



Smoke plumes billow following Israeli bombardment on Beirut's southern suburbs

Saudi oil refinery at the Ras Tanura



Smoke billowing from a Saudi oil refinery at the Ras Tanura oil production plant, near Dammam in Saudi Arabia's eastern province, after an attack. Saudi Arabia's energy ministry said some operations at its massive Ras Tanura refinery on the Gulf coast had been halted on March 2, following an attack that caused a fire at the complex.



Smoke rises from a reported Iranian strike in the area where the US Embassy is located in Kuwait City

War widens

Blasts echoed across Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Doha and Manama, major cities of Gulf

- Kuwait was particularly hard-hit on Monday with 19 people injured, the health ministry said. The small, oil-rich country has a large US military presence.
- Shrapnel fell at Mina Al Ahmadi refinery, one of Kuwait's biggest, injuring two workers, but did not disrupt production, the Kuwait National Petroleum Company
- three F-15E Strike Eagles were mistakenly shot down by Kuwaiti air defences "during active combat" late on Sunday, the US Central Command said.
- Bahrain suffered its first death when debris from an intercepted missile sparked a fire on a ship in the port city of Salman, killing one Asian worker and seriously injuring two others, the interior ministry said.

Saudi would target "Iranian oil facilities if Iran mounts a concerted attack on Aramco

- Two drones had targeted the refinery and been intercepted
- The complex has a capacity of 550,000 barrels per day
- The Saudi army has raised its readiness to full alert

AFP | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia's military raised its readiness levels after multiple attacks by Iran, a source close to the army told AFP yesterday, while another warned of a possible military response if its oil infrastructure is targeted.

The massive Ras Tanura refinery on Saudi Arabia's Gulf coast went into partial shutdown on Monday after a strike by drones, three days into the Middle East war.

The complex run by the Saudi state oil giant Aramco is home to one of the largest refineries in the entire Middle East and a cornerstone of the kingdom's energy sector. The complex has a capacity of 550,000 barrels per day.

"The Saudi army has raised its readiness to full alert," the source close to the military

told AFP after the incident.

Earlier, another source familiar with the incident at the refinery told AFP the attack caused a fire at the Ras Tanura, but the blaze was extinguished.

"It depends if this is seen as a direct attack on Aramco by the Iranian leadership or a rogue drone that just came close," a source close to the Saudi government told AFP Monday.

"At this stage I think Saudi will watch and wait."

Military retaliation would be a possible option if Iran were seen as launching a targeted campaign against the kingdom's oil installations.

Saudi Arabia would target "Iranian oil facilities if Iran mounts a concerted attack on Aramco", the source said.

A Saudi defence ministry spokesman later confirmed that two drones had targeted the refinery and been intercepted, according to a statement posted by the Saudi Press Agency on X.

The complex also serves as one of the world's biggest oil ports.

Near the capital, Riyadh, Iranian missiles targeting an air base were also intercepted, a Gulf source briefed on the matter told AFP.

The base houses US personnel and this is the third time it has been targeted in three consecutive days.



Smoke plumes billowing in Dubai after a projectile strike

Qatar air force shoots down two aircraft from Iran

AFP | Doha, Qatar

Qatar's air force shot down two aircraft inbound from Iran yesterday, Doha's defence ministry said in a statement after the Islamic republic earlier targeted gas facilities in the Gulf state.

"Qatar Emiri Air Force suc-

cessfully shot down two (SU24) aircraft coming from the Islamic Republic of Iran. They also successfully intercepted seven ballistic missiles through air defenses, and intercepted five drones by Qatar Emiri Air Force and Qatar Emiri Navy Forces, which targeted several areas in the state today," the defence ministry said.

Khamenei's wife dies after being wounded in strikes: Iranian media

AFP | Tehran, Iran

The wife of Iran's slain supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei died yesterday after succumbing to wounds

sustained during the US-Israeli attack, Iranian media reported. Mansoureh Khojasteh Bagherzadeh, 79, had been in a co



This video grab taken from UGC images posted on social media on March 1, 2026 shows the Palau-flagged oil tanker Skylight, under US sanctions, engulfed in flames after being struck off the Musandam Peninsula of Oman.