



# OPERATION ACTIVE RESOLVE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY D4

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## 1 General Information

This intelligence summary covers the last 24 hours (From D4).

## 2 Intelligence

### 2.1 Air

#### 2.1.1 Russian Deal with Syria on MiG-29s have been finalized.

- VID have received confirmation that the Deal between Russia and Syria on the purchase of MiG-29s (Reference: OPAR VID INTSUM D1, 2.4.2) have been finalized and signed. It is not known if the deal refers to traditional MiG-29A or newer versions of MiG-29.

**ASSESSMENT:** It is LIKELY that Russia will transfer MiG-29s to Syria at the first opportunity due to the urgency in the current situation. Syrian pilots are HIGHLY LIKELY trained and in a position to operate the jets as soon as they have been transferred by Russia to Syria.

### 2.2 Surface to Air

#### 2.2.1 SA-2 BN nearly completion

- Units for a new SA-2 BN is nearing completion at Raqqa vehicle factory (SYTGT022). SA-2 launchers are constructed at Raqqa, while the radar is produced at Damascus West Vehicle factory (SYTGT026) .
- **ASSESSMENT:** It is LIKELY that all units are complete on D7, and will be transferred to Syrian Air Defense Academy (OPARTGT062) for creation of the unit. It is LIKELY that the BN will be deployed on a short notice due to the high demand for strategic SAM systems.

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## 2.3 Sea

### 2.3.1 China announces plans of a SAG (Surface Action Group) to the Mediterranean

- China announced on D4 that a Chinese SAG has left port in China and are enroute for exercises with Russia in the Mediterranean. The Chinese SAG is also planning to conduct a port visit in Lebanon to strengthen the bonds between the two countries.
- **ASSESSMENT:** It is LIKELY that an amphibious ship and at least two destroyers will be part of the SAG.

### 2.3.2 Russian SAG enter strait of Gibraltar (Enter Mediterranean)

- Due to the tense situation in the Mediterranean the Russian Navy have sent a SAG (Surface Action Group) enroute to the Mediterranean. The SAG is planning to conduct port visits in Libya, Syria and Lebanon. The SAG is scheduled for an exercise with the Chinese Navy and their SAG coming to the Mediterranean. The Russian SAG entered the Strait of Gibraltar (STROG) on the evening of D4, and is expected to be SOUTHWEST of Cyprus on D8.  
**ASSESSMENT:** It is LIKELY that the Cruiser Moscow is the flagship of the SAG.

## 2.4 Ground

### 2.4.1 Syrian 5<sup>th</sup> Corps leave base Palmyra

- During the night hours in D4, VID have credible reporting indicating that first elements of the 5<sup>th</sup> Corps was leaving their base in Palmyra. VID reporting indicate only minor elements of the Corps have left Palmyra so far (Only elements from 55<sup>th</sup> Recon Regiment), and are likely conducting reconnaissance where to establish the Corps fighting area.  
**ASSESSMENT:** It is LIKELY that recent losses have caused major concern in the Syrian regimen, and that the Syrian military leadership intends to setup a more robust defense of Syrian territory to protect against allied invasion. It is LIKELY that a deployment of the entire 5<sup>th</sup> Corps to a combat area is expected within 24-48 hours. It is EVEN CHANCE that a 5<sup>th</sup> Corps departure from Palmyra also will facilitate a mobilization of the Syrian 6<sup>th</sup> Corps.

### 2.4.2 Syrian regime consider WMD test

- The last 24 hours, VID have credible reporting about discussions in the State Committee of Defense (War Cabinet) about conducting a test of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) in order to use it as a show of force, and deter allied forces from interfering with Syria.
- **ASSESSMENT:** It is LIKELY that Syrian strategic forces are capable of conducting a show of force attack on short notice (24-96 hours). It is possible this will be conducted via a SCUD launch from Syria and impact somewhere in Syria.

### 2.4.3 Syrian concern of northern vulnerability

- The Syrian military leadership have in recent discussions indicated a strong concern about the vulnerability of assets north in Syria. The Syrian military leadership agreed to start moving vulnerable assets south to keep them out of reach of allied forces.  
**ASSESSMENT:** It is LIKELY that the Syrian military is concerned about the effectiveness and reach of allied air assets, striking targets as far away as Hama and Tabqa on D3 and D4.

### 2.4.4 Syrian SCUD battalions raises alert level

- The last 24 hours order have come to Syrian SCUD battalions to raise alert level to alert level 2. 922<sup>nd</sup> SCUD Battalion has received orders to raise alert level to 1.

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**ASSESSMENT:** It is LIKELY that 922<sup>nd</sup> SCUD BN have been ordered to raise alert level to 1 is due to fear of attacks by the allied forces, and the Syrian regime want to spread its SCUD forces so they are not in base, easily targetable. It is LIKELY that the Syrian regime still feels secure in the Damascus area, and does not need to spread forces based there.

## 2.5 Political

### 2.5.1 Syria accuses allied coalition for war crimes

- The Syrian regime claims that the allied air forces the last 24 hours have conducted war crimes by attacking 2 field hospitals that the Syrian forces had setup in Turkey to treat both Syrians and Turkish soldiers and civilians. Russia have called for a meeting at the UN Security Council to condemn this action. The following states have declared their support and condemned the allied forces: Russia, China, Lebanon, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Pakistan, Cuba.
- **ASSESSMENT:** VID have no credible reporting on the credibility of the Syrian claims.

### 2.5.2 Russian concern of vulnerability at Bassel Al Assad

- VID have credible reporting about discussions between Syrian and Russian forces about the vulnerability of Bassel Al Assad. The closeness to the allied carrier and Incirlik poses a challenge for Russian operations. Russia have asked Syria to look into another airbase for Russian operations in the country
- **ASSESSMENT:** It is LIKELY that the harbor of Tartus is not discussed, as Russia still need a safe harbor for maritime units operating in the Mediterranean.

## 3 VID Intelligence gaps

- VID\_IR\_1: What is the Syrian readiness for conducting attacks with WMD?
- VID\_IR\_2: What is the status and disposition of Syrian SCUD units?
- VID\_IR\_3: What is the status and disposition of Syrian Naval units?
- VID\_IR\_4: What is the status of Syrian Air Force
  - o DCA missions? (Does the Syrian Air Force fly CAPs?)
  - o QRA (reaction times?, from what bases? type of aircrafts?)
- VID\_IR\_5: What is the status of Syrian Air Force A-G missions?
- VID\_IR\_6: Is there presence of Russian forces in either Tartus or Bassel Al-Assad airfield?
- VID\_IR\_7: What is the status of Syrian IADS?
  - o Positions of EWR
  - o Position of SAM sites
  - o Is the entire IADS operational?
- VID\_IR\_8: Are Russian aircraft moving into bases in Egypt?
  - o What type of aircraft?
  - o How do Russian aircraft operate out from Egypt?
- VID\_IR\_9: How will Russia and Syria enforce embargo?
  - o What are the sources of the attack against logistics ship?
  - o What assets can be used for blockade of allied ships?
- VID\_IR\_10: Where will 5<sup>th</sup> Corps deploy to? (NEW D4)
- VID\_IR\_11: What is status and disposition of Syrian 6<sup>th</sup> Corps (NEW D4)
  - o What are the composition of 6<sup>th</sup> Corps
  - o How long until 6<sup>th</sup> Corps are combat ready
- VID\_IR\_12: What is composition of Chinese SAG (NEW D4)

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