

# Yemen's retaliatory missiles, drones hit Saudi oil facilities, airbase



## International Desk

The Yemeni military launched missile and drone strikes on Saudi Arabia's oil facilities and a major airbase on Saturday in retaliation for the latest Saudi military aggression as hostilities between the two neighboring countries resumed after four-year lull. Yemen's Armed Forces said that they

launched missile strike on a major airbase in Saudi Arabia's southern region of Asir with local media outlets reporting that the ballistic missiles hit designated targets inside King Khalid Air Base near the Saudi city of Khamis Mushait early on Saturday. The development came shortly after the Yemeni Armed Forces struck an oil facility belonging to the state-owned petroleum

and natural gas company Saudi Aramco in Saudi Arabia's southwestern border region of Jizan, using several ballistic missiles. Local outlets reported that some areas of Jizan experienced electricity blackouts following strikes in the area. Additionally, powerful explosions rocked the Saudi port city of Yanbu.

In a video statement, military spokesman Yahya Saree said Yemen's Armed Forces targeted sites operated by the Saudi oil giant Aramco in Jizan and Yanbu, threatening to expand the response if attacked by the monarchy.

A video circulating on social media showed dark clouds rising above a refinery belonging to Aramco in Jizan. Live flight trackers that show air traffic in real time reported that flights to Riyadh and other cities were diverted after Yemeni forces launched strikes. Prince Abdulmohsen Bin Abdulaziz International Airport in Yanbu and King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Airport, also known as Jizan International Airport, suspended their operations as a result.

## Saudi aggression on Yemeni soil

Late on Friday, Saudi fighter jets launched air raids against telecommunications fa-

cilities and oil depots in Yemen's strategic coastal province of Hudaydah, but there were no immediate reports about the extent of damage caused.

The developments followed a missile strike by Yemen against Saudi Arabia after accusing the kingdom of bombing an airport in Yemen on the pretext of breaking the blockade on Yemen by an Iranian plane. Yemen's Armed Forces on Monday said they were declaring "a maritime embargo against the criminal Saudi enemy, based on the equation of 'an eye for an eye', effective immediately".

Yahya Saree said in a televised address that the blockade was in response to a "continued Saudi siege" on Yemen, and that the country's Armed Forces were ready to meet any Saudi retaliation with "a total and harsh escalation". A full closure of the Bab el-Mandeb strait, the southern gateway to the Red Sea, would halt Saudi oil exports to Asia and could reduce global oil supply by 7%.

Saudi Arabia has diverted 70 percent of its energy exports through the Red Sea. A disruption of the path of transit could become a larger issue for the global energy crisis sparked by the US-Israeli aggression against Iran. Growing concern over new

threats to shipping in the Red Sea helped push the price of crude oil back over \$100 a barrel this week – the highest level since May.

## No military solution

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi reacted to the developments in Yemen, saying on Saturday there was no military solution to the escalating conflict between Saudi Arabia and the and Yemen.

"We believe that there is no military solution to the issue of Yemen, Bab el-Mandab, and other regional issues," said Araghchi in an interview published on Saturday by Iran newspaper, calling for "dialogue."

He said the situation in Yemen "cannot be attributed to Iran," and that the incidents occurring in the area of the Bab el-Mandab Strait were "rooted in old disputes and issues between Yemen, Saudi Arabia and the countries of the region."

Yemen has been at war with a Saudi-led coalition since 2015, in a devastating conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands and triggered a major humanitarian crisis. However, fighting in the poverty-stricken Arabian Peninsula country had been largely frozen since a UN-negotiated truce in 2022.

## New regional push to revive Iran-US peace talks

Security chief vows anti-US strikes until 'enemy's total surrender'

## International Desk

There are reportedly new efforts by mediator Pakistan and China to resume stalled Iran-US talks over ending their nearly five-month-old war as the two appeared stopped attacking each other after nearly two weeks.

Three Pakistani sources said Islamabad is exploring a path toward a resumption of negotiations following a push initiated by China.

The sources said exploratory discussions took place during a visit by Iran's Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni to Islamabad this week — his second within the last 10 days, during which Momeni met with Pakistani government leaders and army chief Asim Munir.

All three sources cautioned that the obstacles to any talks with the US remain high. Pakistan's Foreign Minister, Ishaq Dar, discussed the new effort with Chinese officials when he visited China last week, all three Pakistani sources said. In a statement, China's Foreign Ministry said, "China supports the mediation efforts made by Pakistan and other parties."

It added that China will continue to play an active role in restoring peace and tranquility in the Middle East Persian Gulf region as soon as possible.

Beijing has consistently backed Pakistan's mediation efforts and had in March dispatched its special envoy to lead a shuttle-diplomacy trip around



A man walks past a billboard near the media center as delegations from the United States and Iran are expected to hold high-stakes talks in Islamabad, Pakistan, on April 11, 2026.

the Middle East.

The US and Iran signed a memorandum of understanding in June to move toward ending the war after mediation by Pakistan and Qatar.

It was intended to provide a 60-day window for negotiations on a permanent agreement.

But the US violations of the agreement led to resumption of the conflict with both sides announcing the suspension of the negotiations.

However, US President Donald Trump said on Friday that Washington and Tehran were in talks to negotiate an end to their conflict, but repeated that Tehran was not yet ready for a deal.

"We are talking to them. I think they're being serious. I think ... they are being by far the most serious that we've seen them, but that doesn't mean we get there. We'll see what happens," Trump said in remarks to reporters at the White House.

There were no reports of exchange of fire on Saturday after 13 consecutive nights of conflict between the two sides.

Iranian Health Ministry spokesperson Hossein Kermanpour posted on X, saying that "Iran had a peaceful night," without any attacks reported. The US Central Command didn't immediately respond to a request for comment. However, unlike the previous 13 nights, it did not announce new strikes.

There were also no reports of Iran's retaliatory attacks against US bases in regional countries. However, Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Mohammad-Bagher Zolghadr said on Saturday that strikes against US targets will continue until the "enemy's total surrender" and in retaliation for the massacre of children in Minab and Lamerd. Zolghadr said, "Every column of smoke in the region means that a US military, security, or financial center has been targeted."

He added that the "continuous and targeted strikes" by Iranian fighters were "the lashes of the anger of the awakened Iranian nation upon the back of the system of domination," and would continue "until the enemy's total surrender and revenge is taken for the blood of the oppressed children of Minab and Lamerd, God willing."

## Tehran blasts EU's hypocrisy amid silence on US-Israeli war crimes

Tehran censured remarks by the European Union's top diplomat, Kaja Kallas, regarding the human rights situation in Iran while keeping quiet on US-Israeli war crimes against the country as "the purest form of hypocrisy."

"How can a professed commitment to human rights be so easily reconciled with providing logistical and technical support for lethal aggressions against the Iranian people — aggressions that deliberately target civilians and critical national infrastructure?" Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei wrote in a post on his X account on Saturday, Press TV reported.

"All while refusing to condemn even



the most blatant war crimes, and offering not a single word of sympathy for Iranian children slaughtered by American-Israeli bombs and missiles enabled by the EU's own 'logistical and technical support,'" he said. Baqaei added that this is "not mere-

ly a loss of credibility," but the "banality of evil — and the purest form of hypocrisy."

EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said on Friday that the 27-member political and economic bloc had imposed new sanctions on five Iranian judges and a leading cyber-group figure over alleged human rights violations.

"While the world's attention is on the war in the Middle East, we can't lose sight of Iran's repression against its own people," Kallas asserted on X.

Kallas claimed that the judges had presided over cases against religious minorities, political dissidents and human rights activists.

## Parliament's security panel weighs 12 bills on Hormuz, maritime zones



## National Desk

Iran's Parliament referred 12 draft bills concerning the Strait of Hormuz and amendments to the country's law on maritime zones to its National Security and Foreign Policy Committee.

Spokesperson for the Parliament's Presiding Board Abbas Goudarzi said on Saturday that of the 12 draft bills, nine concern the Strait of Hormuz, while the remaining three relate to amendments to the law governing Iran's maritime zones.

Secondary committees on judiciary, civil, and economic affairs are reviewing specific elements, including maritime navigation rules, common funding pools, and legal penalties for non-compliance.

Iran shut down the chokepoint to enemies and their allies after February 28, when the US and the Israeli regime began their latest bout of wholesale unprovoked aggression against the Islamic Republic.

The Islamic Republic began exercising

far stricter controls after Donald Trump announced continuation of an illegal naval blockade of Iranian vessels and ports in spite of a ceasefire that the US president, himself, had declared on April 7.

In May, Iran officially launched a new mechanism for governing maritime traffic through the strategic strait, with the Islamic Republic warning vessels against refusing to coordinate their pending transits with Iranian authorities and using routes other than the supervisory management zone defined by Tehran.

Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said on Saturday their forces stopped four ships attempting to transit the strategic Strait of Hormuz over the past 24 hours.

"Four vessels that had intended to transit through the southern area of the Strait of Hormuz via an illegal and unsafe route were stopped over the past 24 hours after warning shots were fired by the IRGC Navy," the IRGC said in a statement quoted by state television, adding that the ships had "altered course."

## Yemen's actions shift ...

In order to increase the sense of urgency in Washington about returning to diplomacy, they are also likely to lobby together.

**Ansarullah attacked several Saudi ships and a refinery. What variables could lead the movement to completely close the Bab el-Mandab Strait?**

Although the multidimensional international pressure on the United States will be primarily economic and diplomatic, it will nevertheless confront Washington with operational limitations in its war with Iran. Because of its doctrinal alignment with the Islamic Republic of Iran, its adjustment to the trajectory of tensions involving Iran, and its own domestic interests in deepening its influence

over its surrounding environment, Yemen's Ansarullah will adjust the level of tension in a way that increases the costs for the United States and Saudi Arabia and improves the regional deterrence of Iran and Yemen.

Overall, Ansarullah's coordinated actions alongside Iran's military doctrinal shift have strengthened Iran's asymmetric deterrence and made it more difficult for the United States to sustain the credibility and operational reliability of its deterrence efforts. However, a complete closure of the Bab el-Mandab Strait is a critical variable that would likely be used as a last resort and could make it possible to impose conditions on the United States in a forced or attritional negotiation.