

# The Washington Post

## Israeli troops move swiftly into Syrian territory after rebel takeover

Israel defended its actions as defensive as nature, securing the country from future attacks, while Arab countries said they amounted to an illegal occupation.

By Miriam Berger and Steve Hendrix / December 9, 2024

MAJDAL SHAMS, Israeli-occupied Golan Heights — Within hours of rebels taking control of Syria's capital, Israel moved to seize military posts in that country's south, sending its troops across the border for the first time since the official end of the Yom Kippur War in 1974.

[...]

But **Carmit Valensi, a senior researcher at Israel's Institute for National Security Studies**, said Israel could be jeopardizing its chances of good relations with a historically hostile neighbor in favor of a short-term security boost.

"It will be important for us to generate positive ties with positive communities in Syria near our border," she said. If the temporary positions became permanent, she added, "this would turn us from a potential partner to an enemy."

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*For full article:*

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/12/09/israel-syria-golan-heights-rebels-assad/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=wp\\_homepage](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/12/09/israel-syria-golan-heights-rebels-assad/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=wp_homepage)