

Source to NOW Lebanon: Syrian troop deployment to Lebanese border

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Source to NOW Lebanon: Syrian troop deployment to Lebanese border in keeping with promise made to international community

A foreign diplomatic source told NOW Lebanon on Monday that the deployment of Syrian troops to the border with northern Lebanon was intended to fulfill Syria's commitments to the international community. The source said that Damascus had promised France and, indirectly, the United States that would control its borders with Lebanon in order to prevent the crossing of weapons and terrorists.

The source said that Syria had informed international authorities about the deployment before it occurred, as a way to prove that it was serious about normalizing relations with Lebanon.

The source also said that the international community had realized that Syrian intentions, prior to the Doha Agreement last May, were not sincere. However, the source said that Syria was disclosing its operations to the international community, along with France and the United States, to demonstrate that Damascus's commitments were honest.

Indeed, the source said that the Syrian troop deployment could lead to improved Syrian relations with America, as well as facilitating the indirect negotiations underway with Israel.

Another source close to the committee in charge of coordination between Lebanon and Syria told NOW Lebanon that the armies of both countries had agreed to implement tightened border security, after President Michel Sleiman traveled to Syria last month.

-NOW Staff

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