## Allies of Russia in NATO?

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A few days ago, Bloomberg reported that Turkey is preparing to replace US F-35 multirole combat aircraft with Russian counterparts. Ankara can take this step if the United States excludes the country from the program related to the sale of this aircraft. In this case, the Turkish side is preparing for alternative options for equipping the national air force, including Russian military aircraft. In addition, Turkey is independently trying to develop aircraft and ballistic missiles.

At the same time, this country is creating a reserve stock of the parts necessary for American weapons used by the Turkish side. So Ankara is preparing for possible sanctions from the United States. Earlier, Washington warned about the possibility of their introduction due to the purchase by Turkey of Russian anti-aircraft missile systems S-400.

It is because of the supply of S-400 that the United States threatened Turkey with an exception to the F-35 program. The Pentagon is of the opinion that the sale of the S-400 will allow Russia to collect information on the F-35. The President of Turkey has repeatedly stated that his country will not abandon the purchase of the S-400.

The agreement of intent was about the transaction was signed in 2017. The cost of the contract was estimated at 2.5 billion dollars. Deliveries were expected in March 2020, but then the process was accelerated.

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