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Hit him hard

This is an opinion item.

Author(s) [The Economist editorial board](#)

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URL <http://www.economist.com/news/leaders/21584329-present-proof-deliver-ultimatum-and-punish-bashar-assad-his-use-chemical>

Quote “ Far better for a week of missiles to rain down on the dictator’s “command-and-control” centres, including his palaces. By doing this, Mr Obama would certainly help the rebels, though probably not enough to overturn the regime. With luck, well-calibrated strikes might scare Mr Assad towards the negotiating table. ”

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This item argues for the position [United States should intervene](#) on the topic [Syrian civil war](#).

This item argues against the position [United States should depose Bashar Assad](#) on the topic [Syrian civil war](#).