

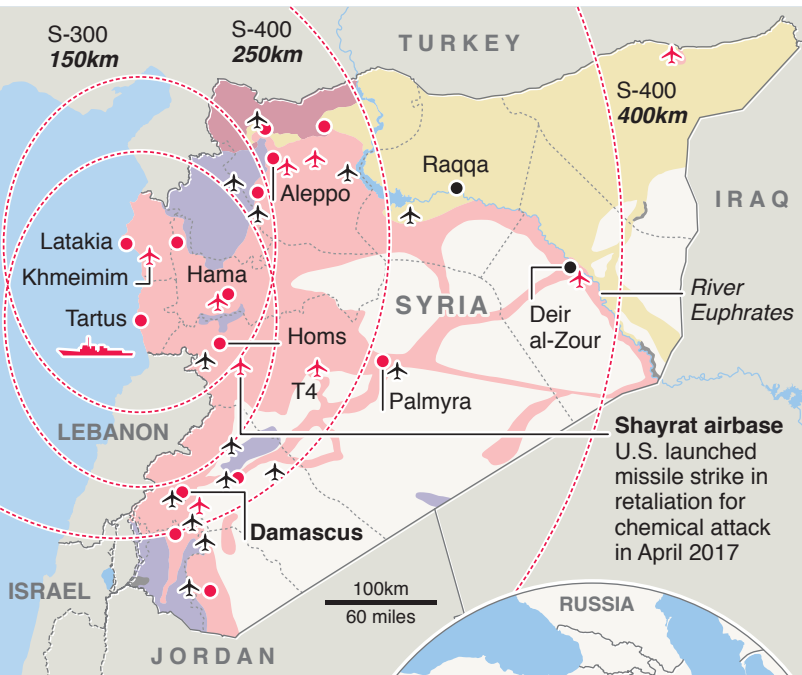
U.S. weighs military strike on Syria

The U.S. is building a multi-nation strike force against Syria to respond to an alleged chemical attack on a rebel-held town near Damascus.

Russia has urged America to avoid taking military action


RUSSIAN PRESENCE IN SYRIA: About 4,000-5,000 military personnel

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
|  Pro-government control (Russia, Iran, Syria) |  Rebel forces |  Turkey and allies |
|  Kurds |  So-called Islamic State | |
|  Airbase |  Known Russian position |  Russian warships (11 vessels) |
|  Range of Russian air defence missiles | | |





Shayrat airbase
U.S. launched missile strike in retaliation for chemical attack in April 2017

U.S.-WESTERN FIREPOWER

 **U.S.:** Two destroyers and possible submarine in eastern Mediterranean.

USS Harry S Truman carrier strike force en route from U.S. east coast. Aircraft – including F-22 stealth jets – in Qatar, Jordan and Turkey. About 2,000 troops on ground in Syria

 **France:** Missile-armed frigate in Mediterranean, Rafale jets in UAE and Jordan

 **UK:** Typhoon and Tornado strike aircraft at Akrotiri in Cyprus

