

## US/Turkey Deal on Syria, Like Carving Up Cuba Scene from the Godfather Trilogy

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One of the trilogy's most memorable scenes was in pre-liberated Cuba where mafia dons are seen carving up a cake representing the country.

The Hyman Roth character explains that "all of you will share" in plundering the island state in collaboration with its ruling authorities, adding:

"These are wonderful things that we've achieved in Havana, and there's no limit to where we can go from here."

"This kind of government knows how to help business to encourage it...(W)e have now what we have always needed —real partnership with the government."

Cuba's strongman despot Fulgencio Batista was like Nicaragua's Anastasio Somoza, a figure Franklin Roosevelt called "a son of a bitch, but he's our son of a bitch."

The characterization applied to Batista, today to all despots serving US interests and their own at the expense of peace, equity and justice.

Since early 2011, Obama's war on Syria, now Trump's, using ISIS and likeminded jihadists as proxy Pentagon/CIA foot soldiers continues.

It's gone on endlessly because bipartisan US hardliners reject restoration of peace and stability to the country and others the US attacked aggressively.

They want all nations not controlled by the US transformed into vassal states, Assad and other independent leaders replaced by pro-Western puppet rule.

War in Syria is also about isolating Iran regionally, ahead of a similar scheme against its ruling authorities.

What's going on in the Middle East post-9/11 is part of a US-led NATO/Israeli plot to redraw the Middle East map, carving up nations for easier control, looting their resources and exploiting their people.

Tactics include endless wars and chaos in one country after another, serving US imperial interests. Peace and stability defeat its aims.

Russia's intervention in Syria four years ago changed the dynamic on the ground, most of

the country liberated from the scourge of US-supported ISIS and other terrorists, Idlib province the key remaining battleground.

Infested with thousands of heavily armed US-supported al-Nusra jihadists, they're holding around three million civilians hostage as human shields, defeating them requiring protracted struggle that's winnable.

The greater issue is occupation of northern Syria by US and Turkish forces, its south bordering Iraq and Jordan by Pentagon troops.

As long as Syria is occupied by foreign forces, liberation remains unattainable.

The illegitimate October 17 US/Turkish deal leaves troops from both countries occupying and controlling Syrian territory — a flagrant international law breach, a scheme Damascus rejects.

It includes redeploying US forces in northern areas largely or entirely cross-border to Iraq and perhaps Jordan, unknown numbers remaining in Syria — thousands more sent to Saudi Arabia, increasing the Pentagon's regional military footprint.

As portrayed in the Godfather trilogy, the US and Turkey agreed to carve up Syria's north, ruling authorities of both countries wanting control over its oil-producing areas.

Damascus has no intention of relinquishing any of its territory to foreign occupiers, war likely to continue until all parts of Syria are liberated.

On Friday, Bashar al-Assad met with Kremlin special representative for Syria Alexander Lavrentiev and Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Vershinin.

Discussing the latest developments on the ground, notably Turkish aggression and Erdogan's deal with the Trump regime, Assad stressed that Syria's liberation depends on halting Ankara's offensive and freeing the country from foreign occupiers.

Russian officials affirmed support for Syrian sovereignty and territorial integrity, what the Kremlin backed throughout the war, along with restoration of peace and stability to the country.

On Saturday, the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported that Turkish terror-bombing and cross-border shelling continue for the second day following Thursday's deal in Ankara, saying:

"(R)esidential neighborhoods in Ras al-Ayn and targeted places of worship from mosques, churches and monasteries, which caused the people fleeing the targeted areas" were struck, adding:

A "SANA reporter said that eight civilians were martyred and about 25 others were injured in the ongoing Turkish aggression on Syrian territory in and around Ras al-Ayn city despite the announcement of the Turkish regime reaching an agreement with Washington..."

"(G)roups of the Turkish occupation forces and their mercenaries infiltrated into Ras al-Ayn city and the surrounding villages and attacked with medium and light weapons the people in the villages of Lazka, Abah, Mraikiz, Bab al-

Khair and Sheikh Hussein Tomb in Ras al-Ayn countryside."

"The Turkish regime is launching offensive on a number of villages and towns in the countryside of Hasaka and Raqqa, which resulted in the martyrdom and injury of hundreds of civilians, including children, women and workers in the service sectors, and considerable material damage to service facilities, vital infrastructure such as dams, power and water plants."

On Saturday, Southfront said the "northeastern Syria ceasefire is collapsing." Turkish forces continue to attack sites, at least 28 civilians killed or injured.

AMN News said "Turkish forces (are) advanc(ing) (on a) key border city despite (Thursday's) ceasefire" agreement, attacking Kurdish YPG fighters.

Hardline US and Turkish regimes can never be trusted, time and again agreeing to one thing, then going another way.

Is this what's now playing out in Syria? What follows Thursday's deal remains very much uncertain.

If past is prologue, there's little reason for optimism.

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