

## US, Israel Plan to Occupy South Syria: Report

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Region: Middle East & North Africa
Theme: US NATO War Agenda

In-depth Report: **SYRIA** 



File photo shows militants with the so-called Free Syrian Army in the northern Syrian city of Aleppo.

An independent Jordanian news agency says the United States and the Israeli regime are working on a joint plan to occupy southern Syria.

The JBC News said the militant groups, which the US calls moderate opposition, will help occupy two regions in southern Syria.

The regions will then unite to finally create a security belt around Israel.

The report said the groups picked by Washington will be equipped with US-made arms such as Tow anti-tank missiles.

They will also be provided with intelligence gathered by Israeli and US spying agencies.

'Moderate groups' is a term used by the US administration for part of the militants fighting the government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Washington had used the same term for Taliban militants in Afghanistan, in an effort to give them legitimacy in the face of the former Soviet Union forces.

On Tuesday, a US airplane carrying a weapons cargo for foreign-backed militants fighting in Syria reportedly landed in Jordan's Mafraq Airport, some 80 kilometers Amman.

In January, US security officials disclosed that the Congress has funded the delivery of weapons, in votes behind closed doors, through the end of government fiscal year that is September 30, 2014.

Syria has been gripped by deadly unrest since 2011. According to reports, the Western powers and their regional allies — especially Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey — are supporting the militants operating inside Syria.

Reports indicate that over 130,000 people have been killed in the violence.

The foreign-backed militancy has also displaced a total of 7.8 million Syrians, more than 1.8 million of whom are living in neighboring countries, mainly in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon.

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