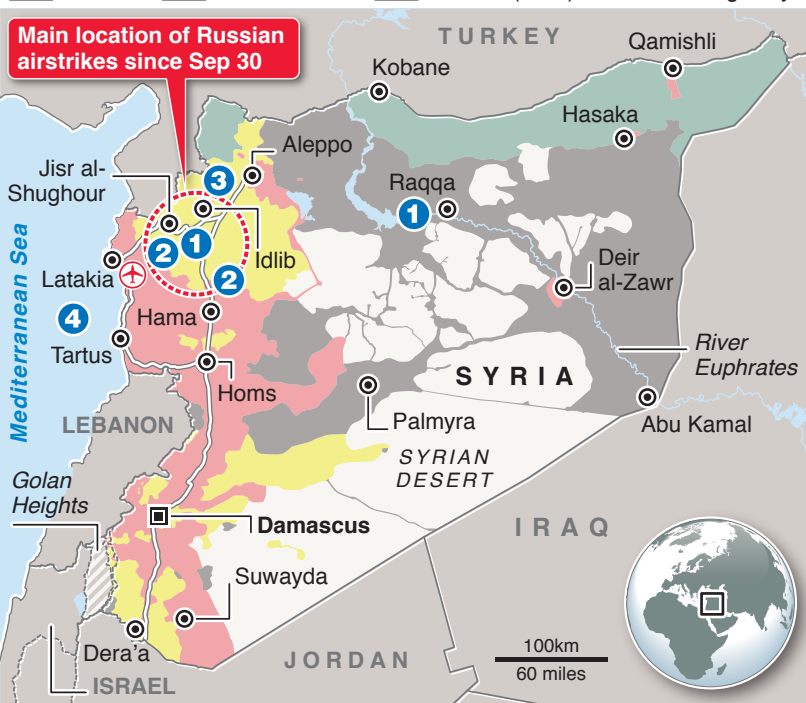


Russia launches more attacks on Syria rebels

Russia has unleashed a new aerial bombardment of Syrian rebels, helping President Bashar al-Assad's government to regain lost territory

Territorial control (Oct 5) Pro-government Russian airbase Rebels Islamic State Kurdish (YPG) Main highway

Main location of Russian airstrikes since Sep 30



1 Oct 11, Hama, Latakia, Idlib and Raqqa provinces: Russian aircraft carry out 64 sorties, according to defence ministry, destroying 53 positions used by "terrorists", as well as a command post, four training camps and seven ammunition depots

2 Oct 7-11, Hama, Latakia and Idlib provinces: Pro-government forces backed by airstrikes make significant advances against rebels

3 Oct 4, Kafr Halab: Advanced type of Russian-made cluster bomb used in airstrike for first time, according to Human Rights Watch, raising fears that Russia is dropping them or supplying them to Syrian military

4 Sep-Oct, Eastern Mediterranean Several Russian warships holding exercises. Presence of Chinese ships fuelling speculation that Beijing may send military personnel to Syria