

“The only defender of these desperate people is Turkey, which has dispatched thousands of troops, tanks and artillery into the region in recent weeks. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has threatened to launch an offensive against the Assad forces unless they pull back by the end of this week. Already there have been heavy clashes between Turkish and Syrian troops in which dozens have been reported killed. According to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, Russian and Syrian aircraft this week were bombing Turkish positions in the southern Idlib countryside, while Turkish artillery was supporting an offensive by rebel fighters.”

The full piece is here:

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/syrias-carnage-nears-a-horrific-climax/2020/02/25/ed98be9c-5730-11ea-9b35-def5a027d470_story.html?](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/syrias-carnage-nears-a-horrific-climax/2020/02/25/ed98be9c-5730-11ea-9b35-def5a027d470_story.html?hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-syria%3Aopinion%3Ahomepage%2Fstory&hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-syria%3Aopinion%3Ahomepage%2Fstory)

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