no second attack by North Vietnam. It was the start of the Vietnam War. It was a lie perpetrated by the Johnson administration that caused the lives of millions of Vietnamese and more than 50,000 Americans including 10's of thousands more

permanently injured and disabled. The official story by the White House and its propaganda media outlets was that North Vietnamese torpedo boats launched an “unprovoked attack” against the USS Maddox, during a signals intelligence patrol. It was part of DESOTO operations or intelligence collection in enemy territory. The USS Maddox was confronted by three North Vietnamese Navy torpedo boats of the 135th Torpedo Squadron. A sea battle soon began that resulted in the deaths of four North Vietnamese sailors with six wounded. The U.S. suffered no casualties.

Then on August 4th, 1964 the second Tonkin Gulf incident was claimed by the National Security Agency (NSA) that another sea battle took place through false radar images. There were no North Vietnamese torpedo boats attacking any US ships in the Gulf of Tonkin. The truth is that the USS Maddox was engaged in intelligence-gathering maneuvers and at the same time in coordination with South Vietnamese navy and Laotian Air Force attacking North Vietnam. Daniel C. Hallin, scholar and author of “The “Uncensored War”: The Media and Vietnam said that “the day before, two attacks on North Vietnam had taken place” the attacks by the US Navy was “part of a campaign of increasing military pressure on the North that the United States had been pursuing since early 1964.” President Johnson ordered U.S. bombers to “retaliate” for the North Vietnamese torpedo attack on the US Navy.

Many officials in Washington had expressed doubts that an attack by North Vietnam had occurred. Why? Several factors were considered such as the cables from the U.S. task force commander in the Gulf of Tonkin Captain John J. Herrick referred to “freak weather effects,” to “almost total darkness” and even an “overeager sonar man” who according to Herrick “was hearing ship’s own propeller beat.” By 1965, President Johnson stated that “For all I know, our Navy was shooting at whales out there.” The New York Times said that the president “went to the American people last night with the somber facts.” It was a lie. The same lie the Obama administration and the Main Stream Media (MSM) is committing against the American people. CNN has reported that the US was training Syrian rebels (including members of Al Nusra, an affiliate of Al Qaeda) in Jordan and Turkey on “how to monitor and secure stockpiles” of chemical weapons back in 2012.

✖ Washington’s ambitious plan to proceed with an attack on Syria is a dangerous step towards another World War, one that would involve the entire Middle East including Iran, Russia and China. Why is Washington so determined to start a war with Syria? Is it because its dollar supremacy is at the end of its reign? Or is it because China and its BRICS partners including Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa will eventually trade in a future gold-backed Yuan and other currencies that would be an alternative to the US dollar and the Euro? Or is it that the world no longer wants to follow America’s foreign and economic policies? Washington has been a destabilizing force throughout the world. It has been a force for economic exploitation and war.

The world wants change and Washington knows this. It can only maintain its “Superpower” Status by controlling the vast resources of the Middle East which emerging economic powers such as China depend on. By controlling the resources, China, Russia and the rest of the world would have to be under the dictate of Washington and its Multinational corporations. Time is running out for the US because its economy and living standards is in decline. It is the largest debtor nation in history with close to 17 trillion dollars not including social security and Medicare. If you add social security, Medicare and other debt obligations, then the total debt is more than “70 Trillion dollars” according to David Walker who served as United States Comptroller General in the Government Accountability Office

from 1998 to 2008.

The US military is stretched to the limit. And their dictatorships they support in the Middle East are rapidly losing their grip on their populations. The time is now for war. Washington is capable of doing anything to start a war, even another Gulf of Tonkin incident. Let's be clear about Washington's concern for chemical weapons in the Middle East.

If they really cared about the victims or potential future victims of chemical or nuclear weapons, they would abolish their own stockpiles which they have used in Vietnam (Agent Orange), Iraq (Fallujah with white phosphorous) and Japan (the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki).

The original source of this article is [Silent Crow News](#)
Copyright © [Timothy Alexander Guzman](#), [Silent Crow News](#), 2013

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Timothy Alexander Guzman](#)

About the author:

Timothy Alexander Guzman is an independent researcher and writer with a focus on political, economic, media and historical spheres. He has been published in Global Research, The Progressive Mind, European Union Examiner, News Beacon Ireland, WhatReallyHappened.com, EIN News and a number of other alternative news sites. He is a graduate of Hunter College in New York City.

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