# Drone Intercepted at US Military Base in Syria Amid Rising Tensions in the Region



A drone targeting the US military base in Syria’s Al-Tanf was intercepted and neutralized on Saturday. This incident follows a suspension of such attacks by Iran-backed militants after a previous assault in January resulted in the deaths of three US troops.

The Al-Tanf base is situated within a 55-kilometer exclusion zone at the intersection of Syrian, Jordanian, and Iraqi borders. Reports from the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights indicated that the drone approached from the east, prompting the base to activate its air defenses.

This event occurred less than a day after airstrikes in the Al Bukamal area near the Syrian-Iraqi border, which reportedly killed one and injured two militants backed by Iran. The Islamic Resistance in Iraq, a coalition of Tehran-backed militants, typically claims responsibility for such drone attacks, although no official claim has been made for this particular incident.

The targeted drone attack reflects ongoing tensions between US forces and Iranian-supported entities in the region. These tensions escalated significantly in January following a drone strike by the Islamic Resistance in Iraq that killed three US troops at a base in Jordan near Al-Tanf, triggering a series of US airstrikes across Iraq and Syria.

The increased threat level motivated a visit from the commander of Iran’s Quds Force to Baghdad, urging factions to scale back their assaults, leading to a temporary lull in attacks on US forces. After this brief period of calm, militant focus shifted towards Israel.

Early Sunday, Yemen's Houthi group announced a joint operation with the Islamic Resistance in Iraq, claiming responsibility for drone attacks on four ships at the northern Haifa port of Israel. One Houthi spokesperson, Yahya Saree, stated that two cement tankers and two cargo ships were targeted in the operation. However, the Israeli military has not commented on these recent claims, and there is no independent verification.

The Houthis' campaign to disrupt key shipping lanes started in November and has involved numerous strikes, sinking two vessels and seizing another, resulting in the deaths of at least three seafarers.