



Israel launches a ground attack in Syria, disrupting peace talks

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A surprise ground attack by Israel is shaking Syria. This morning, 11 military vehicles and over 60 soldiers from the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) entered the Beit Jinn region, southwest of Damascus. The operation, confirmed by both Syrian state television and the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz*, represents a show of force by Tel Aviv.

The incursion comes at a particularly delicate time. Just a few hours earlier, Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa had declared that his government was engaged in "advanced talks" with Israel for a security agreement, based on the 1974 disengagement understanding. Although Sharaa had specified that "it is not yet the right time for a peace agreement," he had also emphasized his government's willingness to any understanding that could bring benefits to Syria and the region. The Israeli military action, however, suggests a total lack of trust in the Syrian leadership and the feasibility of the negotiations.

The situation in southern Syria

The area of Beit Jinn, where the attack is taking place, is located several miles east of the Syria-Israel border. This operation fits into a framework of growing instability. The region of Sueida, for example, is witnessing the birth of a "National Guard" formed by over 30 local armed Druze factions. The goal is to protect the community from possible attacks by pro-government Bedouin tribes, following the July clashes that caused nearly 1,700 deaths. The formation, led by the "spiritual leader" Hikmat al Hijri, reflects the deep insecurity and fragmentation of control over the territory. The decision to postpone legislative elections in the area for "security reasons" further underscores the gravity of the situation.

Meanwhile, U.S. envoy Tom Barrack has arrived in Israel to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and discuss the negotiations with Syria and the request to limit Israeli attacks in Lebanon. His arrival, which took place just yesterday, highlights the high level of international attention on the ongoing crisis and the attempt to find a diplomatic solution, despite the military escalation.

The Israeli attack further complicates the diplomatic and military landscape of the region, calling into question the possibility of a peaceful resolution and reinforcing the idea that mutual trust between Israel and Syria is almost nonexistent.

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