

U.S. Warns Damascus Over Interfering in Air Campaign



Washington, March 21 (RHC)-- The U.S. has warned Damascus not to interfere in its ongoing air campaign in Syria, after a U.S. drone was shot down over the coastal province of Latakia.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said that Syria should "not interfere with our ongoing efforts there as we deal with the Islamic State and some other extremists that may pose a threat to the United States and our interests around the world."

Earlier this week, Syrian media reported that the country's air force had targeted a U.S. surveillance jet over Latakia. Syrian television also broadcast footage of the drone's wreckage. And the U.S. military confirmed that it "lost contact with a US MQ-1 Predator unarmed remotely piloted aircraft operating over northwest Syria."

Since late September, the U.S. and some of its Arab allies have been carrying out airstrikes against Islamic State terrorists inside Syria without any authorization from Damascus or a UN mandate.

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