

UK air base accusations plot to advance anti-Iran campaign: *Tehran*

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry strongly condemned recent claims by British officials linking Iran to an alleged security incident at the US-run RAF Fairford air base, describing the move as a despicable plot designed to advance an anti-Iran campaign. The Foreign Ministry in a statement on Monday also said the claims are aimed at evading accountability for Britain's role in the US-Israeli military aggression against Iran. The ministry rejected the allegations outright, stressing that the British government cannot escape its political and legal responsibility, or the potential consequences of its claims, by relying on vague language without presenting any solid evidence or proof. The ministry specifically criticized the use of terms such as "highly likely" and "almost certainly" as a blatant attempt to lend false credibility to the attribution while sidestepping

accountability for baseless accusations. The statement highlighted Britain's well-known track record of fabricating security-related allegations against other nations, noting that such practices have, in some instances, contributed to tensions and destructive conflicts in West Asia. Tehran insisted that the British government must be held accountable for persisting in this dangerous approach that undermines international peace and security.

'False flag' operation

Categorically rejecting the accusations, the Foreign Ministry held the British government, as well as the planners and perpetrators of this clumsy "false flag" operation, fully responsible for all consequences arising from the fabrication. British Prime Minister Andy Burnham said on Monday that the suspected plot against the RAF base in Fairford was

"almost certainly" directed by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC). The allegation came as the UK announced sanctions on two Iranians over alleged "hostile activity." "We will not tolerate these threats on our soil," Burnham told parliament, promising that the government "will crack down on Iran's use of criminal networks, using our full range of powers to target them and their funding streams".

Sanctions against Iran

He added that the UK will "bring further sanctions to restrict the capacity of Iran and the IRGC to do us harm." The Fairford base in south-west England has been used by US bombers to conduct strikes against Iranian territory. Britain authorized Washington in March to use the base for specific attacks against Iranian missiles. US bombers and other military aircraft have subsequently been



Munitions sit beside runway as an American Rockwell B1 Lancer heavy bomber departs for home at RAF Fairford, Gloucestershire, Britain, on October 4, 2026.
● GETTY IMAGES

seen operating from the base, which is the only facility on mainland Britain used by the United States for this purpose. British authorities arrested several men near the facility in late September on suspicion of terrorism and explosives offences. The suspects were later released on bail, and no conclusive

evidence of an Iranian link has been publicly presented. Iranian officials have repeatedly described attempts to connect Tehran to the episode as unfounded speculation, particularly in the wake of the joint US-Israeli aggression against the Islamic Republic. Tehran has made clear that

Britain's participation in facilitating attacks on Iran, through the provision of bases and facilities, cannot be obscured by media campaigns or evidence-free claims. The Islamic Republic reserves the right to respond appropriately to protect its rights and interests against such provocations.

Deputy FM: Iran ready for diplomacy but fully prepared to defend itself

International Desk

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Kazem Gharibabadi said Tehran remains open to all diplomatic processes while remaining prepared to defend itself against any new aggression. Speaking to Al Arabiya on Monday night, Gharibabadi said that Tehran is finalizing its response to the American side's observations and views regarding the proposal Iran presented in New York to end the US-Israeli aggression against Iran. He said Iran would convey its final position through mediators after consultations. "Tehran remains ready for diplomacy, provided that what is raised is realistic," Gharibabadi said. He stressed that Iran has always welcomed diplomacy and has never fallen short in engaging in dialogue with any party. He underlined that Iran's readiness to defend itself and to fight is no less than its readiness to negotiate.



Kazem Gharibabadi
● IRNA

Continued participation in talks, he added, reflects Tehran's political flexibility and its commitment to the diplomatic process. At the same time, the United States must return to fulfilling its commitments under a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two countries in Pakistan and must take corrective steps. Gharibabadi emphasized that Iran has not violated any of its commitments. "As long as the American side has completely disregarded all of its commitments, Iran cannot be expected to show further flexibility," he said. In a separate interview with RIA Novosti, Gharibabadi warned that if the US once again opts for military action against Iran,

the consequences will extend beyond the region, stressing that the US must adapt to regional realities and pursue diplomatic solutions. Gharibabadi said the situation is clear and that it is Washington that needs to adjust to the realities of the region and seek solutions based on diplomacy. He warned that repeating past mistakes by resorting to military scenarios and threats would lead to consequences that would reach well beyond the region. The war started with US and Israeli attacks on Iran, while Washington and Tehran were locked in negotiations on Iran's nuclear program. The warring parties agreed a memorandum of understanding in June that spelled out a framework for a permanent resolution to the conflict, but the US violations of the agreement prompted a resumption of military operations. Negotiations have effectively been at an impasse since then, and recent indirect talks between the US and Iran on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly failed to produce a breakthrough.

Baqaei: Recent developments offer opportunity to rethink Persian Gulf security

International Desk

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei said recent conflicts in the region have created an opportunity for countries in the region to discuss the future of Persian Gulf security from a more realistic perspective. The Foreign Ministry spokesman in an interview with Tunisia's Al Chourouk newspaper said the military presence of foreign powers is the main source of insecurity and that Persian Gulf security should be ensured by regional states themselves. "I think the developments of recent months have contained important lessons for all countries in the region," Baqaei said, reiterating Tehran's longstanding position that regional security must be provided by the countries of the region. Iran has long stressed the need to establish a regional security arrangement, Baqaei said, adding that the future should be built around a framework in which regional countries safeguard their own security without interference from extra-regional powers. However, he stressed that such an arrangement would not take shape overnight but



Esmail Baqaei
● IRNA

dialogue among regional states and progress towards a shared understanding of regional security mechanisms would constitute an important and necessary step. He said Iran consistently respected the national sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of countries in the region. Iran's fundamental policy, Baqaei said, is based on good-neighborly relations, expanding ties with regional countries across various fields and promoting regional cooperation. Iran launched attacks on US military bases in regional countries, especially Persian Gulf Arab states, after the US and Israel launched their unprovoked aggression against Iran in February. Tehran has always warned regional countries hosting US troops about allowing the US to target Iran from their territories.

Yemen threatens to hit Riyadh airport, refinery if Saudi strikes Sana'a

International Desk

Yemen's Ansarullah resistance movement warned on Tuesday its forces would target Riyadh's airport, a refinery, and an Aramco facility in Dammam if the Saudi-led coalition follows through on its threat to strike an oil facility in Sana'a. "The Yemeni Armed Forces urge all citizens to immediately evacuate and move away from targets that our forces will strike should the Saudi enemy target" a site in Sanaa, military spokesman Yahya Saree posted on X, identifying the three targets as Aramco's headquarters in Dammam, as well as the airport and an Aramco refinery in Riyadh. The warning came after the Saudi-led coalition signaled an imminent attack on an oil facility in Yemen's capital on Tuesday, warning civilians in the surrounding area to get out.



Yahya Saree

After a series of attacks on the kingdom's airports and oil facilities, it was the first time the coalition has issued an evacuation order for Yemen's Sana'a since their war flared up again in July. The coalition demanded "that civilians evacuate the site of the Yemen Petroleum Company, the al-Sabaha Central Station in Sana'a... for their own safety", said spokesman Turki al-Maliki on X, referring to a site on the western outskirts of the capital. An attack on Riyadh's international airport on Saturday left 14 people dead, rocking the world's top crude

oil exporter and deepening the war in Yemen. The kingdom was still weathering fresh attacks on Tuesday, with the coalition saying its forces intercepted three drones north of Riyadh. Many countries have since issued travel warnings to their citizens in Saudi Arabia, most recently France, which told its citizens to avoid the airports in Riyadh, Jeddah and Dammam on Tuesday. Traffic in perennially gridlocked Riyadh was noticeably lighter this week, as remote learning for all schools and work-from-home orders for some companies took effect, according to AFP journalists in the capital. Saudi Arabia faces a major economic contraction this year, the International Monetary Fund said on Tuesday, predicting a regional drop over Iran's blockade of the Strait of Hormuz.

