

Turkey Invades Syria, Backed By U.S.

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On Wednesday morning, <u>Turkey abruptly launched</u> an all-out military assault on Syria, <u>sending in tanks</u>, troops, and <u>engaging in airstrikes</u>, in concert with airstrikes from the United States, to the northern portions of Syria near the Turkey-Syria border under the guise of combating ISIS forces. At this time, the military operations seem focused around Jarablus.

According to the *BBC*, "A dozen Turkish tanks and other vehicles have rolled across the Syrian border after heavy shelling of an area held by so-called Islamic State (IS). Military sources told Turkish media 70 targets in the Jarablus area had been destroyed by artillery and rocket strikes, and 12 by air strikes."

For those who may be wondering exactly what the Turkish goal might be, two points must be mentioned in regards to Turkey's actions which should go some length to demonstrate that the Turks are still focused on destroying the Syrian government as well as preventing the establishment of a Kurdish enclave either in Syria or Turkey.

First, the Turkish military is acting as the frontal assault for "moderate" rebel forces like the FSA who are marching in directly behind the Turkish military to hold territory conquered by the Turks. Any association with the Free Syrian Army, a gaggle of Western-backed extremists indistinguishable from ISIS, should be a major warning sign to any informed observer that the goal is not to aid in the destruction of terrorist forces in Syria or to assist the Syrian government in its goal to do so. Second, the Turkish invasion was accompanied by American airstrikes which clearly indicates that the Turks are operating closely with the United States, which has been chomping at the bit to either directly destroy the Syrian government via military invasion or to create "buffer zones" and "safe zones" in the country to act as forward operating bases for future terrorist proxy operations.

<u>Al-Masdar reports</u> on the progress of the Turkish military offensive by writing:

The Turkish Special Forces, alongside the Free Syrian Army (FSA) and Faylaq Al-Sham, reportedly captured their first village during this new offensive dubbed "Operation Euphrates Shield." According to Faylaq Al-Sham's official media wing, their forces captured the village of Tal Katlijah after the Islamic State of Iraq and Al-Sham (ISIS) terrorists quickly abandoned the area in order to reinforce Jarabulus.

ISIS has mostly abandoned the small area between Jarabulus and the Turkish border, leaving only small units to resist the advancing Turkish-backed rebels.

The Turkish-backed rebels are now attacking the hilltop village of Tal Sha'er, which is along the road to Jarabulus.

The Turk agenda here is also two-fold: On one hand, Turkey's Erdogan wants to continue to work with NATO and the United States to destroy the secular government of Bashar al-Assad while, on the other hand, Turkey needs to do all it can do to prevent an autonomous Kurdish enclave on its border with Syria. An effective way to do this is to create a "buffer zone" between the Kurds and Turkey while, at the same, making sure that the dimensions of the "buffer zone" are the same as the "safe zone" desired by NATO two years ago in order to keep terrorist supply lines moving through Turkey and in to Syria. That narrow and porous jihadist corridor has become known as the Jarablus corridor, the same areas which the Turks are now invading and filling up with terrorists as we speak.

For its part, the Syrian government has condemned the Turkish invasion. <u>As ABC News</u> reports,

Syria's government has denounced Turkish military incursion, describing it as Turkey's "blatant violation" of Syrian sovereignty.

In a statement reported by state-run news agency SANA on Wednesday, the government says that "any move to combat terrorism on Syrian territories should have been coordinated with the Syrian government and army."

The statement also calls for an immediate end to the Turkish "aggression," which it says is being carried out under the pretext of fighting terrorism.

It says: "Fighting terrorism cannot be undertaken by ousting Daesh and replacing it with other terrorist organizations directly backed by Turkey." Daesh is the Arabic language acronym for IS.

The YPG has likewise condemned the Turkish involvement in Syria, <u>labeling it a</u> "blatant aggression in Syrian internal affairs."

Turkey's move <u>raises even more questions</u> now regarding the nature of its recent "failed" coup as well as its relationship with Russia and the United States. A troubling new dimension has also been added to the Syrian crisis as the Turks have now officially invaded a sovereign country in an already volatile region. Undoubtedly, we will be watching these events closely.

Brandon Turbeville is the author of seven books, <u>Codex Alimentarius</u> — <u>The End of Health Freedom</u>, <u>7 Real Conspiracies</u>, <u>Five Sense Solutions</u> and <u>Dispatches From a Dissident</u>, <u>volume 1</u> and <u>volume 2</u>, <u>The Road to Damascus: The Anglo-American Assault on Syria</u>, and <u>The Difference it Makes: 36 Reasons Why Hillary Clinton Should Never Be President</u>. Turbeville has published over 650 articles on a wide variety of subjects including health, economics, government corruption, and civil liberties. Brandon Turbeville's radio show Truth on The Tracks can be found every Monday night 9 pm EST at <u>UCYTV</u>. His website is <u>BrandonTurbeville.com</u> He is available for radio and TV interviews. Please contact activistpost (at) <u>gmail.com</u>.

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