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मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

Iran

DM: Iran to Unveil New Indigenous Defense System Soon

Fars News, November 1, 2023

Iran's Defense Minister, Brigadier General Mohammad Reza Ashtiani, announced the imminent unveiling of the domestically developed long-range air defense system "Martyr Aliverdi." Ashtiani praised Iran's defense industry achievements, particularly in advanced defense shields. He highlighted the potential for expanded military ties as arms embargoes expire. Iranian military officials assert powerful air defense capabilities in West Asia, with a monitoring range of 3,000 kilometres. Commander of the Iranian Army Air Defense Force, Brigadier General Alireza Sabahifard, emphasized reliance on Iranian-made equipment and warned of a robust and destructive response to any violation of Iranian airspace.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14020810000539/DM-Iran-Unveil-New-Indigenous-Defense-System-Sn>

Tehran criticizes IAEA double standards on Iran's nuclear program.

Tehran Times, November 6, 2023

Pezhman Shirmardi emphasized the politicization of nuclear technology concerning Iran, highlighting the country's extensive cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Despite Iran's commitment to peaceful nuclear activities under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), Shirmardi criticized the IAEA for imposing additional restrictions and surveillance. He pointed out the double standard in nuclear inspections, noting that

Israel, a non-signatory to the NPT, faces no oversight despite possessing numerous nuclear warheads. Shirmardi questioned the lack of accountability for the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and affirmed Iran's peaceful nuclear intentions, particularly in agriculture and medicine. He called for fair treatment and the elimination of double standards in nuclear-related matters.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/491045/Tehran-criticizes-IAEA-double-standards-on-Iran-s-nuclear-program>

Iran's N. Head: Israeli Minister's Nuke Remark Substantiates Assumptions on Tel Aviv's Possession of Atomic Bombs

Fars News Agency, November 8, 2023

Iran's Atomic Energy Organization head, Mohammad Eslami, condemns Israeli Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu's nuclear threat against Gaza, deeming it an admission of nuclear weapons possession and a breach of international law. Eslami urges global condemnation and calls on the UN to take decisive action. He presses the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for measures on non-proliferation and disarmament, emphasizing a nuclear-free Middle East. President Ebrahim Rayeesi highlights Israel's danger and reaffirms Iran's commitment to Palestinian rights. Ambassador Amir Saeed Irvani urges international pressure on Israel to cooperate with the IAEA and dismantle its nuclear program. Israel's estimated 200 to 400 nuclear warheads remain a point of contention, with Iran advocating for a nuclear-weapon-free Middle East and emphasizing its peaceful nuclear pursuits.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14020817000780/Iran%E2%80%99s-N-Head->

[Israeli-Minister%E2%80%99s-Nke-Remark-Sbsaniaes-Assmpins-n-Tel](#)

Iranian Commander: Indigenous Drones, Missiles Equipped with AI

Fars News Agency, November 8, 2023

Rear Admiral Alireza Tangsiri, Commander of the IRGC Navy, announced the successful integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into Iran's domestically-developed drones, missiles, and naval vessels. The application of AI significantly improves the range, precision, and radar evasion capabilities of drones, while missiles benefit from enhanced targeting accuracy. This technological advancement has been implemented across navigation, drone operations, missile systems, and subsurface activities. Rear Admiral Tangsiri highlighted the autonomous navigation capabilities of navy vessels, enabling long-distance travel, operation execution, and safe return without the need for a crew. The integration of AI underscores Iran's commitment to advancing its defense capabilities, emphasizing the defensive nature of its military strategy.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14020817000291/Iranian-Cmmander-Indigens-Drnes-Missiles-Eipped-wih-AI>

Iran cautions against misrepresenting truth on peaceful nuclear program

Tehran Times, November 10, 2023

Speaking at the 78th session of the UN General Assembly in New York, Iran's Permanent Ambassador, Amir Saeed Iravani, emphasized the importance of professional and impartial reports from the International Atomic Energy Agency

(IAEA). Iravani underscored the vital role of nuclear power in meeting energy needs, especially in developing countries, calling for the transfer of nuclear knowledge and technology as per NPT and IAEA statutes. He expressed concern over some states denying developing countries access to nuclear technology while supporting Israel, which has clandestine WMD arsenals. Iravani highlighted Iran's robust cooperation with the IAEA and called for recognition of its peaceful nuclear program. He condemned the Israeli regime for threatening to use nuclear weapons against Iran and Gaza, urging international condemnation and disarmament of the Israeli regime for regional peace and security.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/491184/Iran-cautions-against-misrepresenting-truth-on-peaceful-nuclear>

Iran stresses military development in face of 'maritime and aerial threats'

Tehran Times, November 8, 2023

Major General Seyyed Yahya Safavi emphasized the imperative for Iran to enhance its technological capabilities in response to evolving global military landscapes. Identifying air and sea-based threats as key challenges, Safavi stressed the necessity of bolstering Iran's deterring power. Highlighting national cohesion and internal strength, he emphasized the importance of addressing people's livelihoods and economic concerns. Safavi underscored the strategic significance of Iran's navy, particularly in leveraging emerging maritime opportunities in the Sea of Oman and Persian Gulf. He noted recent advancements in Iran's navy, including

improved surveillance capabilities, maneuverability, and reduced reliance on human resources. The general advocated for cooperation with major powers like China and Russia to confront American unilateralism, emphasizing the need for a long-term strategy to safeguard common interests. Safavi also emphasized the importance of accurately identifying enemy strategies and leveraging technology effectively in executing plans.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/491139/Iran-stresses-military-development-in-face-of-maritime-and-aerial>

Iran eyeing world leadership in military high-tech: Defense official

Tehran Times, November 13, 2023

In a ceremony commemorating martyr Hasan Tehrani-Moghadam, Iran's Minister of Defense, Farahi, highlighted the nation's newfound self-reliance, citing a contrast with the pre-revolution era when the salaries of 40,000 American advisors exceeded the Imperial Guard's budget. Emphasizing a strategic focus on future-oriented technologies for modern warfare, Farahi envisions Iran as a leading innovator in high-tech military products, aiming for global prestige and deterrence. Despite historical limitations, Iran achieved an unprecedented \$1 billion revenue in military exports last year, signaling growing influence in the international market and paving the way for continued advancements in military technology and strategic capabilities.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/491139/Iran-eying-world-leadership-in-military-high-tech-Defense-official>

Defense Ministry: Iran Gaining Access to Modern Military Technologies as Exports Booming

Fars News Agency, November 14, 2023

Deputy Defense Minister Brigadier General Mehdi Farahi announced Iran's Defense Ministry's active progress in producing groundbreaking military equipment, aligning with the vision for future wars. Speaking at an international conference commemorating General Hassan Tehrani Moqaddam's contributions to Iran's missile program, Farahi emphasized the shift from manufacturing military parts to state-of-the-art equipment. Stressing Iran's deterrent power, he expressed hope for further military achievements. Despite extensive sanctions, Iran exported military equipment worth approximately one billion dollars last year, demonstrating resilience and progress. Iranian officials consistently underscore the defensive nature of Iran's military doctrine.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14020823000161/Defense-Ministry-Iran-Gaining-Access-Modern-Military-Technologies-as>

Iran Warns Against Israeli Regime's Nuclear Weapons Threat

Fars News Agency, November 14, 2023

Amir Saeed Iravani, Iran's UN Ambassador, denounces Israeli nuclear threats at the Middle East disarmament conference, emphasizing the peril of such weapons in an illegitimate regime's hands. He highlights Israel's nuclear ambiguity as a major regional threat and calls for immediate action. Iravani proposes a declaration condemning Israeli threats, emphasizing transparency, responsible

conduct, and peaceful resolutions. He urges global intervention against Israel's actions, criticizing its refusal to join the conference. Iravani offers concise suggestions for discussions on disarmament, peaceful technology access, review intervals, stakeholder involvement, and collaboration with other regional treaties. Iran remains committed to international law, ready for constructive contributions to the conference's success.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14020823000558/Iran-Warns-Agains-Israeli-Regime's-Nuclear-Weapons-Threat>

Iraq

US troops face further attacks in Iraq

Al Jazeera, November 10, 2023

US troops in Iraq were targeted in three new attacks involving drones and explosives, according to military and security sources. These incidents, which occurred on Thursday, add to the more than 40 assaults that US and allied troops in the Middle East have faced since the beginning of the Israel-Hamas war on October 7. Two drone assaults targeted American and coalition forces at the Ain al-Asad airbase and al-Harir airbase, both of which were successfully destroyed before reaching their targets. Additionally, a US-led coalition convoy near Mosul Dam was hit by an improvised explosive device (IED) blast. While a vehicle was damaged, three US troops sustained minor injuries and returned to duty. These attacks align with ongoing tensions in the region, with the US accusing Iran of facilitating rocket and drone attacks by Iranian-backed groups on its forces in Iraq and Syria. Iran denies these claims, stating that such groups act

independently based on their own interests. The US has occasionally retaliated against Iranian-backed forces in the region, emphasizing its intention to avoid conflict while demanding an end to these attacks.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/11/10/us-troops-attacked-in-iraq-2>

IEDs, rockets and mortars found in three governorates: SMC

Iraqi News Agency, November 15, 2023

The Security Media Cell (SMC) announced the discovery of explosive devices, rockets, and various mortar shells in three provinces. The Ground Forces Command, specifically the 20th and 43rd Infantry Brigades, successfully located and detonated a homemade explosive device (IED) along with 2 missiles, remnants of ISIS terrorist activity in the desert of al-Baaj. Additionally, the 91st Infantry Brigade and a treatment detachment from the 21st Infantry Division Engineering Battalion found and destroyed remnants of terrorist ISIS, including a rocket launcher number 6, explosive devices, and a defensive hand grenade while protecting the maintenance team of the electrical power transmission towers in Salah al-Din. Furthermore, the 19th Infantry Brigade, operating in the south of the al-Dabaa area in Anbar province, discovered and safely detonated various items such as heavy machine gun equipment, a 75 mm cannon shell, RBG7 launcher missiles, a grenade, improvised explosive devices, and a detonation device. Lastly, the Maysan Operations Command, the 97th Infantry Brigade, and the 1st Maysan Emergency Regiment found and seized Kalashnikov rifles, GC rifles, and a pistol during a search

duty in the district of Grand Majar Al-Maymouna.

<https://ina.iq/eng/29779-ieds-rockets-and-mortars-found-in-three-governorates-smc.html>

Israel

Hezbollah Claims to Have Launched "Burkan" Rocket at Israel

Israel Defense, November 5, 2023

Hezbollah claimed to have used a "Burkan" rocket against an IDF position in northern Israel, marking the first reported use of this short-range rocket by the terror organization. The IDF has not confirmed or denied the reports, stating that it is currently investigating the incident. The "Burkan" is characterized as a short-range rocket with a warhead weight ranging from 100 kg to 500 kg. Launched from pedestal launchers of mortar bombs, these rockets fall into the category of heavy rockets, designed for causing significant damage at relatively short ranges, typically up to 10 kilometers. It's crucial to distinguish the "Burkan" rocket from the "Burkan 2" ballistic missile, used by the Houthis in Yemen, which has a much longer range and is based on liquid fuel, potentially with Iranian military assistance according to Saudi Arabia.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/60208>

Unit 42 Exposes 10-Month Iranian-Linked Cyberattack Saga Against Israel

Israel Defense, November 7, 2023

A series of destructive cyberattacks linked to Iran targeted Israel's education and technology sectors, as reported by Palo

Alto Networks' Unit 42 research group. These attacks, ongoing since January 2023 and continuing into October 2023, aimed to steal sensitive data, including personally identifiable information and intellectual property. The attackers, identified with a strong connection to the Iranian-backed APT group Agonizing Serpents, are known for their involvement in previous high-profile cyberattacks in Israel. The group has reportedly upgraded its capabilities and employs new wipers and tools, with the primary goal being the disruption of business continuity and the loss of data rather than financial gain.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/60246>

Report: US to Extend Support to Israel with 100 Iron Dome Launchers and 14,000 Interceptors

Israel Defense, November 8, 2023

The organization Hezbollah is designated as a terrorist organization by several countries, including the United States, Israel, Canada, the Arab League, the Gulf Cooperation Council, and the Netherlands. However, it is important to note that designations may vary among different countries and entities, and some may not consider Hezbollah a terrorist organization.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/60256>

IDF forces in Gaza use the "Orion" Tactical Battle Management Systems

Israel Defense, November 7, 2023

Israeli forces in Gaza are employing the Orion Tactical Battle Management Systems, developed by Asio Technologies,

as revealed in IDF spokesperson footage. Operating on the Android platform, the rugged and secure ORION enhances mission planning, navigation, and situational awareness with GIS and Augmented Reality (AR). Asio highlights ORION's scalability, networked situational awareness, and compatibility with LYNX and RIGEL tactical solutions. Offering real-time updates for soldiers and commanders, the system provides a comprehensive tactical combat suit for ground forces up to battalion level. Asio Technologies also produces optical navigation systems for drones, ensuring mission completion independent of GPS disruptions. CEO David Harel expresses continued support for the IDF in the ongoing conflict.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/60247#:~:text=IDF%20forces%20in%20Gaza%20use%20the%20%22Orion%22%20Tactical%20Battle%20Management%20Systems,-Using%20the%20Android&text=From%20a%20video%20released%20by,the%20Israeli%20company%20Asio%20Technologies.>

MILIPOL 2023: SMARTSHOOTER to Showcase SMASH Fire Control Systems

Israel Defense, November 9, 2023

Israeli company SMARTSHOOTER will exhibit its cutting-edge SMASH fire control systems at the upcoming MILIPOL exhibition in Paris. The showcased systems include the SMASH 3000 and the SMASH Hopper light remotely controlled weapon system. These fire control systems, designed for increased hit probability against ground and aerial targets, boast

onboard computing capabilities for intricate targeting solutions. SMASH operates through Artificial Intelligence, computer vision, and advanced algorithms, ensuring rapid and precise threat elimination. The systems are currently operational in various defense and security forces globally, offering enhanced accuracy and reducing operating costs, training hours, and ammunition consumption.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/60273>

Report: Anti-tank missile fired from Lebanon wounds 2 Israelis

I24 News, November 13, 2023

Since Monday morning, there have been over 18 mortar and rocket launches from Lebanese territory towards Israel, according to reports. The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) confirmed that terrorists fired anti-tank missiles at the Netu'a community in the north, leading to Israeli artillery attacking the launch sites. Two individuals were reportedly wounded in the latest attack from Lebanon, with the IDF yet to provide official comment. Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, IDF Chief Spokesperson, announced on Sunday evening a plan to "change the security situation" in northern Israel, specifically addressing the terrorist organization Hezbollah operating in southern Lebanon. The statement followed a series of attacks that resulted in numerous injuries in the area.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/middle-east/levant-turkey/1699868157-anti-tank-missile-fired-from-lebanon-causes-casualties-in-israel-report>

Israel's Defense Ministry reveals 'Arrow' interception, first time in action

I24 News, November 13, 2023

Israel's Ministry of Defense has released footage of the 'Arrow' defense system in operation for the first time. The system was deployed during the Sword of Iron conflict on October 31 in response to a rocket projectile launched by the Iran-backed Houthi government in Yemen over the Red Sea region. The Israel Missile Defense Organization, part of the Ministry of Defense's Directorate of Defense R&D, captured the operational launch in southern Israel. The Israeli Air Force's Air and Missile Defense Array successfully intercepted the designated target, as stated by the Ministry of Defense Spokesperson.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/1699864997-israel-s-mod-reveals-arrow-system-interception>

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Push for Enrichment Raises Concerns

Arms Control Association, November, 2023

In talks with the United States, Saudi Arabia is pushing for the right to produce nuclear fuel, a move that poses a greater proliferation risk given Riyadh's threats to develop nuclear weapons. Saudi officials have said little publicly about its negotiations on a nuclear cooperation agreement with the United States, but the country has announced ambitious plans to expand its nascent nuclear program by purchasing two large nuclear reactors and enriching domestically mined uranium. As

a non-nuclear-weapon state-party to the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), Saudi Arabia can legally enrich uranium for peaceful purposes, but its interest in uranium enrichment is complicated by its threat to build nuclear weapons to match Iranian capabilities.

<https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2023-11/news/saudi-push-enrichment-raises-concerns>

Syria

US hits alleged Iran-linked 'weapons storage' facility in Syria

Al Jazeera, November 9, 2023

The United States conducted a self-defense strike targeting an alleged weapons storage facility in eastern Syria, believed to be used by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and Iran-backed groups. The strike, carried out by two F-15 fighters, was in response to recent attacks on US forces. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin emphasized the priority of ensuring the safety of US personnel and interests. Tensions have escalated since the Israel-Hamas war, with US troops and allies facing approximately 40 attacks by Iran-backed forces in Iraq and Syria. Austin called for an end to these attacks and stated that the US is prepared to take further measures to protect its people and facilities. The strikes are unrelated to the Israel-Hamas conflict, and the US aims to prevent a regional escalation of the crisis. Iran supports both Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/11/9/us-hits-alleged-iran-linked-weapons-storage-facility-in-syria>

Turkiye

Turkish defense industry achieves new milestone in unmanned systems

Daily Sabah, November 6, 2023

The Turkish defense industry has added another feather to its cap by combining the capabilities of unmanned land vehicles with loitering ammunition. Havelsan, a defense firm that manufactures the unmanned autonomous land vehicle Barkan for use by security forces, is working continuously to add new capabilities to the vehicle. Previously, another Turkish defense giant Roketsan's guided mini missile Mete was launched from the Barkan 1. This was the first time a kamikaze ammunition was fired from Barkan's 2 version. The Barkan 2 gained the distinction of being the first in its class to integrate loitering ammunition, also described as a "kamikaze unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)."

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-defense-industry-achieves-new-milestone-in-unmanned-systems>

New Turkish armed drone completes its 5th flight test

Daily Sabah, November 12, 2023

The testing process of Bayraktar TB3, Türkiye's new unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV) capable of being deployed on aircraft carriers, continues at full speed, with manufacturer Baykar recently announcing the drone has completed its fifth flight and flew with the landing gear retracted for the first time. During its fifth performance test, the new drone flew at medium altitude and performed a successful six-hour flight in the

northwestern province of Tekirdağ, local media reported recently.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/new-turkish-armed-drone-completes-its-5th-flight-test>

NUCLEAR AND ARMS CONTROL CENTRE

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