

'Israel Strikes Iranian, Assad Regime Targets' in Syria

Syrian state news reports Syrian air defenses intercept missiles over nearby town of Wadi Al Uyun

- Israel signals lull in Syria strikes is over, resuming military action against Iran
- Israel struck 200 targets in Syria in the past year and a half

Israeli jets attacked military targets in the northwestern Syrian city of Hama on Tuesday, Syrian state media reported, adding that one person was killed and 12 others were wounded.

According to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, warplanes entered through Lebanese airspace and targeted Iranian positions. A military source told the SANA state news agency that Syrian air defenses intercepted several missiles over the nearby town of Wadi Al Uyun.

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Civilians in the area reported hearing explosions and seeing smoke rise from nearby buildings. Additional strikes were reported in the coastal town of Baniyas, the site of research centers and military installations.

The Israeli military struck more than 200 targets and fired 800 missiles and mortar shells over the past year-and-a-half, a senior IDF official said Tuesday, adding that the IDF is working intensively to target Iranian weapons convoys and targets in Syria.

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Aftermath of #Israeli on a village in western #Masyaf in #Hama, as several air-defense missiles were launched. pic.twitter.com/l3byefrCAV

— Majd Fahd ?? (@Syria_Protector) September 4, 2018

Last month, a senior Syrian chemical weapons development scientist was killed when his car exploded in the nearby city of Masyaf in northwestern Syria in an attack that Syrian media attributed to Israel's Mossad espionage agency.

According to reports, Dr. Aziz Asber ran a scientific development center in the city, which was attacked several times before. The blast also killed his personal driver.

Several strikes near Masyaf have been attributed to Israel in recent years, the last of which was on July 22. Some of Iran's military bases in Syria are next to Syrian military compounds, an intelligence source told Reuters.

Last year, it was reported that Israel attacked a target near Masyaf. The alleged Israeli strike took place exactly 10 years after Israel took out Bashar Assad's nuclear reactor.

At the time, the Syrian army general command described the target as a military facility, and said a nearby site where short-range surface-to-surface missiles were stored was also hit. However, a war monitor said the center in Masyaf has been described by the U.S. as Syria's chemical weapons manufacturer. Opposition forces also said the target was a weapons factory that develops arms for the Syrian regime and for Hezbollah.



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