



Iran strikes in the Gulf: drones against RAF base in Cyprus and fire at AMAZON data center in the Emirates

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The military crisis in the Middle East has **extended beyond regional borders**, reaching **military and technological targets abroad**. In recent hours, the war between Iran, the United States, and Israel has seen a **suspected Iranian drone attack on the Royal Air Force base in Akrotiri (Cyprus)** and, almost simultaneously, a **fire at an Amazon Web Services data center in the United Arab Emirates** amid growing tensions.

Iranian drones on RAF base in Akrotiri, Cyprus

The **first documented overseas attack linked to the Iranian conflict** hit the British military base **RAF Akrotiri**, located in the British sovereign area of Cyprus. A drone, identified as a "Shahed" type and believed to be **of Iranian manufacture**, impacted the airbase runway on the night between Sunday and Monday, causing **limited but symbolic damage**.

According to official sources, **there are no reported casualties**, but the attack represents a significant escalation: it is indeed the **first time in recent years that Iranian forces — or drones linked to Tehran — have struck a Western military installation outside the Middle East**.

On the following morning, another **two drones headed towards the same base were intercepted** by defenses, while non-essential personnel were evacuated and security in the area was reinforced with the deployment of radars, anti-drone systems, and interceptor jets.

The alleged attack comes **just hours after the United Kingdom authorized the use of its bases by U.S. forces to strike Iranian missiles and infrastructure**, in a significant policy shift on which London has emphasized maintaining a “defensive” stance while denying being formally at war.

Fire at Amazon data center: a critical infrastructure hit

At the same time, **Amazon Web Services confirmed a fire at one of its data centers in the United Arab Emirates**, triggered by **“objects” that struck the facility**. To allow firefighters to operate, the site's power supply was temporarily cut off, with **impacts on cloud services in the area**.

Amazon has not confirmed whether the incident was caused by a drone, missile, or another device, nor has it explicitly attributed the event to the ongoing war. However, the **temporal coincidence with Iranian attacks in the region** raises questions about the vulnerability of critical digital infrastructures when the conflict extends beyond the main theater of hostilities.

A widening conflict

These two episodes, the attack on the RAF base in Akrotiri and the fire at the AWS data center in the Emirates, fit into the framework of an **Iranian response to the extensive joint bombings by the United States and Israel against Iran**, which also include missile and drone attacks on targets in Saudi Arabia, the Emirates, Bahrain, and Kuwait.

The situation confirms how the current conflict is no longer confined to the Gulf strait but is **directly affecting Western military bases in Europe and strategic infrastructures in the Middle East**, with potential effects on international security, air transport, and global

digital networks.

Sources:

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