

Kremlin Responds to Estimated Cost of Russia's Syria Campaign

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The Kremlin has said that published estimates of the cost of Russia's military operation in Syria do not match actual figures, the RBC business news agency reported Wednesday.

"The Kremlin has not received information on the cost of the Russian military operation in Syria, but the assessment by RBC of the cost of the campaign in Syria does not match up," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said, RBC reported.

Peskov did not provide the Kremlin's data but said RBC calculations did not correspond.

The Kremlin spokesman was also asked if there had been any improvement in U.S.-Russian relations following the withdrawal of Russia's main military contingent from Syria.

"Now the most important thing is to coordinate efforts to promote the peaceful settlement process in Syria," Peskov said, RBC reported.

RBC had previously reported that Russia could have spent a minimum of 38 billion rubles on the operation in Syria. Taking into account the cost of warplanes, wages, daily maintenance,

cargo dispatches and transport, RBC estimated that average daily expenditure could have risen to 230 million rubles (\$3.3 million).

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