



# The Iran-U.S. Trigger List

## Washington/Yemen 24 January

CENTCOM [reported](#) that “Iranian-backed Houthi terrorists fired three anti-ship ballistic missiles from Houthi-controlled areas of Yemen toward the U.S.-flagged, owned and operated container ship *M/V Maersk Detroit*, transiting the Gulf of Aden. One missile impacted in the sea. The two other missiles were successfully engaged and shot down by the *USS Gravelly*... There were no reported injuries or damage to the ship”.

## 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”.

## Tehran/Yemen 23 January

Foreign Minister Amirabdollahian [told](#) the UN Security Council that U.S.-led [strikes](#) against the Houthis were “a strategic mistake... which will result in the risk of further expanding the scope of the war”, describing an end to the Gaza war as “the main key to the restoration of security to the region”. He further noted that “the U.S. repeatedly expressed its grave concern about the spillover of tension in the region, and yet continues its full support to the Israeli regime’s war machine... The U.S. must bear the responsibility for its consequences”. “Instead of calling on others to exercise restraint”, he contended, “the U.S. must compel the Israeli regime to stop the war and pull itself out of the trap that the Israeli regime has set to drag the U.S. into direct conflict”.

## Washington/Yemen 23 January

CENTCOM [confirmed](#) striking “two Houthi anti-ship missiles that were aimed into the southern Red Sea and were prepared to launch”.

#### **Updated -> 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-Assad 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”. The Iraqi prime minister’s office [characterised](#) the attack as “clear determination to harm security and stability in Iraq”, describing the targets as “locations of Iraqi military units from the army and the Popular Mobilisation Forces”. The same day, there were [reports](#) of drone attacks against the Ain al-Assad base.

#### **Updated -> 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”. The following day, the IRGC navy commander [said](#) that Houthi leadership “acts independently and takes orders from no side”. On 24 January, the Houthis [announced](#) a 30-day deadline for UN “officials and workers with U.S. and British citizenships to... leave the country”.

#### **Updated -> Iraq/Washington 20 January**

CENTCOM [confirmed](#) that “multiple ballistic missiles and rockets were launched by Iranian-backed militants in western Iraq targeting al-Assad Airbase. Most of the missiles were intercepted by the base’s air defence systems while others impacted on the base... A number of U.S. personnel are undergoing evaluation for traumatic brain injuries. At least one Iraqi service member was wounded”. Later, the Pentagon [confirmed](#) that four U.S. personnel were wounded but “all have returned to duty”. A White House official [warned](#) that “we are going to respond... to establish deterrence in these situations and to hold these groups accountable that continue to attack us”.