



#### **Headlines:**

- Trump feels he is under siege by US government
- America begins betrayal of Turkey in Syria
- Trump Administration Escalates War in Yemen

#### **Details:**

### Trump feels he is under siege by US government

As further conflict began in Washington, now over the Russian links of attorney general Jeff Sessions, the *New York Times* reports those close to US President Donald Trump as describing him under siege:

"Mr. Trump, according to his advisers inside and outside of the White House, has felt besieged by what he regards as a mostly hostile bureaucracy, consisting in part of Democrats and people who opposed his election who are now undermining his presidency with leaks. He believes that they are behind the stories about confusion and dysfunction in his administration and, most of all, that they have made his relationship with Russia a recurring issue.

"That is the real story," said Hope Hicks, a spokeswoman for Mr. Trump, when asked for comment on how the White House views the constant string of stories based on what they have called leaks. Several of those stories have raised questions about ties between the president's 2016 campaign and Russian officials.

Allies of Mr. Trump say his sense of being surrounded by hostile forces will be relieved once his own appointments fill the thousands of political jobs that have not yet been filled. But people close to Mr. Trump concede that the White House's sluggish hiring process, in which insufficient work was done to tap people for key deputy roles at major agencies during the transition process, is a large part of the problem."

Every incoming US President feels immediately under assault by other power centres within the US government. Sooner or later, all American presidents learn that they have to work within the existing power structure, beholden as it is to elite interests, irrespective of their campaign promises to the American people.

This is a feature not just of the American political system but of all Western democratic systems, including those implemented currently in Muslim lands, based on the concept of separation of powers, first championed by the French thinker, Montesquieu, in the early eighteenth century, in opposition to the unity of rule in the Ottoman State. Montesquieu argued that separating governmental powers would result in extensive checks and balances within ruling. However, he failed to recognise the dangers inherent in creating multiple competing power centres within government. In reality, this separation has only weakened the executive power of the government while ensuring the dominance of elite interests in all governmental affairs. In contrast, the Uthmani Sultan was accountable to the people directly, based on a fixed shar' widely known among them. The example of one of the last great Uthmani Khulafah is instructive: Sultan Abdul Hameed, widely portrayed in the West as a tyrannical dictator, was in fact removed from office after decades of rule by a simple legal document – a fatwa issued by the Sheikh al-Islam.

## **America Begins Betrayal of Turkey in Syria**

After drawing Turkey into Syria to help stabilise the Syrian government, America has begun working against Turkey to limit its role there.

According to the BBC:

A US-allied Syrian militia has said it will hand over villages west of the town of Manbij to the army in order to stop Turkish-backed rebels taking them.

The Manbij Military Council, part of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) alliance, announced it had "transferred defence of the frontline".

The move came after a deal was agreed with Russia, a staunch ally of President Bashar al-Assad, it added.

In fact, America is the one that has been controlling the entire theatre of operations in Syria from the beginning. It is America that introduced outside powers such as Russia and Turkey into the conflict as well as organising the funnelling of funds and weapons to various groups on the ground either directly or through other agent governments such as those in the Gulf States. America advances, blocks, or withdraws any one of these as it pleases. When will these governments realise that they are being manipulated as if they were mere pieces on a chessboard where both sides are controlled by the same player? Why do they continue to fear America, when America is itself fearful of once more entering the battlefield against Muslims? Our Muslim governments easily have the capacity to eject America from the region. All that prevents them is their personal slavish subservience to the West.

# **Trump Administration Escalates War in Yemen**

Despite Donald Trump's campaign rhetoric about withdrawing from conflicts abroad, the new US Administration appears to be choosing the path of intensifying foreign conflicts. America's military-industrial complex was often frustrated with President Obama's practice towards the end of this term of delegating conflicts in the Muslim world to other powers, and has been impatient to demonstrate US power on the battlefield. They now have their opportunity with Trump, despite the impression he conveyed during his campaign. According to the *New York Times*:

"The United States military on Friday carried out a second night of airstrikes against suspected Qaeda terrorists in Yemen in what Pentagon officials said was part of a larger campaign to roll back territorial gains the group has made in the past two years.

It was the most intense series of strikes ever against Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, or A.Q.A.P. In all of 2016, the United States conducted a total of 38 strikes in Yemen, according to the Foundation for Defense of Democracies' Long War Journal. Yet in the last two days, armed Reaper drones and attack planes conducted more than 30 strikes against Qaeda militants, equipment and safe houses across south-central Yemen, Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman, said on Friday."

The military-industrial block in America thrives on escalating military conflict. But in addition to this particular block, the American political leadership well knows that it is close to losing the American empire in Muslim lands, just as Britain lost its empire before, and so is making every effort to save it. The Muslim Ummah is returning to Islam and the day is not far, with Allah's permission, when we will see all Muslims lands reunited under the righteous Islamic Khilafah (Caliphate) on the method of Prophethood (saw).

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