

# Syrian Army Storms Key ISIS-Held Gas Fields in Eastern Homs

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*The Syrian army and the National Defense Forces (NDF) are storming the ISIS-held Hayyan gas fields west of Palmyra in the province of Homs. Government forces are reportedly in control of over a half of the area, but clashes are ongoing.*

On February 2, the army and the NDF secured the Jihar crossroad and the village of al-Baydhah al-Sharqiyah.

A coalition of pro-Turkish militant groups known as the Free Syrian Army and the Turkish Armed Forces seized 4 more settlements – Alhagran, Alawasi, Alloahagh and Hasani – from ISIS in the countryside of al-Bab in the province of Aleppo. The move was aimed on further flanking the ISIS stronghold of al-Bab in order to create circumstances which would allow Turkish forces to take control over it.

Meanwhile, the Syrian army and the NDF have liberated about 250 km<sup>2</sup> from the ISIS terrorist group in the eastern countryside of the city of Aleppo since the start a military operation in the area 20 days ago.

The government forces operation in the area has already sparked rumors about a possible Syrian-Turkish confrontation in the mainstream media. Nonetheless, these reports indulge in wishful thinking while the Russian-Syrian-Turkish-Iranian cooperation de-facto exists.

ISIS claimed to kill 32 members of the so-called “moderate opposition” in the area of Daraa.

Meanwhile, the recently-formed Jabhat al-Nusra-led alliance Tahrir al-Sham has launched series of operations against the FSA’s al-Safwa Division bases in the western countryside of Aleppo.

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