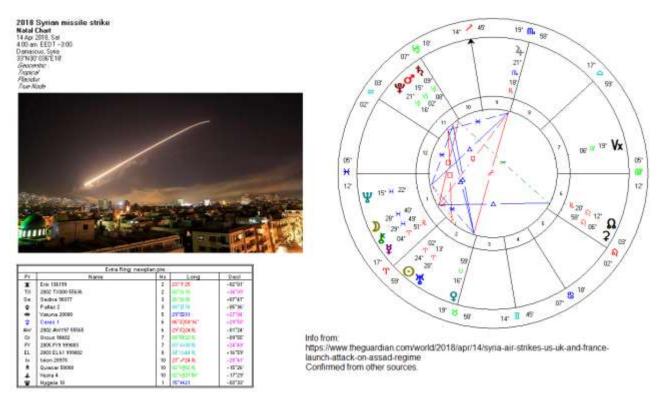
## THE 2018 DAMASCUS MISSILE STRIKES

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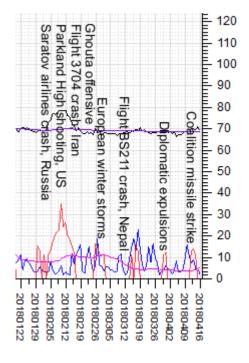
At 4:00 AM Damascus time (EEDT, -3:00) on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2018, a coalition of French, British and American air and naval forces launched a missile barrage against Syrian targets in and around Damascus, supposedly to destroy chemical weapons facilities. The chart is below:



Exact numbers vary, but just over 100 missiles of various types were fired from naval vessels and aircraft, mostly from the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. According to Pentagon reports, only chemical weapons facilities were targeted, all the missiles reached their targets and the mission was a resounding success, sending a clear message to the Assad government ('regime' in the Western media). That narrative is disputed by many sources who were on the ground in Syria at the time of the attack. (See here, here, here, here, here and here here) According to those sources, which are by and large corroborative, of the 105 or so missiles that were fired, around 70 were either intercepted or diverted from their courses by Syrian air defenses. In addition, the sites that were targeted included airports, and the reputed chemical weapons sites that were struck were mostly empty or had been converted to other purpose. If those reports are true, then we in the West have been fed a large dose of deceptive propaganda by our leaders and the MSM (mainstream media). There were no reported Syrian, Iranian or Russian deaths. Syrians in Damascus after the attack were out in the streets celebrating the failure of the allied forces to inflict any real damage, as well as the effectiveness of the Syrian air defenses.

The chart of the event clearly shows the intent and the outcome of the missile strikes. The attackers (7<sup>th</sup> house), represented by Mercury, had targeted suspected chemical weapons facilities, indicated by Pisces on the ascendant (the target group) and with Neptune in the 1st house. The attackers are also tied in with opposition groups (4<sup>th</sup> house), also indicated by Mercury. However, the Neptune placement in the 1<sup>st</sup> house also indicates the spin and disinformation that has been attached to the event. According to the chart, the attack was a failure, or was greatly moderated, indicated both by the retrograde Mercury (also approaching its direct station), meaning that things rarely go according to plan, and the square to Saturn (restrictions). The 1<sup>st</sup> house Neptune also represents the deception around the event, veiling its true purpose. Mars is at the midpoint of a Saturn/Pluto conjunction (conjunction by translation of light). That conjunction and midpoint structure is quite revealing:<sup>7</sup>

**For the conjunction**: "The pursuit of purely egoistic aims, a person who is prevented by others from reaping the success due to him or her as the result of hard work. The application of force or of compulsion, self-destructive energy. The loss of one's fortune or possessions." **For the midpoint**: "Brutality, assault or violence, ruthlessness. - The necessity to fight for one's existence or life, maltreatment."



That structure is in the 11<sup>th</sup> house (coalitions). Further indicators are the Sun/Uranus/Eris conjunction in the 2<sup>nd</sup> house (banks, finances, financiers). The Sun/Uranus conjunction indicates both the high-tech nature of the strikes, as well as their being air strikes. The Sun in a military chart, such as this, indicates administrators and rulers, military commanders, fame and famous persons, imperialism, public morals, power and prestige, commands and commanders, empires, glory in battle, etc. Of particular interest to note is that the sunspot activity (shown left, the red peaks indicating sunspots) saw a small spike on the days immediately surrounding the attack, and then died off to zero. We saw a similar small spike when the Russian and Western diplomats were expelled in tit-for-tat retaliations over the Skripal affair. Increased sunspot activity is often a good indicator of major violent events, natural and man-made, and the belligerence of world leaders. There is much we could read into this, probably much of which could be seen as conspiracy theory, but it is of interest to note that Raytheon stocks<sup>9</sup> saw a jump in value of five billion dollars

the day after the strikes. Raytheon is one of the world's biggest defense contractors, primary producers of guided missiles, and fifty-nine of their Tomahawk missiles were used in the strike. War is a racket, 10 as the saying goes.

The Syrian government, represented by Jupiter (10<sup>th</sup> house ruler), was safe, protected by a sextile to Pluto, the latter ruling the 9<sup>th</sup> house (foreign powers and intelligence services – Russia and Iran in this case) as well as Jupiter being in the 9<sup>th</sup> house. It was further supported by the Jupiter/Neptune trine. The position of Neptune in the first house, besides obfuscating the purpose of the attack, also veiled the high efficiency of the Syrian air defenses from the coalition. Interesting to note there is the fact that the Syrians were using antiquated missile systems supplied by Russia. The Syrian government had divested itself of its chemical weapons and capabilities, verified by the OPCW. And since they knew the attacks were coming, they had moved their military assets from the other targeted sites. Opposition groups, including the nations of Israel, Saudi Arabia and the militant groups they have supported and funded in Syria, suffered disappointment at the strike (Saturn square to Mercury), and that leads to the real reason for the attack. This was a revenge attack by the coalition, indicated by the Mars/Saturn/Pluto structure in the 11<sup>th</sup> house. Given the detailed assessment by the Russian Ministry of Defense, it was also likely meant to seriously degrade Syrian air power and defense infrastructure. The reasons for saying so are as follows:

It has been revealed<sup>12</sup> that prior to the Syrian army operation to clear the region of East Ghouta, they had been launching attacks in Idlib<sup>13</sup> since October 2017, thinking there was to be a rebel offensive in that quarter. That turned out to be a ruse. The real attack was to come from Ghouta, where plans were underway by the rebels, with the support of British and American operatives, to launch a large offensive against Damascus in an effort to overrun the city and seize power from Assad. The Ghouta offensive by the Syrians began on 18 February 2018, once they had been tipped off about the planned rebel offensive. A number of British forces were reportedly captured<sup>14</sup> during the Ghouta operation by Syrian forces. Just after the Ghouta offensive started we saw the Skripal affair in London, another false flag<sup>15</sup> that was aimed at discrediting Russia, with the hopes by the

West of having them removed from the UN Security Council. We also saw the Kemerova mall fire in Siberia, not that it is necessarily connected, but the timing is odd and there were efforts to discredit the Russian leadership as a result of that fire. Just as Ghouta was about to fall to the Syrian Army, a chemical false flag attack (see also here to was ordered by the British in Douma in an effort by rebels and their backers to draw the Western powers into a large-scale assault on Syria, with the inclusion of ground forces. It was revealed during the Ghouta offensive that the rebel forces had advanced and well stocked facilities that could be used to manufacture chemical weapons. In addition the rebel factions have a long history of using chemical weapons in Syria. 19

The large strike by the coalition nearly happened, but there were two main factors that halted the larger attack, which were the threat of retaliation by Russia if any of their assets or citizens were hit, as well as the effectiveness of the Syrian air defenses. The latter was probably more to the point. Russia and the US also have de-confliction communications channels<sup>20</sup> between their militaries in the nations' capitals and also on the ground in Syria. Cruise missiles have monitoring<sup>21</sup> which reports back to the platforms from which they are launched, so the forces using them know if they have reached their targets or not. We might reasonably expect that if the coalition saw that large numbers of their missiles failed to reached their targets, then it would have caused a quick reevaluation of the attack and a call-down of the same. According to the Russian assessment of the attack,<sup>22</sup> which is far more detailed than Western media outlets and which directly contradicts the Western assessment, then it would make sense as to why a wider strike was called off. According to reports, around 300 missiles were available for the strike, but only a third were used. There could be other explanations for the limited strike as well, including one to the effect that the coalition sent their message, and that was enough, or that the other missiles were held in reserve in case there was a counterstrike. These latter points are all speculation, of course. It is worth noting as well that no or very few coalition fighter jets entered Syrian airspace. Also, there is a report that the Pentagon is concerned<sup>23</sup> about the truth of the attack, which appears to lean more toward the Russian report.

After the strike, video emerged<sup>24</sup> of people walking past the rubble of the destroyed supposed chemical weapons sites. If there had indeed been chemical weapons components in those sites, then the entire area surrounding them would have been contaminated and highly toxic. 25 There was no evidence of such toxicity in the videos. On the whole, this entire episode, starting from February with the Syrian army moving on Ghouta and ending with the air strikes on 14 April, has all the appearances of being a fabricated event, largely by Britain and the US, to justify strikes on the Syrian capital and military infrastructure. The missile strikes did indeed send a message to Syrians and to Russians as well: The US, UK, Israel and France will try to act with impunity in Syria, ignoring international law, but also that those days are now either numbered or over as far as air power goes. The next strikes may well see coalition airplanes downed by upgraded Syrian air defenses, 26 as well as coalition launch platforms being hit. The strikes have served to raise the morale of the Syrians rather than lowering it, and Syrians now have a greater faith in their military capabilities. We can probably expect to see more attempts at gas attacks by rebel forces. The rhetoric from Washington has given a green light to such, but the West may well be more reticent next time to make missile strikes as a result against Syrian territory. If there are further such strikes<sup>27</sup> against Syria, they would have to be more massive than what we have seen thus far, and could well turn out to be terrible for all concerned.

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17 April 2018
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.defense.gov/News/Transcripts/Transcript-View/Article/1493749/department-of-defense-press-briefing-by-pentagon-chief-spokesperson-dana-w-whit/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://eng.mil.ru/en/news\_page/country/more.htm?id=12171300@egNews

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