

Syria: Major SAA Military Counter-terrorism Operation in Aleppo Province, Support of Russian and Iranian Advisers

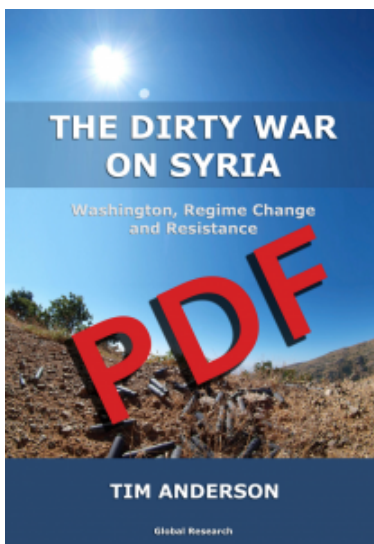
By [South Front](#)

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On April 5, a Syrian Su-22 fighter-bomber was downed by militants in the village of Tel Eis in Southern Aleppo. Tel Eis has been under control of Al Nusra and Free Syrian Army units which operate in serried ranks in this area. A pilot rejected from the warplane, but he was captured and, according to initial reports, killed by militants. Further reports said that the pilot, Khaled Sa'id of Latakia City, is alive and the work is underway to rescue him.

Following the incident with the Su-22, the loyalist forces supported by Russian warplanes and helicopters conducted a new attempt to liberate Tel Eis and pushed militant groups from the village. Additionally, Russian warplanes conducted air raids on along the Banas-Tal Al-'Eiss road.



The liberation of al-Eis set a foothold for further advances to cut of M5 highway which links Aleppo with parts of the Idlib governorate and grants access to M4 Highway heading to Latakia.

Pre-military reports indicate that the loyalists are deploying forces – mainly SAA, NDF and Hezbollah units supported by Iranian and Russian military advisers – to the province of Aleppo to conduct a military operation in the provincial capital. Aleppo's joint operations room in a statement asked the people to leave the regions where groups that ignore the ceasefire are presented

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