

# *Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif Says U.S. Dangerously Increasing Regional Tensions*

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Moscow, June 28 (RHC)-- Iran has accused the United States of ratcheting up tensions in the Middle East after Washington claims the Syrian government may be preparing for a chemical attack.

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif made the remarks on his official twitter account on Tuesday. "Another dangerous U.S. escalation in Syria on fake pretext will only serve ISIS (Daesh), precisely when it's being wiped out by Iraqi and Syrian people," he said.

On Monday, White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer claimed that the U.S. had "identified potential preparations" for an attack "that would likely result in the mass murder of civilians, including innocent children." He added that Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and the Syrian military would "pay a heavy price" if they went ahead with the alleged plan.

The Pentagon claims that it has seen activities linked with chemical weapons at Shayrat airfield in Homs province that was hit by American missiles in April. Washington's accusations were made as the Syrian and Iraqi armies continued to make sweeping gains on their paths to fully liberating the countries from the presence of the Daesh terror group.

Meanwhile, Syria has denied U.S. allegations, saying it has never used chemical weapons in its war against foreign-backed terrorist groups.

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