



Red Sea Developments: From Islamic Alliances to Israeli Technology

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The Middle East is undergoing a phase of **profound and rapid transformation**, a genuine reshuffling of the balance of power in which Yemen's powder keg and the skies over the Gulf merge into a single, vast strategic chessboard. As global trade routes tremble under the blackmail of militias and regional powers, the map of alliances is being redrawn around a **striking paradox**: diplomacy is frozen, but weapons systems and defense technologies are forging unexpected ties.

The Battle for the "Gate of Tears": Operation "Alba dello Yemen"

In recent days, tensions have reached fever pitch near the **Bab el-Mandeb Strait**, the maritime chokepoint linking the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden. Leveraging geography and benefiting from Tehran's logistical and intelligence support, the **Houthi rebels** had celebrated the seizure of key enclaves such as Mokha and Dubhab, strangling trade flows and targeting Saudi energy terminals.

Riyadh's response was not long in coming. In an operation with a telling name, "**Yemen Dawn**" (Dawn of Yemen), Yemeni government forces — backed by an aerial barrage unleashed by **around one hundred Saudi fighter jets** that struck more than three hundred targets in just a few hours — turned the tide. Loyalist troops advanced decisively, retaking the port city of Mokha and forcing the pro-Iranian militiamen into a hasty retreat toward the mountain foothills. A **kill box** scenario, as military experts describe it, that caught the Houthis completely unprepared. The rebels' response was swift: in addition to the desperate launch of missiles toward the strait, the militias threatened aerial strikes, warning that Saudi airspace would no longer be safe.

The Riyadh Pact and the Resilience of the Shiite Axis

The stakes are so high that Riyadh has decided to secure its borders by tightening its security measures. Following an emergency meeting, **Pakistan and Turkey** — bound to Mohammed bin Salman by a **three-party mutual defense assistance pact** — ordered the rapid deployment of troops and military capabilities to Saudi Arabia. Moreover, the Pentagon is not standing by. More than **two hundred U.S. military and intelligence analysts** work side by side in Saudi command centers to track and select Houthi targets, reaffirming Washington's firm resolve to honor its defense commitments.

On the other side, the **Axis of Resistance** led by Iran demonstrates a chameleon-like ability to adapt. Despite the severe blows suffered by Hezbollah in Lebanon and the collapse of its historic Syrian rear base, the Pasdaran continue to weave a decentralized, agile network of **kamikaze drones**, invisible cells in Iraq, and tight coordination that exploits every space left open by the Western withdrawal.

The Great Paradox: When Israeli Technology Protects Arab Skies

Yet it is on the technological and military front that the most disruptive twist of this crisis is unfolding. While politically, the Gaza war has frozen the process of diplomatic normalization between Israel and the Arab world, tarnishing the Abraham Accords, the exact opposite has happened in the security arena. Facing an increasingly sophisticated and shared missile and drone threat — mirroring that faced by the Jewish state —, the Arab countries of the Gulf have accelerated a **covert yet immensely powerful military integration**.

The figures speak for themselves: in 2024, **Israeli military exports reached 14,8 billion dollars**, driven by a sharp surge in contracts related to air defense and the countries of the Abraham Accords. This is no longer merely trade, but genuine **operational interoperability**. Informed sources reveal that advanced air defense batteries, multilayer interception systems, and next-generation sensors (inspired by the **Iron Dome and Barak** models) have been deployed or integrated in flashpoint areas such as the United Arab Emirates and Morocco to monitor the airspace and neutralize raids before they are even launched.

Political normalization may also suffer setbacks, but the convergence of threats imposes an iron law. And so, as fighting and dying return to the Red Sea, a **new integrated shield** is taking shape in the skies over the Arab world: proof positive that, when danger comes knocking, technology and strategic survival ultimately tear down any diplomatic barrier.