



On the occasion of Iran's Defense Industry Day

DRONE ON DEMAND

Iran Daily examines how defense industry can both ensure security and bring in revenues



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Iran fought asymmetric warfare

A year after the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran, the new Iranian government found itself confronting the aggression of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

Page 1 > With unwavering resilience, Iran held steadfast against this onslaught for eight years, ultimately reclaiming all its territories from Iraqi incursion.

Throughout these tumultuous years, a stark contrast in capabilities and military resources between the two adversaries became unmistakably evident. A phrase frequently echoed by Iranian officials, particularly those within the military, encapsulated the essence of this disparity: "We couldn't even buy barbed wire." While this expression might have held a touch of exaggeration, it frankly conveyed a harsh reality. Its consequences reverberated on the battlefield, where one side wielded state-of-the-art weapons procured from global corners, while the other – Iran – remained deprived of such opportunities.

Now 35 years since the war came to an end, the threat of the Iraqi dictator has vanished into history's pages, and Iran's military landscape has dramatically transformed. Many of the very nations that once fueled Iraq's war machine now harbor concerns over Iran's regional and global military

potency. Today, Iran's reputation for missile and drone capabilities has rippled worldwide. Assertions by Iranian officials and foreign media have propagated claims of a long queue of potential customers seeking Iranian drones. Israel's former defense minister, Yoav Gallant, has said that Iran is negotiating to sell advanced weapons such as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) and precision-guided missiles (PGMs) to "no less than 50 different countries". This assertion may carry a tinge of exaggeration, but in October, Major General Yahya Rahim-Safavi, a military advisor to Iran's Leader, disclosed, "Today, we are at a point where 22 countries are requesting to buy drones from Iran."

Major General Mohammad Baqeri, the Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, substantiated Iran's growing drone capabilities, elevating it into the ranks of the

world's top five drone powers.

"Our drones excel in range and performance across more than 15 functional domains, as well as accuracy, durability, and mission capability. These features have secured our drones a prestigious global standing. The swirling rumors concerning the use of Iranian drones in the Ukrainian conflict, though shrouded in falsehoods, served as a testament to the Islamic Republic of Iran's influence, importance, and elevated status in the realm of drone warfare," Baqeri has stated.

