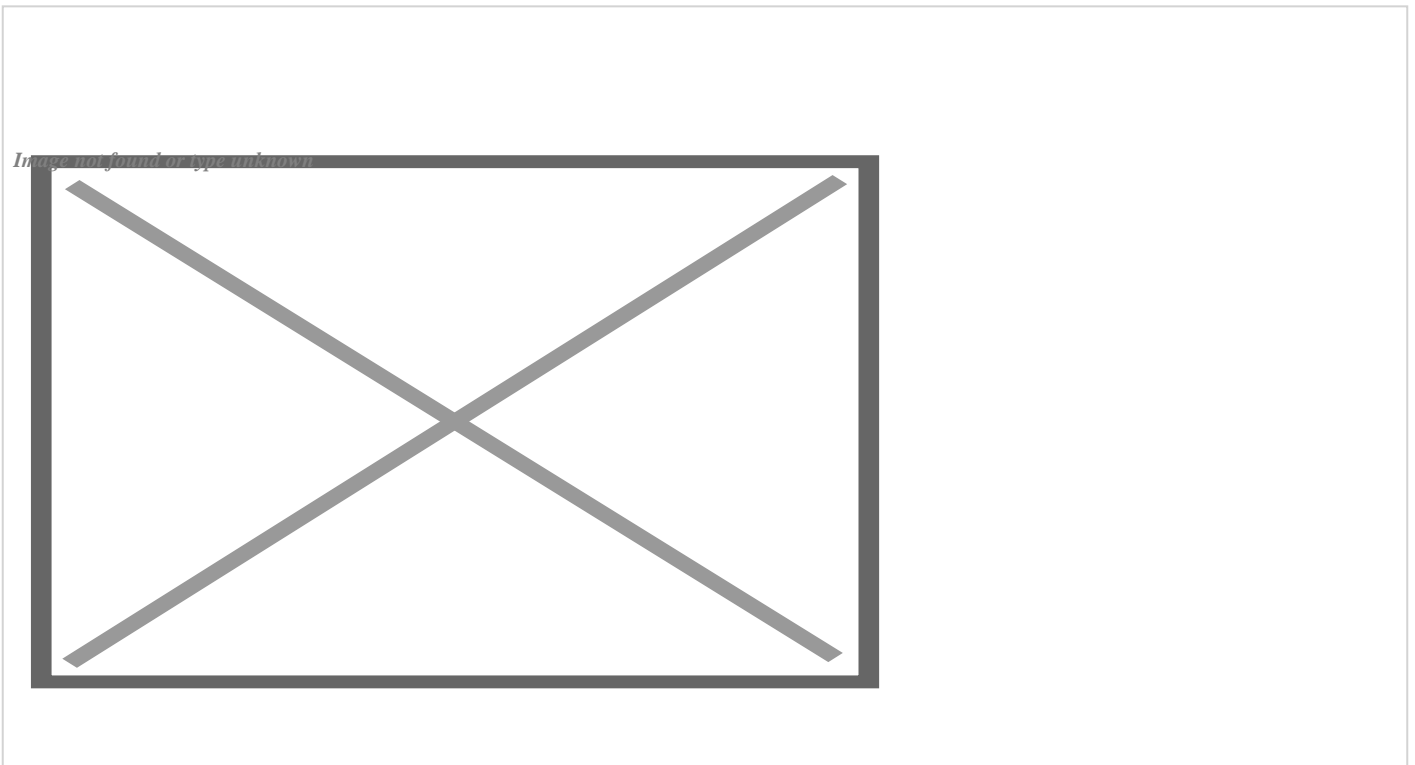


Netanyahu says U.S. promised to lift restrictions of arms deliveries to Israel



Tel Aviv, June 19 (RHC)-- Benjamin Netanyahu says the United States had promised him to remove all restrictions on weapons transfers to Israel in the coming days. Netanyahu said on Tuesday that Secretary of State Antony Blinken assured him during a meeting last week that President Joe Biden's administration was working "day and night" to lift those restrictions.

"I certainly hope that's the case. It should be the case," he said in a statement.

"Give us the tools and we'll finish the job a lot faster," Netanyahu said, as the regime's brutal military campaign in Gaza is in its eighth month now.

Netanyahu and Blinken met in al-Quds on June 10th. Following the Blinken's pledge, the Washington Post said in a report that two key Democrats in the U.S. Congress have agreed to support a major arms sale to Israel that includes 50 F-15 fighter jets worth more than \$18 billion.

The two representatives, it said, have signed off on the deal under heavy pressure from the Biden administration after the two lawmakers had for months held up the sale.

In a separate report, the Washington Post said last week that the Biden administration has approved and delivered on more than 100 arms sales to Israel since the regime started its offensive against Gaza on October 7th last year.

The sales included thousands of precision-guided munitions, small-diameter bombs and other weapons.

Washington has long been the largest weapons supplier to its ally, Israel, followed by Germany.

Some Western countries, such as Italy, Canada and the Netherlands, have halted arms shipments to Israel this year after they came under pressure by human rights groups that they risk complicity in the regime's genocide in Gaza.

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