



GLOBAL EYE INTELLIGENCE

MOSCOW TALKS

PUTIN-ASSAD MEETING



STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT





SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

Date: 25th July 2024

Location: Moscow, Russia

Participants:

- Vladimir Putin
(President of Russia)
- Bashar al-Assad
(President of Syria)

OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the meeting was to address the escalating tensions in West Asia, explore Russia's potential role in mediating conflicts, particularly between Syria and Turkey and strengthen the Russo-Syrian partnership against international terrorism prevailing in the region.



KEY POINTS DISCUSSED

Escalation in West Asia:

- Putin and Assad discussed the recent increase in hostilities and instability in the region amid tensions of regional spillover of Israel's war in Gaza.
- Emphasis on the need for diplomatic intervention to prevent further escalation after Israeli retaliation on Hodeidah to Houthis' drone attack on Tel Aviv.

Turkey-Syria Relations:

- Discussions focused on potential steps towards normalizing relations between Syria and Turkey after a decade of conflict between the two neighbours.
- Turkey's President Erdogan had indicated a willingness to engage in trilateral talks with Russia and Syria to address the conflict and settle for a political settlement of the Syrian refugee crisis in Turkey.



New Russian Military Bases in Syria:

- President Assad welcomed the establishment of new Russian military bases in Syria.
- These bases are aimed at enhancing Russian military presence and influence in the region.

Support for Russia:

- President Assad voiced support for Russia's military campaign in Ukraine and highlighted the strategic partnership between Syria and Russia.
- President Putin reiterated Russia's commitment to supporting Syria, especially in the aftermath of the recent devastating earthquake that impacted both Turkey and Syria.

Bilateral Relations:

- The meeting highlighted the development of bilateral ties between Russia and Syria, with both leaders expressing satisfaction with their cooperation in fighting international terrorism.



RUSSIAN BASES IN SYRIA



Tartus Naval Base, Syria

- Power projection
- Strategic Naval Position
- Naval Exercises

Khmeimim Airbase, Syria

- Air Operations
- Defensive Operations
- Strategic Location



RUSSIAN BASES IN SYRIA



Latakia Naval Base, Syria

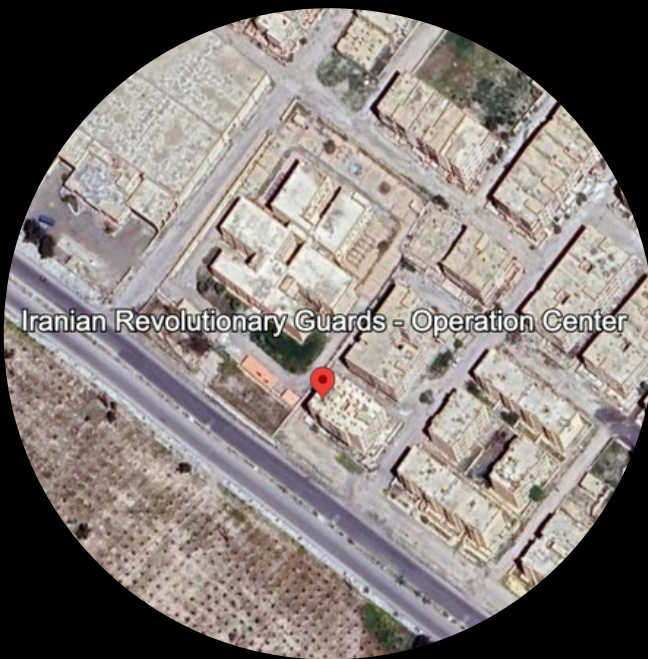
- **Logistics Support**
- **Intelligence**
- **Strategic Deterrence**

Zine Abidine Airbase, Syria

- **Air Operations**
- **Logistics**
- **Strategic Location**



RUSSIAN BASES IN SYRIA



IRGC Base, Deir ez Zur

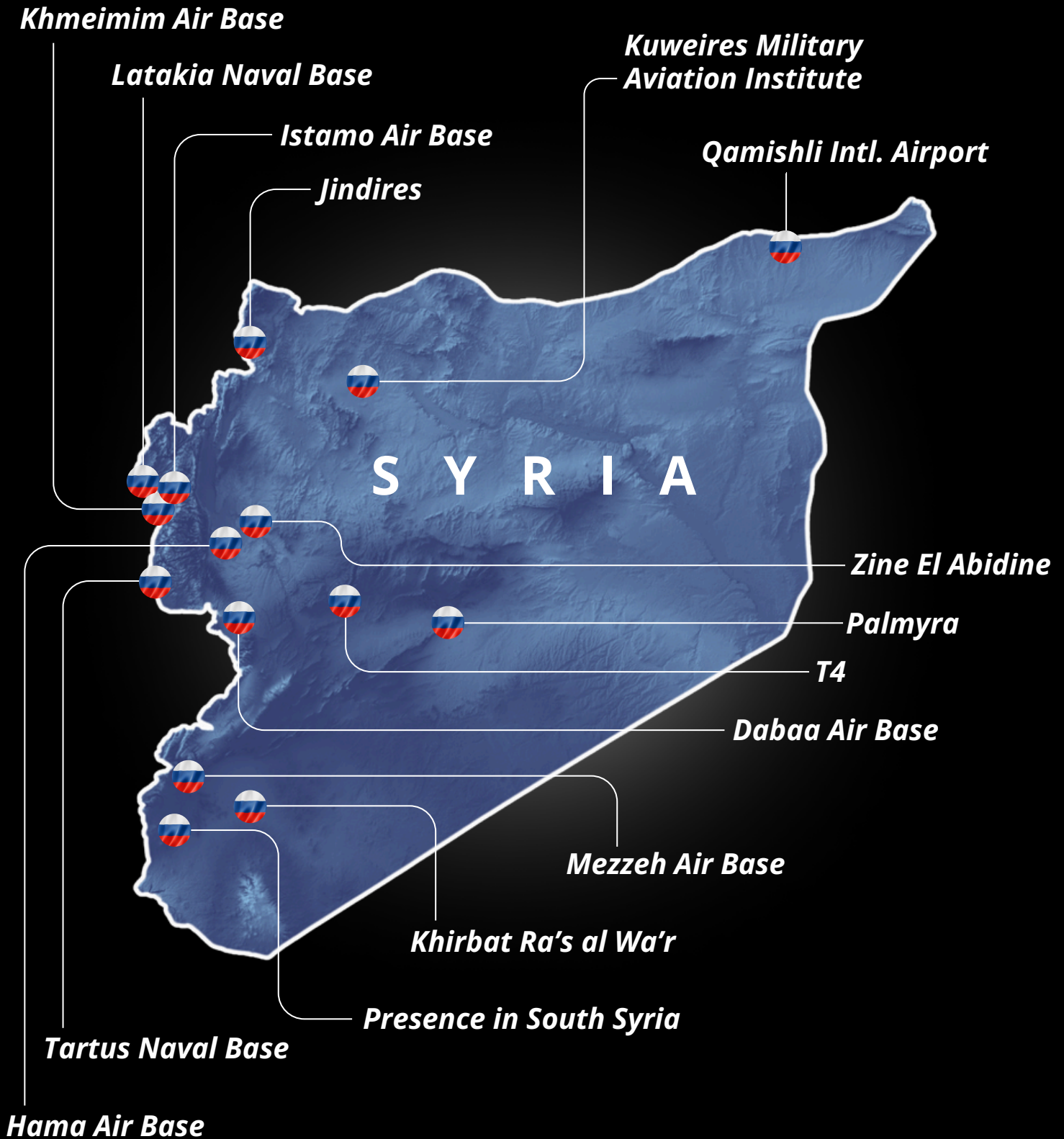
- **Military Operations**
- **Logistics Centre**
- **Regional Balance**

Palmyra Airbase, Syria

- **Air Operations**
- **Defensive Operations**
- **Strategic Location**



of Russian Bases in Syria



STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

- **Regional Stability:** This is Russia's second attempt at reintegrating Syria into the regional affairs after successfully lobbying for Syria to join the Arab League in 2023 after its expulsion after the Arab Spring. Russia's involvement as a mediator could potentially stabilize the region and reduce hostilities.
- **Russian Influence:** The establishment of new military bases in Syria would enhance Russia's strategic foothold in West Asia amid a spread of hostilities between Israel and the Resistance Forces across in Lebanon, Iraq, Yemen, Palestine and Syria.
- **Turkey-Syria Relations:** Improved relations between Turkey and Syria could lead to a more coordinated approach to regional security issues, including the management of Kurdish militias and refugee movements.



CONCLUSION

The meeting between Putin and Assad underscores Russia's strategic interests in West Asia and its role as a key player in regional diplomacy. The discussions and potential establishment of new military bases signal a commitment to maintaining and expanding Russian influence in the region.





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