

Trump Bombs Syria -and Obliterates His Anti-Interventionist Promises

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On the evening of April 6 the U.S. military fired 59 Tomahawk missiles at an airbase in Syria. The bombing was a “response” to the alleged chemical weapons attack by the Assad government, which critics of the American deep state and the US imperial agenda have called a false flag attack.

The U.S. assault, which was done without congressional approval, marks a complete reversal of Trump’s campaign trail anti-interventionist claims as well as his condemnation of previous US presidents’—Bush and Obama’s —military actions in countries like Syria and Iraq.

As [Think Progress](#) reports, this action marks a “dramatic reversal from Trump’s position when Obama considered military action against Syria” after Assad allegedly used chemical weapons in 2013. “Trump repeatedly derided the idea of striking Syria, characterizing it as a foolish and expensive waste of time.” At the time, Trump released a series of quotes urging Obama not to bomb Syria. Some of Trump’s tweets stated:

“Don’t attack Syria – an attack that will bring nothing but trouble for the U.S. Focus on making our country strong and great again!”

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) [September 9, 2013](#)

“We should stay the hell out of Syria, the “rebels” are just as bad as the current regime. WHAT WILL WE GET FOR OUR LIVES AND \$ BILLIONS?ZERO”

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) [June 16, 2013](#)

“AGAIN, TO OUR VERY FOOLISH LEADER, DO NOT ATTACK SYRIA – IF YOU DO MANY VERY BAD THINGS WILL HAPPEN & FROM THAT FIGHT THE U.S. GETS NOTHING!”

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) [September 5, 2013](#)

“What I am saying is stay out of Syria.”

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) [September 4, 2013](#)

Given Trump's dogged resistance to and criticism of Obama's involvement in Syria and his campaign rhetoric about focusing *less* on other nations as well as his numerous overtures about improving relations with Russia, many commentators—*myself included*—were guardedly optimistic about potential changes to US foreign policy under Trump and a movement towards less intervention abroad. This was compounded by the fact that the mainstream media was and remains staunchly opposed to Trump. [1]

But it appears that the opposite is true. With this bombing, Trump has joined the neo-con/neoliberal humanitarian imperialism band- wagon, which uses so-called “concern for human rights” as a pretext for imperial wars, ‘regime change,’ and invasions abroad. That Trump got on board with this meme indicates that he is as beholden to the deep state as any president before him.



Despite his condemnation of Obama's involvement in Syria and despite his claims and allusions about making American less interventionist, it took less than three months for him to expand the US imperial war machine. With this move Trump is likely to lose much of his support base, including among the “alt right”, which is far less war mongering than the neo-con right, and is indeed often anti-war.

Syrian Chemical Attack a Ploy?

Many are calling Assad's supposed chemical attack an obvious false flag attack, not least because it came just days after the U.S. Ambassador to the UN and the U.S. Secretary of State overtly maintained that it is up to the people of Syria to decide their leadership and the country's future.

Former Representative Ron Paul (R-TX) has [denounced](#) the chemical attack as a false flag attack and believes that there is zero chance Assad is behind it:

“Before this episode of possible gas exposure and who did what, things were going along reasonably well for the conditions...Trump said let the Syrians decide who should run their country, and peace talks were making out, and Al Qaeda and ISIS were on the run....“It looks like, maybe, somebody didn't like that so there had to be an episode, and the blame now is we can't let that happen because it looks like it might benefit Assad.”

The timing of the chemical attack is just too convenient and too suspect. Though, it takes much longer than two days to plan such an attack; and one can surmise that it may have been in the works for a while. What it took to get Trump to diametrically change his tune is anyone's guess.

It will be interesting to see if mainstream "progressives" and "liberals"—i.e., the fake left—will applaud Trump's bombing of Syria. This group has supported the imperial agenda to oust Bashar Al Assad (for so-called humanitarian reasons) from the outset. Now that Trump seems to have gotten on board with this agenda, liberals may have some strange common ground with the man they call public enemy number one.

Final Thoughts

Just when I thought that U.S. foreign policy might become just *a bit* less belligerent and less interventionist, things get even more belligerent and far *stranger*. It took less than three months for my guarded optimism to be dashed. I suspect I'm not the only one feeling this way at present.

This goes to show that the deep state is stronger and more entrenched than ever.

Notes

[1] Though the war mongering, mainstream media backed his bombing of Syria. Little surprise there.

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