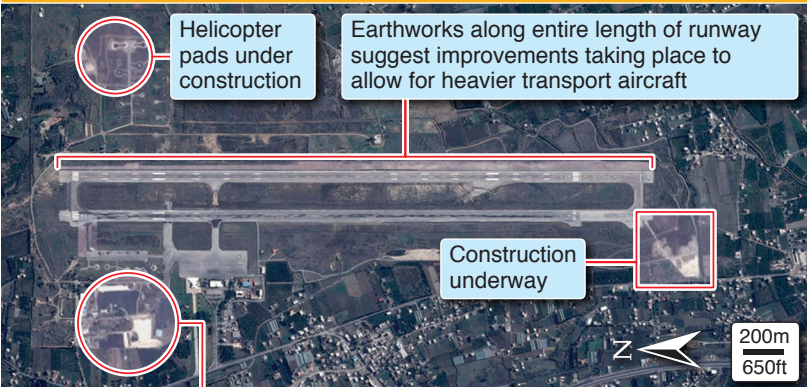


# Russia “may be creating air base in Syria”

U.S. officials say Russia’s latest movements at an airfield in Syria suggest that Moscow plans to establish a “forward air operating base”

**LATAKIA AIR BASE:** Satellite image taken Sep 4 shows possible construction of Russian base at **Bassel al Assad International Airport** in Latakia



Mobile housing units

New asphalt

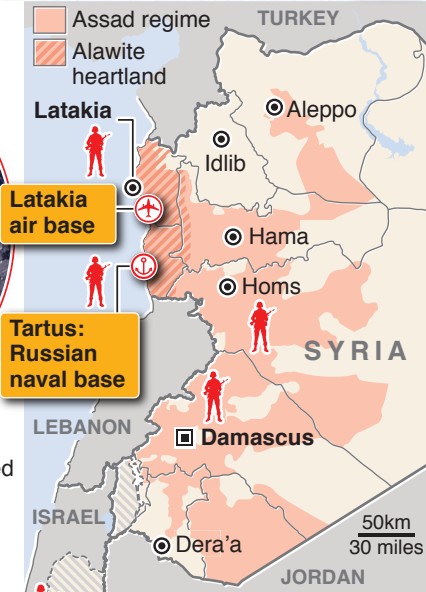
New tower

New asphalt

Construction underway

**Russian assets in Latakia:** Seven T-90 tanks, 15 howitzers, 35 armoured personnel carriers, 200 marines, plus housing for up to 1,500 personnel

T-90 tank



**Russian soldiers and marines from 810th Marine Brigade and 336th Guards Marine Brigade spotted in provinces of Latakia, Tartus, Homs and Damascus**

Sources: Stratfor, wire agencies

Pictures: Stratfor, Getty Images © GRAPHIC NEWS