

Syria as a Powder Keg: The Aleppo Attacks

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KYIV POST
UKRAINE'S GLOBAL VOICE

UK

Війна Україна Світ Економіка Аналіз Погляди Відео Культура

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ЕКСКЛЮЗИВ ГУР МІЖНАРОДНІ ВІДНОСИНИ

ЕКСКЛЮЗИВ: Спецпризначенці ГУР і сирійські повстанці нищать російських найманців у Сирії

Ексклюзивне відео, отримане Kyiv Post, показує, як українські спецпризначенці атакують ворожі блокпости, опорні пункти, піші патрулі та колони військової техніки на Голанських висотах у Сирії.

Катерина Захарченко | червень 3, 2024, 13:26



ЗМІСТ

- Що роблять українські спецпризначенці в Сирії?

1. In standard, boilerplate Arabic phrases often repeated in similar, if not identical, reports, Syria's state owned news agency, SANA, reported an attack on June 3rd, 2024. SANA's report stated the following: "مصدر عسكري: حوالي الساعة ٢٠:٠٠ بعد منتصف ليل ٦/٣/٢٠٢٤ شن العدو الإسرائيلي عدواناً من اتجاه جنوب شرق حلب مستهدفاً بعض المواقع في محيط حلب، وأدى العدوان إلى ارتقاء عدد من الشهداء ووقوع بعض الخسائر المايه."

2. Syria's SANA news agency did not issue another report. *AlArabiya*, however, reported issued three reports on the June 3rd, 2024, displaying a natural progression. In the first report, *AlArabiya* published an article with the following title: سقوط عدد من القتلى في غارات إسرائيلية شمال حلب." [1]

3. The following article, which provided more details but did not specifically state who died, appears to be the second: "غارات إسرائيلية على ريف حلب... ومقتل ١٢." [2]

4. In its third report, *AlArabiya*, reported specifically states who died during the raid:

5. "مقتل مستشار عسكري إيراني بهجوم إسرائيلي على حلب." [3]

6. The Aleppo attack is therefore the second that an Israeli attack resulted in the death of a major military figure from the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps (i.e., henceforth *IRGC*).

April 1st, 2024

7. SANA's notice from April 1st, 2024 stated the following: "مصدر عسكري: حوالي الساعة ١٧:٠٠ مساء اليوم شن العدو الإسرائيلي عدواناً جويًا من اتجاه الجولان السوري المحتل مستهدفاً مبنى القنصلية الإيرانية بدمشق وقد تصدت وسائل دفاعنا الجوي لصواريخ العدو وأسقطت بعضها وأدى العدوان إلى تدمير البناء بكامله واستشهاد وإصابة كل من بداخله ويجري العمل على أنتشال جثامين الشهداء وإسعاف الجرحى وإزالة الأتقاض." After the April 1st, 2024 attack, several other attacks occurred in Syria.

The May 9th, 2024

8. An attack on May 9th, 2024, shortly after the publication covering the attacks in the beginning of May, preceded the June 3rd attacks in Aleppo. In standard, boilerplate Arabic phrases often repeated in similar, if not identical phrases, reports, Syria's state owned news agency, reported an attack well



before daybreak on May 9th, 2024. The report stated: “حوالي الساعة ٣:٢٠ فجر اليوم شّ العدو الإسرائيلي عدواناً جويّاً من اتجاه الحولان السورية المحتل مستهدفاً أحد الأبنية في ريف دمشق. وقد تصدّت وسائط دفعنا الجوي لصواريخ العدوان وأسقطت بعضها.” It is unclear exactly what building the missiles targeted.

9. In the namesake of the mighty river that flowed through Babylon, *The Euphrates Post*, published a notice from its Twitter account in Arabic, stating that Syria’s minister of defense announced that Syria had been attacked. The notice stated: “وزارة دفاع النظام : اعترضنا صواريخ إسرائيلية تم إطلاقها من الجولان المحتل باتجاه ريف دمشق.” Although *AlArabiya* did not appear to report the incident, both

AlJazeera as well as *Sky News Arabic* did. [4], [5] Neither of these news agencies provided additional details about the targeted building.

10. It could be that the attack on May 9th is a secondary response to a Syrian attack prior to May 6th. *AlArabiya* reported, for instance, how Israel attacked Dara in response to a missile launched from Syria’s Golan Heights.[6] SANA does not appear to have issued a notice in its Telegram channel, indicating the attack. It does not appear as the Israeli media published anything on the event. No report from *Maariv* (i.e., מעריב), *The Land* (i.e., הארץ), or *The Latest Notices* (i.e., ידיעות אחרונות) appeared in their press.



11. The May 9th attack is significant, however, for the date. May 9th is the day the Russian armed forces in Ukraine launched an all-out offensive on Kharkiv from three sectors bordering the Ukraine from the north-west in Sumy, the north in Liptsi, and the north-east in Vovchansk, seizing more than 200 square kilometers within hours. May 9th is also Russia's most famous holiday from the Soviet Union. The Russians celebrate the Soviet Union's victory over fascism on May 9th. Could it be that Israel scheduled its attack to precede these events?

Military Parade with Russia on May 9th, 2024

12. In a sign of solidarity, Syria celebrated the holiday together with Russian military advisers in a parade. It does not appear as though any of the major news agencies in the Arabic language published articles, detailing the event. It doesn't appear as Russia's news agencies published anything. Syria's own SANA appears to have been the only news agency to cover the event.

13. One more attack preceded the June 3rd Attacks. On May 29th, 2024, Syria's SANA news agency published a short notice,



detailing an attack on a suburb. The notice stated: “مصدر عسكري:“ حوالي الساعة ١٩:٣٠ مساءً شن العدو الإسرائيلي عدواناً جويماً من اتجاه الأراضي اللبنانية مستهدفاً احد المواقع في المنطقة الوسطى واحد الأبنية السكنية في مدينة بانياس في المنطقة الساحلية، وادى العدوان إلى استشهاد طفلة وإصابة عشرة مدنيين بجروح ووقوع بعض الخسائر المادية.”

14. The Baniyas attack received little to no press. The pro-nationalist Russian commentator on Twitter, @rybar_force, published a short summary on Twitter without references, citations, or a bibliography. The publication included a map, detailing the attack. It appears as though @rybar_force may have sought to comment on the attack

due to the unique nature of the raid. In contrast with the majority of Israeli raids on Syria, the attack on Baniyas came from Lebanon rather than the Golan Heights, the area from which the majority of Israel’s raids originate. [7]

Joint Military Exercise with Russia

15. In April Syria launched a joint military exercise with Russia. The joint military exercise focused on an amphibious landing at one of the two most important military bases in Syria, Tartous, one of the most important warm water ports for Russia in the Mediterranean.



- Russia's navy accompanied Syria's throughout the exercise. The Russian PR 11356R frigate "Admiral Grigorovich, a PR 21631 corvette "Orekhovo-Zuyevo", a PR 636.3 submarine, Syrian PR 205 missile boats and PR 1400 patrol boats participated in the exercise. 。
16. The last time Russia engaged in a similar exercise in the Mediterranean Russian sources indicated that the following naval boats participated in the event: "[Командир сил ВМФ РФ в дальней зоне Дмитрий Добрынин] сказал, что с российской стороны в тренировке, в частности, приняли участие носители
- крылатых ракет калибр, Фрегат "Адмирал Эссен" и малый ракетный корабль "Вышний Волочек." [8]
17. The latest exercise included the Russian K-300P Bastion P system Russia first deployed to Syria on November 15th, 2016 as part of Russia's military intervention in Syria. It is one of the more unique anti-air defense systems, especially in Syria's arsenal.[9], [10] It is equipped with Russian supersonic anti-ship missiles called P-800 Oniks with a 200—250kg warhead.
18. SANA published a video with a VoiceOver, detailing the event. SANA's article mentioned

neither the TOR nor the Pantsir anti-air systems, although a report in Russian from 2020 did without any mention of the “Bastion.” Neither system appears in any of the photos published to commemorate the event.[11]

Confirmed Analysis on Gold and Sanctions

19. In the last report on Syria as a Powder Keg [12] - [“Syria as a Powder Keg: The Najhah Attack,” *LeftOpposition*, May 8th, 2024], the author mentioned how “The “the lost volume of trade in dollars” becomes an opportunity for gold, one of the aspects of the UAE’s clearing house the United States cannot regulate with sanctions on the dollar.”
20. In the weeks that followed, the *Wall Street Journal* published an article that confirmed the author’s analysis. The *Journal* published an article entitled, “New Gold Allure: It’s Sanctions-Proof.” [13]



21. In the article, the author describes how “Western sanctions on Russia after it invaded Ukraine in 2022 might [have] prompted some central banks to diversify away from the dollar-based assets.” It explained how “Featuring prominently in Russia’s reserves before and especially after the invasion: gold, which is easy to stockpile beyond foreigners’ reach.” While the article does not discuss the Emirati clearing house, the *Journal*’s analysis confirms our conclusion that 1) sanctions reduce trade in dollars, as well as that 2) sanctions cannot regulate gold.

Syria and the Ukraine War

22. Russia’s full-scale invasion of the Ukraine is a result of one of

the more significant processes whose world historical significance shapes the 21st century in an epoch of world socialist revolution.[14] It is the subversion of the Arab Spring in Syria into a civil war. Russia's full-scale invasion into Ukraine is, in a certain sense, one of the results of its intervention into

Russia continues to the present day.

23. While certain commentators have claimed that Russia's experience in Syria provided no strategic advantage for its war effort in Ukraine[15], the *Journal* claims, for instance, how "[at] worst, the Kremlin could



غارات إسرائيلية سابقة على سوريا (أرشيفية - رويترز)

غارات إسرائيلية على ريف حلب.. ومقتل 12

سوريا



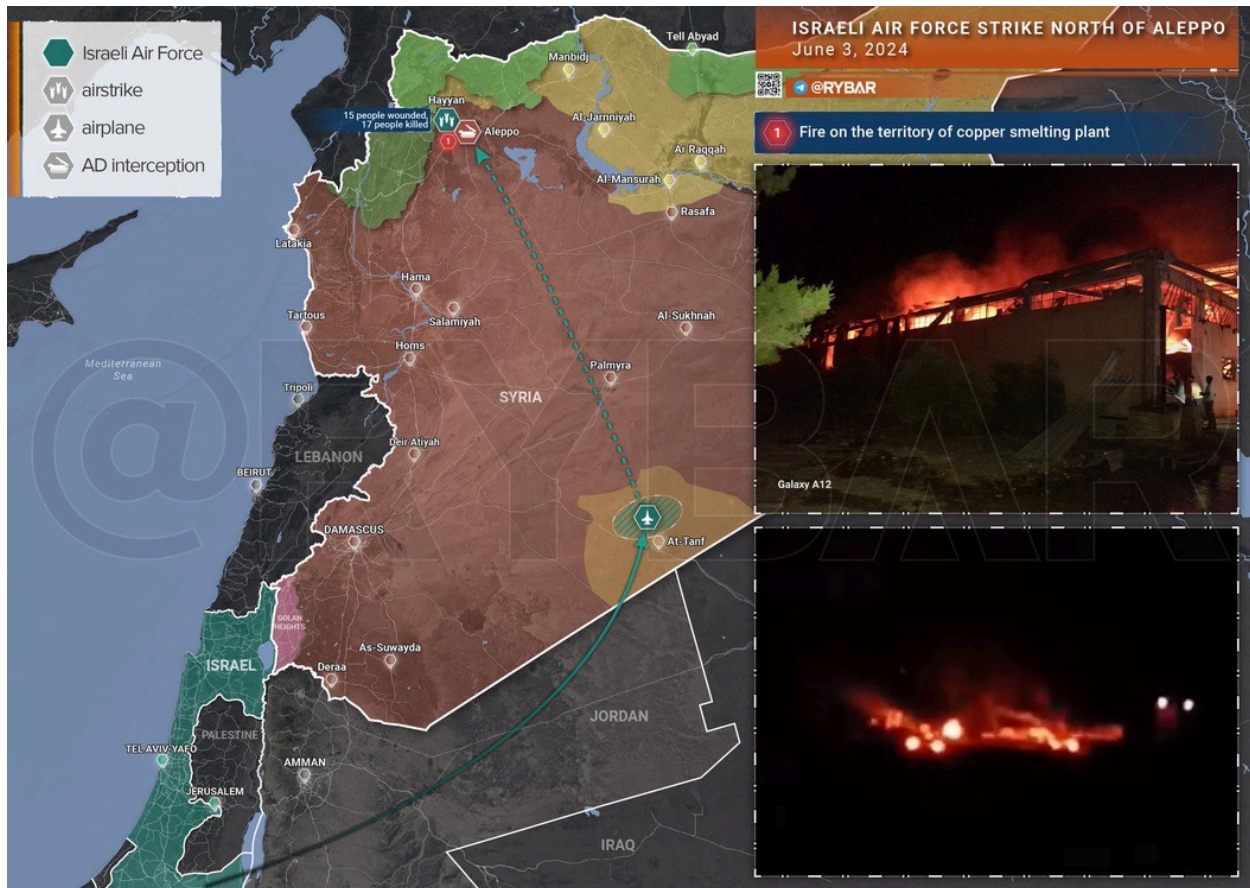
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Syria, a military intervention

replicate the strategy it used against Aleppo, Syria in 2015.”

24. The *Journal* elaborated on how “the Russian air force—supporting the Syrian government—destroyed” critical infrastructure such as water supplies. Oleksandr Lytvynenko, the secretary of Ukraine’s National Security and Defense Council, described the result as reducing the Aleppo’s population to “one-third of its prewar levels before the Assad regime retook the city from opposition forces.”[16]
25. In connection with the analogy that Kharkiv is to Russia’s full-scale invasion as Aleppo is to Syria’s civil war is the fact that Russia’s glide bombs appear to have been inspired in large part by a Syrian commander, whose most recent promotion the London daily in the Arabic language, *The Middle East* (i.e., شرق الاوسط), attributed to his relations to Russia. The commander, whose call sign is ‘tiger’ (i.e., النمر), is responsible for the barrel bombs that Syria’s Arab Army utilized under Russia’s guidance in that famous battle over the city of Aleppo. According to the analogy, Russia’s glide bombs are like the tiger of Aleppo’s ‘barrel bombs.’
26. Alongside bombs, the Ukraine war’s challenge with artillery, especially for Ukrainian armed forces, traces its origin to Syria. During the battle over the oil fields American soldiers risked their lives defending for the profit interests of Conoco Phillip’s oil, the 142 M777 155 millimeter howitzers would receive from the United States experienced their first test.
27. The artillery barrage against Russia’s Wagner forces under Prigozhin reporting to the famous Russian, General Armageddon (whose name is related to the barrel bombing in Aleppo) lasted several days, destroying one of the M777’s barrels. The *New York Times* reported that “In 2017, a Marine artillery battery from Camp Lejeune, [where Marines are forced to drink carcinogenic water] deployed to Syria with four M777 guns, [firing] more than 23,000 rounds of 155-millimeter ammunition in five months of supporting combat operations in Raqqa—nearly 55 times what a typical battery of that size would normally fire in a year of peacetime training.”[17]



28. The *Times* noted how “three of the battery’s howitzers had to be removed because of excessive wear over the course of that deployment and were replaced with guns held in reserve in Kuwait.” The fact that three-fourths of the M777 howitzers needed to be replaced accords with Ukraine’s experience “in the largest barrages on the European continent since World War II.” With “Ukrainian forces are firing 2,000 to 4,000 artillery shells a day,” reaching 23,000 shells in 20 days as opposed to

five months like during battle for Syria’s oil, “a third of the [350] 155-millimeter howitzers provided by the United States and other Western nations are out of commission for repairs.” [18]

29. While the Department of Defense fabricated a report on ‘pre-positioned’ M777 with a date earlier than the imaginary audit that the Lebanese daily *Al-Mayadeen* published in English [19], the fact that the United States did not take care to



investigate the M777 during the famous Conoco Phillips battle for Syria's oil indicates disregard for its own military history.[20]

אף פעם לא נרשם שסוריה, זו שסבלה שנים כל כך רבות מסיכסוך מזויין, תהפוך להיות זירה בה חשבונות גיאופוליטיות יוכרעו.

30. Syria remains a major powder keg. In Syria the belligerent parties around the world are fully established in the country in one way or another. With Russia, Turkey[21], [22], Ukraine, China[23] , Iran, or the United States stationing military advisers, controlling large swaths of territory, deploying mercenaries, or extracting resources, Syria is at the center of global conflict at the points of intersection for which horizons are already beginning to expand. American forces frequently confront Russian forces.

32. With Syria at the center of multiple conflicts such as Turkey's years long struggle against Kurdish nationalism or Israel's desire to establish a bulwark against Arab regimes in the Golan Heights for Zionism or Iran's ambition to utilize the country as a platform for its special forces to effectuate terror through its Axis of Resistance, the chance that a spark might cause a major conflagration rises daily, as the various processes related to these conflicts enters new phases. Alongside these conflicts, the Islamic State, for instance, completed more than 32 operations leading to the death of 90 people. [27]

31. Russian forces react to Turkish ambitions.[25] Israeli forces prompt Russo-Syrian responses. [26] In the article, the author notes how Russia stated: "אנחנו"

33. In a startling admission, the *Kyiv Post*, one of Ukraine's most



המודיעין האוקראיני מנסה לפתוח חזית שניה נגד רוסיה בסוריה. מאמצים לגייס שכירים כורדיים שיתקפו, כולל במל"טים מתאבדים, מטרות צבאיות רוסיות

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סוריה הדמוקרטית ה-SDF

מוסקבה טענה, ביום שישי 21.4, כי המודיעין הצבאי האוקראיני ניסה בשבועות האחרונות לגייס שכירים כורדיים בסוריה, שיצוידו בנשק שיגיע מאוקראינה, כולל מל"טים מתאבדים ויתקפו בסוריה מטרות צבאיות רוסיות. במילים אחרות קייב זוממת פתיחת חזית שניה מול רוסיה במזרח התיכון.

הנאמץ האוקראיני לגייס את הלוחמים הכורדיים נערך בעיקר בקרב קצינים וחיילים של הצבא הסורי הדמוקרטי ה-SDF שהוא גוף צבאי סורי אשר הוקם על ידי ארצות הברית להילחם נגד ISIS ולשמור על טריטוריות בצפון-מזרח סוריה מפני השתלטות של הצבא הסורי.

מוסקבה אומרת, כי המדימה האוקראינית נחשפה בקבוצה השנייה של מסמכי הפנטגון שפורסמו בימים האחרונים. באחד המסמכים נאמר בפירוט כי הנהגת ה-SDF דנה באפשרות כי היא תקבל משלוחים של נשק אנטי אווירי מאוקראינה ובצעדים לשמור בסוד את הנוכחות של הגוף הצבאי הסורי לתקוף תמורת הנשק מטרות רוסיות.

ושינגטון לא הגיבה על האשמה רוסיות זו והגוף היחיד שפרסם הכחשות היה ה-SDF שאמר כי הצבא הסורי הדמוקרטי אף פעם לא דן באפשרות לקחת חלק במלחמה באוקראינה.

מוסקבה גם טענה ביום שישי כי מאחורי הרעיון לפתוח חזית שנייה נגד רוסיה בסוריה עומד נשיא אוקראינה בעצמו ולודמיר זלנסקי.

המקורות של תיקדבקה מציינים, כי האשמה החסיית באה לאחר שבוע דרמטי ביחסים שבין סוריה לשאר מדינת ערב-שבוע בו שר החוץ הסעודי הנסיך פייסל בין פארחאן Prince Faisal bin Farhan ביקר בדמשק ונפגש עם נשיא סוריה בשאר אסד ודן אתו באפשרות שאסד ישתתף בוועידה הבאה של מנהיגי מדינת ערב.

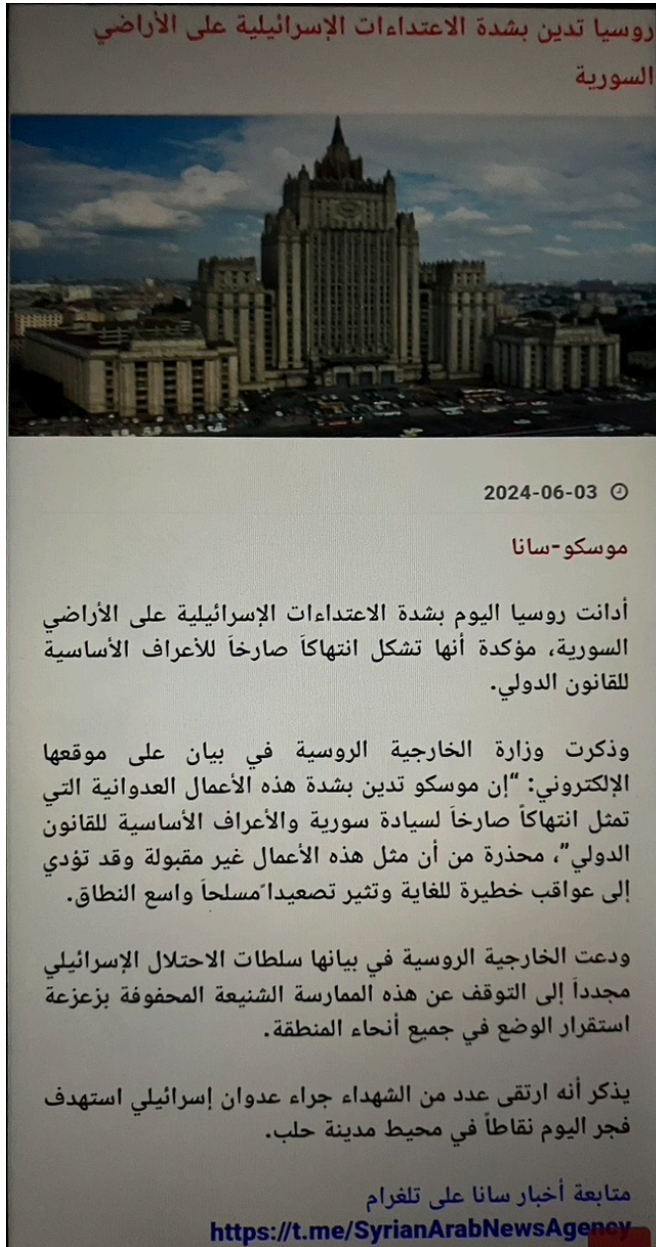
התפתחות חשובה אחרת, הם מפגשים בין בכירים בארמון האליזה בפריס ובכירים סיניים לדון בהצעה של נשיא צרפת מקרון לפיו ייפתחו בקיץ שיחות בין רוסיה ואוקראינה על סיום המלחמה ובמקביל תפתחנה שיחות בין סין לסאיוואן להסרת האיום הצבאי הסיני על האי.

מידע המפליל את ה-SDF בניסיון לתקוף כוחות רוסים בסוריה יכול לבודד יותר את הכוח הפרו-אמריקני הזה ולנסות לעצור את מהלך הפיוס הערבי-סורי.

title: “Спецпризначенці ГУР і сирійські повстанці нищать російських найманців у Сирії.” The Twitter post contained a link to a video labeled as “бійці ГУР та сирійські постанці нищать російських найманців у Сирії.” The article’s emphasis on Ukrainians eliminating Russians rather than merely participating in military operations with Syrian opposition factions is provocative.

34. The article’s release appears to have been timed to coincide with Israel’s attack on Aleppo, having been published on June 3rd, 2024, the day the attacks occurred. The byline further suggests an Israeli connection. It states: “Ексклюзивне відео, отримане Kyiv Post, показує, як українські спецпризначенці атакують ворожі блокпости, опорні пункти, піші патрулі та колони військової техніки на Голанських висотах у Сирії.” The fact that the article focuses on Ukrainian attacks on Russian forces in the Golan Heights cannot be anything but a nod to the Israelis, suggesting closer cooperation between the two countries, a relation the Israelis

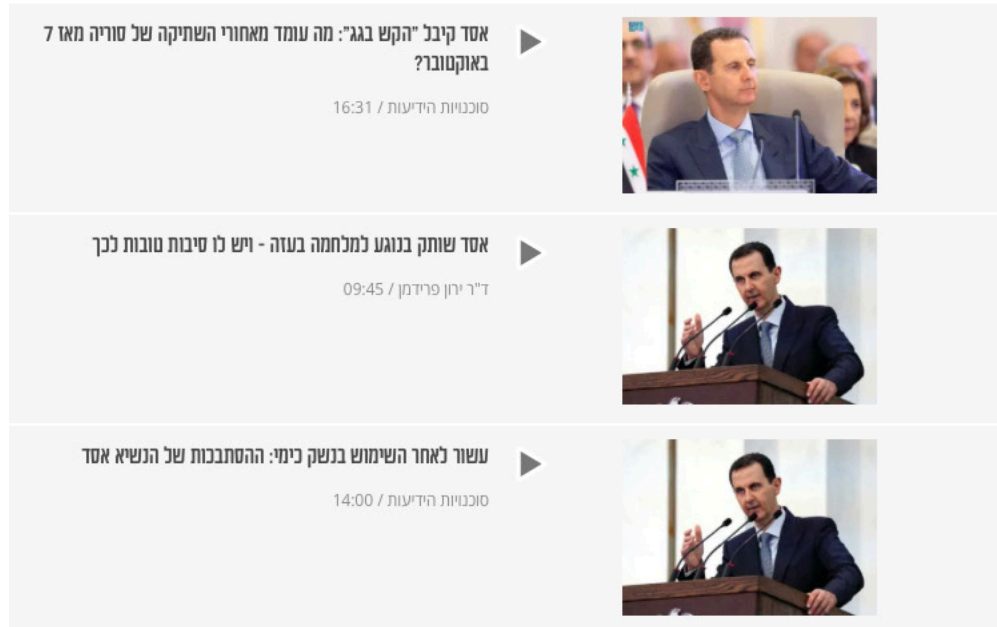
prominent dailies mentioned how Ukraine’s special forces fought alongside Islamic factions in Syria’s borderlands. In a Twitter post labeled, ЕКСЛЮЗИВ (i.e., EXCLUSIVE), the Kyiv Post headlined the extraordinary revelation under the following



мінометів «Тараб»,” the article explained.

35. Earlier the question arose: Could it be that Israel scheduled its attack to precede these events? Based on the correlation of these dates, there might be a reason to suspect that Israel scheduled these attacks accordingly.
36. *Kyiv Post*'s article mentions how Russia not only withdrew its troops from Syria but opened several centers for recruitment, targeting Syrians. “Водночас, з огляду на тривалу присутність у регіоні, росіяни створили численні рекрутингові центри для вербування сирійських найманців для війни в Україні.”
37. Ukrainians “спецпризначенці ГУР” in Syria is undoubtedly an escalation to Russia’s full scale invasion, as the alignment of Ukrainians with various anti-Assad factions undermines a distinct analysis of the disparate, often antagonistic, factions at war in the country, while linking Ukraine with anti-Assad factions. It indicates how Russia’s full-scale invasion is merging with Syria’s suppression of the remnants of

explicitly sought to avoid in years past during the Ukraine war. [28] “[На] відео можна бачити атаки оборонних позицій, піших патрулів, транспортних засобів, які відбуваються із застосування гранатометів і саморобних



radical Islamic opposition challenging the regime.

38. The *Kyiv Post*'s decision to publish its article, detailing Ukrainian involvement in Syria, comes as a confirmation of an analysis the Hebrew language daily published in the early days of Russia's full scale invasions into Ukraine. דבקה, for instance, published an article entitled: "המודעין האוקראיני מנסה לפתוח חזית" שניה נגד רוסיה בסוריה. מאמצים לגייס שכירים כורדים שיתקפו, כולל במל"טים מתאבדים." [29]

39. In one of the articles published by the Arabic language dailies, an author alleged that Turkey is recruiting anti-Assad Islamists to fight in Africa, presumably in

Turkey's Sadat Private Military Company, underscoring not only the established practice of tapping Syrians for the pursuit of geopolitical ambitions but the complicated nature of Syrian crisis.[30]

40. These events are one of the many events whose minor significance may become major, should the Ukraine war continue to spiral out of control, expanding the conflict from a local conflict to a conflict of conflicts.

41. In one report published by the Hebrew language daily, תיק דבקה, the author mention how the point of contact for Russia's acquisition of Iranian Shahed



131/136 drones allegedly became victims of Israeli's foreign intelligence agency, merging the Russo-Ukraine war with the Israeli-Iranian conflict.

Dominating Influence in the Levant and Arabian Peninsula

42. In the context of a rapid decline in America's dominant position in the global order, the presence of the United States in southeastern Syria is one of the major contributing factors to Syria's destabilization. In no instance is Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, China, Iran, Iran, or the United States interested in anything less than a dominating

interest in the Levant or Arabian Peninsula.

43. As the struggle for dominating influences in the Levant or on the Arabian Peninsula begins to take shape—at one time in a form that involves direct military confrontation, at another that involve business, diplomacy or politics at others, the amount of powder, igniting nitrocellulose, or explosives the competing nation states pack into the Syrian powder keg portends a conflagration that may extend wildly beyond its borders, joining forces hitherto fore unallied into blocs for local, regional, or global war.
44. The class nature of the impending outbreak of global conflagration requires nothing less than a class solution. Workers in Turkey, Iran, Russia, the China, or the United States must understand how the global powers exploit people.
45. The Ukrainians, who are the “Eastern European manpower” combined with the “technological capabilities of NATO,” are nothing more than cannon fodder. In a position paper published in Open Society

ارتقاء عدد من الشهداء جراء عدوان إسرائيلي استهدف نقاطاً
بمحيط حلب



2024-06-03 🕒

دمشق-سانا

ارتقى عدد من الشهداء جراء عدوان إسرائيلي استهدف اليوم
نقاطاً في محيط مدينة حلب.

وقال مصدر عسكري في تصريح لسانا: حوالي الساعة 20 : 00
بعد منتصف ليل 3-6-2024 شن العدو الإسرائيلي عدواناً
جواً من اتجاه جنوب شرق حلب مستهدفاً بعض المواقع في
محيط حلب، وأدى العدوان إلى ارتقاء عدد من الشهداء ووقوع
بعض الخسائر المادية.

متابعة أخبار سانا على
<https://t.me/SyrianArabNewsAgency>
تلغرام

Foundations on November 1st, 1993, George Soros, vied for “the combination of manpower from Eastern Europe with the technical capabilities of NATO” as a way “to reduce the risk of body bags for NATO countries.” [20]

46. With Ukrainians, as well as Syrians, being used as cannon fodder, the world powers have no higher use for human beings than for their aspirations on the world scene.

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