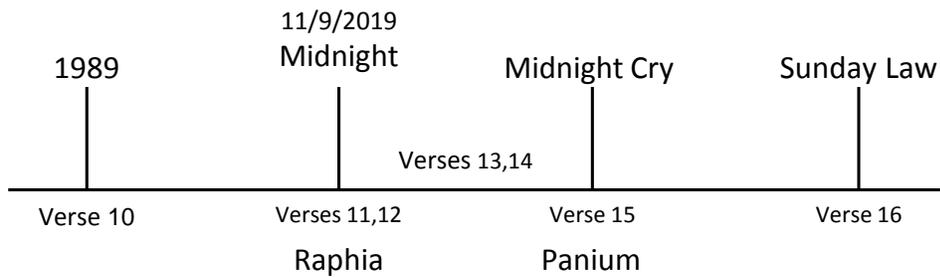




Lesson 5

The Fulfillment of Daniel 11 and Pyrrhus

- **Battle of Raphia**
- **Battle of Gaza**
- **The Ravaging of Epirus**
- **Battle of Asculum**
- **Application of the battles**



Daniel 11

Daniel 11 and Pyrrhus

A couple of years ago the movement came to an understanding of the first thirty-nine verses of Daniel 11. What was brought to view, among other things, was the Battle of Raphia, originally in 217BC, would be applied to November 9, 2019. Then we came to understand the history of Pyrrhus. We broke his history up into two parts: Macedonia and Italy. From his time in Macedonia we lined up 289BC, when Epirus was ravaged by Demetrius, with November 9. From his time in Italy we lined up the Battle of Asculum, 279BC, with November 9. Just recently we came to an understanding of the Battle of Gaza from the third Diadochi War, 312BC. Interestingly enough the names Gaza and Raphia are interchangeable so you know where the Battle of Gaza lines up: November 9, 2019. Raphia, the ravaging of Epirus, Asculum, and Gaza can all be applied to the history of November 9, 2019.

The Battle of Raphia/Ptolemy desecrates a Temple- 217bc

“Ptolemy Philopater succeeded his father, Euergetes, in the kingdom of Egypt, being advanced to the crown not long after Antiochus Magnus had succeeded his brother in the government of Syria. He was a most luxurious and vicious prince, but was at length aroused at the prospect of an invasion of Egypt by Antiochus. He was indeed "moved with choler" for the losses he had sustained, and the danger which threatened him; and he came forth out of Egypt with a numerous army to check the progress of the Syrian king. The king of the north was also to set forth a great multitude. The army of Antiochus, according to Polybius amounted on this occasion to sixty-two thousand foot, six thousand horse, and one hundred and two elephants. In the battle, Antiochus was defeated, and his army, according to prophecy, was given into the hands of the king of the south. Ten thousand foot and three thousand horse were slain, and

over four thousand men were taken prisoners; while of Ptolemy's army there were slain only seven hundred horse, and about twice that number of infantry.

“Ptolemy lacked the prudence to make a good use of his victory. Had he followed up his success, he would probably have become master of the whole kingdom of Antiochus; but content with making only a few menaces and a few threats, he made peace that he might be able to give himself up to the uninterrupted and uncontrolled indulgence of his brutish passions. Thus, having conquered his enemies, he was overcome by his vices, and, forgetful of the great name which he might have established, he spent his time in feasting and lewdness.

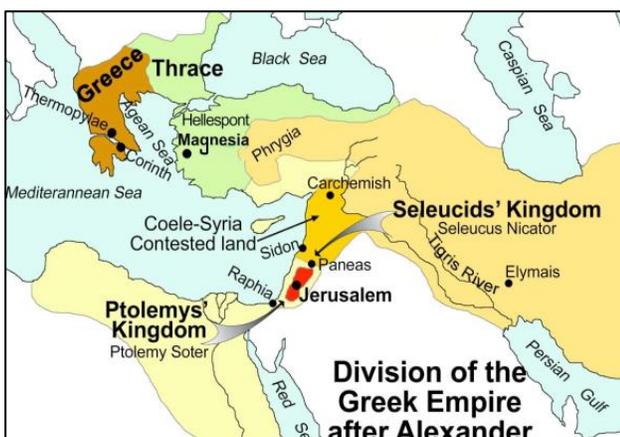
“His heart was lifted up by his success, but he was far from being strengthened by it; for the inglorious use he made of it caused his own subjects to rebel against him. But the lifting up of his heart was more especially manifested in his transactions with the Jews. Coming to Jerusalem, he there offered sacrifices, and was very desirous of entering into the most holy place of the temple, contrary to the law and religion of that place; but being, though with great difficulty, restrained, he left the place burning with anger against the whole nation of the Jews, and immediately commenced against them a terrible and relentless persecution. In Alexandria, where the Jews had resided since the days of Alexander, and enjoyed the privileges of the most favored citizens, forty thousand according to Eusebius, sixty thousand according to Jerome, were slain in this persecution. The rebellion of the Egyptians, and the massacre of the Jews, certainly were not calculated to strengthen him in his kingdom, but were sufficient rather almost totally to ruin it.”

Daniel and Revelation pg.253.4-254.3

By Uriah Smith

1897

“Back in 217 B.C., tensions were running high in the Middle East. Alexander the Great had died about a century earlier, and people were still trying to sort out who got to own what in his vast empire. Negotiations usually played out on the battlefield. One such clash took place near modern-day Gaza, at the Battle of Raphia, where Ptolemy IV, the King of Egypt, and Antiochus III the Great, the King of the Seleucid kingdom (which stretched from modern day Turkey to India) butted heads. This particular skirmish involved war elephants.”



“A Lesson from History:

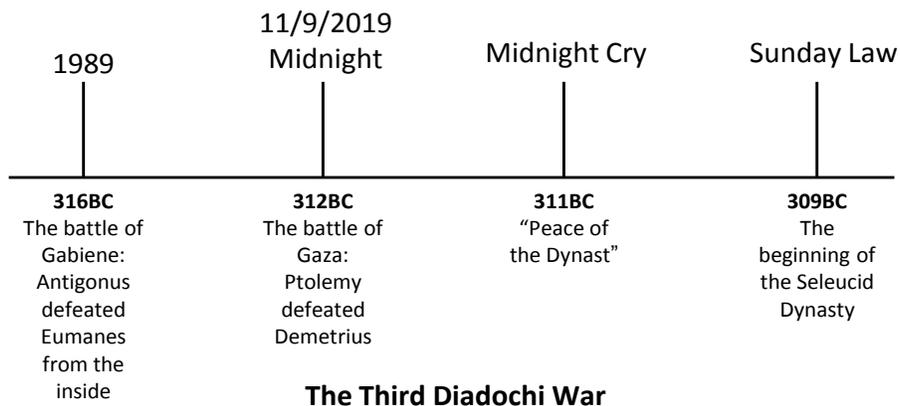
When Assembling an Army of War Elephants,

Don't Pick Inbred Ones”

By Rachel Nuwer

January 13, 2014

smithsonian.com



The Battle of Gaza- 312bc

"In late 312 BC, Demetrius' army was in Palestine. At Seleucus' urging, Ptolemy moved out of Egypt to confront Demetrius with 18,000 infantry and 4,000 cavalry. In response, Demetrius concentrated his forces near the city of Gaza. His friends urged him not to fight Ptolemy and Seleucus, who were veterans of Alexander's wars and skilled generals in their own right. Demetrius, who was in his mid-20s and exercising his first command independent of his father, nevertheless arrayed his army for battle in late December....

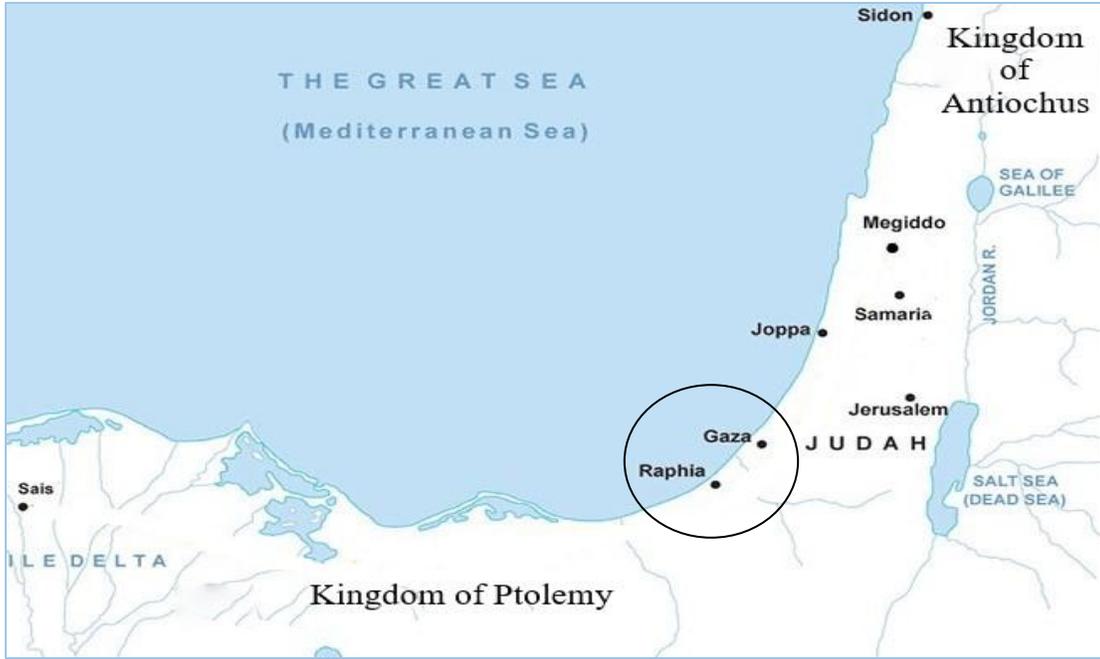
"The battle began with a clash between the cavalry of Demetrius' left and Ptolemy's right. Demetrius initially had the upper hand, but then Ptolemy and Seleucus brought in reinforcements, and the clash resumed. Both sides were armed with the xyston, a thrusting lance; when these shattered, combat continued with swords.

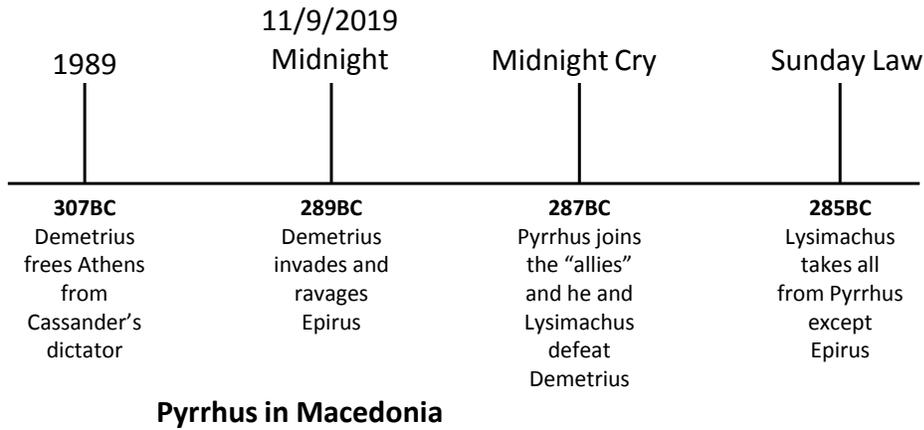
"Then Demetrius played what he considered his trump card, calling up the elephants. But they encountered unexpected resistance. Some were injured by the spikes and, maddened by pain, threw the line into disorder. Ptolemy's archers and javelineers also injured many elephants and picked off their drivers. Ultimately, Ptolemy's men badly disabled the elephants and were able to capture them.

"This development panicked Demetrius' cavalymen, who fled, ignoring their leader's entreaties to stand firm. Then Demetrius joined the flight, bypassing Gaza, which Ptolemy captured. Some of Demetrius' infantry also abandoned their equipment and fled, but about 8,000 of them were captured."

"What We Learned: From the Battle of Gaza"

**By Richard Tada
historynet.com**





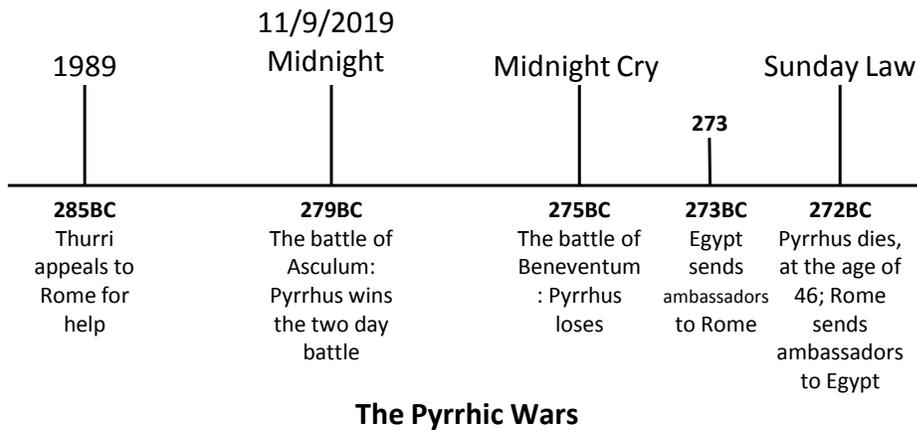
The Ravaging of Epirus- 289bc

"...in 289 he [Demetrius] invaded and ravaged Epirus while Pyrrhus was occupied in Aetolia."

The Legacy of Alexander: Politics, Warfare, and Propaganda Under the Successors pg. 252

By A. B. Bosworth

2002



The Battle of Asculum- 279bc/Pyrrhus desecrates a temple

“**Asculum, 279 BC (War with Pyrrhus)**- This two-day battle between an Epirot invasion force led by Pyrrhus, King of Epirus, and two Roman armies commanded by consuls Publius Decius Mus and Publius Sulpicius Severrio occurred near the southeastern Italian city of Asculum (Ascoli Satriano) in Apulia.... Wooded terrain and a nearby river restricted Pyrrhus from fully deploying his calvary and elephants to best advantage against consular forces, and the first day’s action was largely a protracted but inconclusive struggle between Epirot and Roman infantry. Early on the second day, Pyrrhus dispatched elements of his army to seize the wooded ground where the previous day’s fighting had occurred, forcing the battle into more open land where his phalanx, calvary and elephants were at greater tactical advantage. Despite the relocation, the legions were still able to check the momentum of the Epirot infantry for several hours before a concentrated and overwhelming elephant charge disrupted the integrity of the Roman formation, forcing the consuls to abandon the fight and withdraw their armies from the field.”

Roman Republic at War: A Compendium of Roman Battles from 502 to 31 BC

By Don Taylor

2017

“Financially embarrassed upon his return from Sicily, and unable to secure contributions from his allies, he yielded to necessity and on the advice of some depraved friends plundered the rich, sacred treasures of the temple of Proserpine...”

Atrocities in Roman Warfare to 133 B. C.... pg.55

By Mars McClelland Westington

1938

The Application of: Daniel 11 and Pyrrhus

The fight between the King of the North, Trump, and the King of the South, Putin, over spheres of influence and information in 2019, ending on November 9th, was started by Russia and will be won by Russia.

“President Trump’s deficient understanding of Muslims, many of whom are at the forefront of the fight against radical Islamism, leads him to see threats where none exist. It also prevents him from recognizing that an Islamist in a custom-designed suit and \$800 tie may be just as dangerous as an extremist whose turbaned head and traditional robes conform to popular stereotypes.

“Case in point: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Trump ran for president by pledging to wage war on “radical Islam,” yet he has granted concessions to Erdogan that his advisers told him are inimical to U.S. national security interests. In a phone call with Erdogan on **Oct. 6**, Trump agreed to pull U.S. troops from the Syria-Turkey border, clearing the way for Turkish troops and a motley crew of Islamist proxies to assault the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, which partnered with the United States to defeat the Islamic State in Syria.

“Trump was apparently counting on Erdogan not to do anything the United States would “consider to be off limits.” Three days later, after the Turks’ unrestrained assault had begun, Trump pleaded with Erdogan, “History will look upon you favorably if you get this done the right and humane way.” If Trump had been more skeptical, he would have discovered that Erdogan’s ideology entails the rejection of limits that would otherwise constrain a NATO ally such as Turkey.”

“Trump’s first mistake in Syria was ever trusting Erdogan”

By David Adesnik and Aykan Erdemir

Oct. 17, 2019 at 11:16 a.m. PDT

[washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

“Akcakale, Turkey — Turkey launched airstrikes and fired artillery aimed at crushing Kurdish fighters in northern Syria on **Wednesday [Oct. 9]** after U.S. troops pulled back from the area, paving the way for an assault on forces that have long been allied with the United States. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced the start of the campaign, which followed

an abrupt decision Sunday by U.S. President Trump that American troops would step aside to allow for the operation.

“Mr. Trump's move has drawn harsh bipartisan opposition at home. It represents a shift in U.S. policy that essentially abandoned the Syrian Kurdish fighters who have been America's only allies inside Syria in the fight against ISIS.

“Mr. Trump offered no explicit condemnation of Turkey in a statement Wednesday.”

“Turkey launches airstrikes on northern Syria after Trump pulls back U.S. troops”

updated on: October 9, 2019

cbsnews.com

“ISTANBUL — Turkey agreed **Thursday [Oct. 17]** to a cease-fire that would suspend its march into Syria and temporarily halt a week of vicious fighting with Kurdish forces, while allowing President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government to carve out a long-coveted buffer zone far beyond its borders.

“The agreement, announced by Vice President Pence after hours of negotiations, appeared to hand Turkey's leader most of what he sought when his military launched an assault on northeastern Syria just over a week ago: the expulsion of Syrian Kurdish militias from the border and the removal of a U.S. threat to impose sanctions on Turkey's vulnerable economy.

“Pence said Turkey had agreed to pause its offensive for five days while the United States helped facilitate the withdrawal of -Kurdish-led forces, called the -Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), from a large swath of territory stretching from Turkey's border nearly 20 miles south into Syria. After the completion of the Kurdish withdrawal, Turkey's military operation, which began Oct. 9, would be “halted entirely,” Pence said.

“The White House agreed to refrain from imposing any new economic sanctions on Turkey and to withdraw sanctions that were imposed earlier this week once “a permanent cease-fire was in effect,” Pence said.”

“Syria cease-fire agreement lifts threat of U.S. sanctions while letting Turkey keep buffer zone”

By Kareem Fahim, Karen DeYoung and Seung Min Kim

October 17, 2019

washingtonpost.com

“Moscow (CNN)-Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan met in the southern Russian resort city of Sochi on **Tuesday [Oct. 22]** with a shared agenda of shaping the endgame in Syria's eight-year civil war.

“The two leaders unveiled a 10-point memorandum of understanding with an unstated bottom line: The Americans do not have a place in shaping the future of Syria.

What did Putin and Erdogan agree to?

“Russia and Turkey announced a wide-ranging agreement that addresses a major Turkish concern -- the presence of Kurdish YPG forces near their border. But it also acknowledges a major fear of the Kurds -- that Turkish-backed Syrian rebel groups might unleash a campaign of ethnic cleansing against them and other minority groups.

“Under the deal, Russian military police and Syrian border guards will enter the Syrian side of the Syrian-Turkish border from noon Wednesday. Over the next 150 hours, they are to remove the YPG and their weapons, back to 30 km (about 18 miles) from the border. From 6 p.m. local time next Tuesday, the Russian military police and Turkish military will begin patrols along that line.

“There are some exceptions: the town of Qamishli will not be included in that 10 km zone, and it was not clear if the agreement applies the entire length of the Turkey-Syrian border, or just the areas where the Syrian Kurds exercised control.

“The deal also acknowledges some facts on the ground: Turkey will keep control of the areas it has taken in their recent incursion into northern Syria.

“What does it mean for the Kurds?

“The Kurds will have to make concessions. The agreement asks the YPG or SDF -- an American-backed fighting force made up largely of the YPG -- to make concessions outside of the current area of conflict. The YPG in the agreement are meant to withdraw from the towns of Manbij and Tal Rifaat.

“The deal also implies that the Kurds have a new guarantor. After President Donald Trump effectively abandoned the Kurds, by ordering the sudden withdrawal of US forces from Syria and leaving the YPG exposed to a Turkish advance, that role now falls to the Russians.

“Now Moscow will have to deploy more troops and equipment to Syria as part of an expanded mission. But the question remains open: With so few Russian forces on the ground, Syrian Kurds may have little alternative but to allow Syria's Russian-backed military into Kurdish-held areas.

“Who wins and loses in this arrangement?

“Putin and Erdogan have emerged as the main geopolitical power brokers in the region. Turkey and Russia may have backed opposing sides in the Syrian civil war: Moscow provided air power to support Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, while Turkey supported rebel groups seeking to oust the regime.

“But Putin and Erdogan seemed to favor an outcome that does not involve redrawing international borders -- and that discourages separatist movements, something both countries have faced.

“Putin and Erdogan just did a deal on Syria. The US is the biggest loser.”

Analysis by Nathan Hodge

updated October 23, 2019

cnn.com

“After years battling to assert the Kremlin's power on the international stage, Vladimir Putin is now on what seems like a victory lap of the Middle East.

“On **Tuesday [Oct. 15]**, Kremlin-backed forces further stepped up to fill the vacuum left in northern Syria by the US. Russian military police units patrolled the contact line between Syrian and Turkish forces, while Putin-backed Bashar al-Assad troops gained full control of the town of Manbij and surrounding areas, according to a Russian defense ministry statement published on its website.

“The fast-shifting geopolitical sands have already handed huge territorial gains to the pro-Moscow Assad government who opportunistically forged a new alliance with US-abandoned Kurds over the weekend.

“The unfolding events in northern Syria come after Moscow stayed the course with its ally Assad despite international criticism and sanctions, leaving it as the only force willing and able to protect the Syrian Kurds from a Turkish onslaught. With the US withdrawal increasingly seen as a betrayal of the Kurds, it is the Russians who look like the only reliable allies in this fight.

“It was against this backdrop that Putin toured the capitals of two key Gulf states -- the United Arab Emirates on Tuesday and Saudi Arabia on Monday.

“In Saudi -- one of America's closest allies -- the Russian president received a warm welcome during his first visit to the kingdom in over a decade. The Kremlin called it a "return visit" after Saudi's King Salman visited Moscow in 2017 to broaden the key oil producers' relationship.

“It is a "natural partnership," one Russian official told me ahead of this week's state visit. The "world's biggest oil exporters cooperating to stabilize the markets".

“But the significance of this burgeoning Russia-Saudi friendship should not be understated or limited to just conversations about oil.

“Russia is, after all, a close ally of Saudi's most implacable foe -- Iran. It fights alongside Iranian forces in Syria, and has close diplomatic and economic ties with the Islamic Republic. Speaking after the meeting, King Salman said he appreciated "Russia's effective role in the region and around the world," according to remarks reported by Saudi state media.

“The statement underlines that this state visit was a well-timed diplomatic coup, placing Putin at the center of the region's geopolitics. It's what Putin has been pushing for all along.

“But the warmth of Saudi's embrace of Russia can also be seen as a warning from the kingdom to the US.

“There is growing criticism among US lawmakers of Saudi conduct, like the brutal killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi last year, which the kingdom blames on rogue operatives.

There's also alarm at the alleged targeting of civilians by Saudi-led forces in its war on Houthi rebels in Yemen, which the kingdom denies. *The* US Congress even tried to cut off arms sales, on which Saudi Arabia depends, over the issue.

"Of course, Saudi Arabia remains a staunch US ally with strong American protection. In fact, in the past month the US has announced the deployment of an additional 3,000 troops to the country to bolster defenses amid growing tensions with Iran.

"But criticism and concern about US commitment to the region is causing Saudi Arabia to look elsewhere, perhaps to more reliable and less judgmental friends.

"The "days of a single strategic partner for the kingdom," one senior Saudi official told me, "are already gone".

"And just like in northern Syria, Russia is ready and willing to step in."

"Putin is on a Victory Lap of the Middle East"

By Matthew Chance

updated October 15, 2019

cnn.com

"President Trump was persuaded to leave at least several hundred troops behind in Syria only when he was told that his decision to pull them out would risk control of oil fields in the country's east, according to U.S. officials.

"Trump had rejected arguments that withdrawing U.S. forces would benefit American adversaries, while endangering civilians and Kurdish allies, but he tweeted **Thursday [Oct. 24]** that 'we will NEVER let a reconstituted ISIS have those fields.'

"Defense Secretary Mark T. Esper confirmed on **Friday [Oct. 25]** that troops would remain in eastern Syria to prevent the oil fields from being retaken by the Islamic State. ...

"A U.S. official with knowledge of operations in Syria said that Trump's interest in the oil provided an opportunity for the Pentagon, which was unhappy with the initial decision, to temper his insistence on a full withdrawal and allow counterterrorism operations and airspace control to continue."

"U.S. forces will stay in Syria to defend oil"

By Karen DeYoung, Dan Lamothe, Missy Ryan, and Michael Birnbaum

October 31, 2019

washingtonpost.com