Israel/Lebanon 23 January

An Israeli military spokesperson reported that “on the northern border, throughout the day, several launches were identified toward Israel. Some of the launches were intercepted, with one rocket hitting an Air Force base, damaging infrastructure that was repaired within a few hours. There were no casualties”. “Air Force fighter jets”, he added, “struck terror targets in Lebanese territory and destroyed a significant military asset used by the Hizbollah terrorist organisation which was also operated by Iranian forces”. The same day, a White House spokesperson remarked that “we still don’t believe that it’s in the interest of the Israeli people, certainly not in the interest of regional security, for another front to be opened up… There has been rocket fire exchanged on both sides. We want to see those tensions de-escalate. But we have not seen [Hizbollah chief Hassan] Nasrallah give the orders that, you know, they’re going to go all in to help Hamas”.

Washington/Iraq 23 January

CENTCOM announced that “in response to attacks by the Iranian-backed militia group Kata’ib Hezbollah (KH), including the attack on al-Asad Airbase in western Iraq on 20 January... CENTCOM forces conducted unilateral airstrikes against three facilities used by Iranian-backed Kata’ib Hezbollah militia group and other Iran-affiliated groups in Iraq. These strikes targeted KH headquarters, storage and training locations for rocket, missile and one-way attack UAV capabilities”. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin underscored that “we do not seek to escalate conflict in the region. We are fully prepared to take further measures to protect our people and our facilities. We call on these groups and their Iranian sponsors to immediately cease these attacks”.

Israel/Lebanon 22 January

Hizbollah reported striking several Israeli targets near the border, while the Israeli military conducted multiple strikes in southern Lebanon, including against Hizbollah infrastructure. Hizbollah confirmed multiple fatalities. The same day, Defence Minister Yoav Gallant warned that “a war in the north will be challenging for Israel, but devastating for Hizbollah and Lebanon. Israel will not cease fire until it can guarantee the safe return of the [evacuated] northern communities to their homes following a change in the security situation along the border”.

Washington/Yemen/Bahrain 22 January

CENTCOM reported that U.S. and UK forces led “strikes on eight Houthi targets in Iranian-backed Houthi terrorist-controlled areas of Yemen... used to attack international merchant vessels and
U.S. Navy ships in the region. The targets included missile systems and launchers, air defence systems, radars and deeply buried weapons storage facilities. The same day, the head of the U.S. Navy Fifth Fleet contended that “Iran is clearly funding, they’re resourcing, they are supplying and they’re providing training… They’re obviously very directly involved”. Relatedly, the U.S. rejected Houthi claims of a “successful attack against the *M/V Ocean Jazz*” as “patently false”, adding: “NAVCENT has maintained constant communications with *M/V Ocean Jazz* throughout its safe transit.”

**Washington/Iraq/Lebanon/Golan/MERV/Tanf** 22 January

The U.S. sanctioned “Iraqi airline Fly Baghdad and its CEO for providing assistance to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC-QF) and its proxy groups in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon”, in addition to listing “two Iraq-registered aircraft owned by Fly Baghdad… as blocked property”. The U.S. also designated “three leaders and supporters of one of the IRGC-QF’s main Iran-aligned militias in Iraq, Kata’ib Hezbollah (KH), as well as a business that moves and launderers funds for KH”. The State Department contended that “the IRGC-QF and Iran-aligned militia groups pose a significant threat to the Middle East region... The U.S. remains committed to exposing and taking actions against individuals and groups that abuse their local economies and engage in illegal activities that support terrorist groups destabilising the region”.

**Washington/Israel** 22 January

The U.S. sanctioned what the Treasury Department described as “networks of Hamas-affiliated financial exchanges in Gaza, their owners, and associates, and particularly financial facilitators that have played key roles in funds transfers, including cryptocurrency transfers, from the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC-QF) to Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) in Gaza”.