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## Will World Oil Prices Be Affected By Major US Set **Back in Middle East?**

**Dmitry MININ** 

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The situation in the Middle East has aggravated recently. No doubt the things have gone bad for the United States, no matter this fact has been largely ignored by Western media. The further development of events may lead to drastic changes in the region giving an impetus to a new hike of oil prices.

According to DEBKAfile, an Israeli military intelligence website, Syrian rebel militia Al Yarmouk Shuhada Brigades, the most capable 2,000-strong anti-Assad force based in Jordan and areas adjacent to Syria, has abruptly joined up with the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria headed by al-Baghdadi.

Yarmouk is a special unit backed and trained for two years by US officers, mostly CIA experts, in Jordan, and supported by the Israeli army (Tsahal). The brigade has heavy armor vehicles in its inventory. It was supposed to be a forward deployed ground force advancing to Damascus from the south during a general offensive. The unit was known to be the most pro-Western force among the ranks of Syrian opposition. Now who can the Western coalition rely on in its «strange war» with the Islamic State? For almost two weeks Mousab Ali Qarfan, the commander of Yarmouk, was in direct talks with ISIS chief Abu Baqr Al-Baghdadi, who has recently relocated from Iraq to his northern Syrian headquarters at al-Raqqa. American special services failed to respond in another notable setback for the United States.

It may entail consequences of different kinds.

1. The turn of events puts an end to the myth about the United States support for some «democratic opposition» in Syria. Evidently one more step is taken by the forces aided by Washington on the way to joining the camp of those who are hostile to the United States.