

Erdogan threatens ground assault into Syria

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is threatening to start an offensive against U.S.-backed Kurdish forces in Syria to push them further from Turkey's southern border

■ Turkey has launched air strikes in northern Syria in retaliation for Nov 13 Istanbul bomb attack that it blames on **YPG** militia. Ankara views YPG as extension of outlawed **Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK)**

■ Pentagon says Turkish air strikes threaten safety of some 900 soldiers working with YPG-led **Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF)**, to fight remnants of so-called **Islamic State (IS)**

Turkey's stated primary objectives

