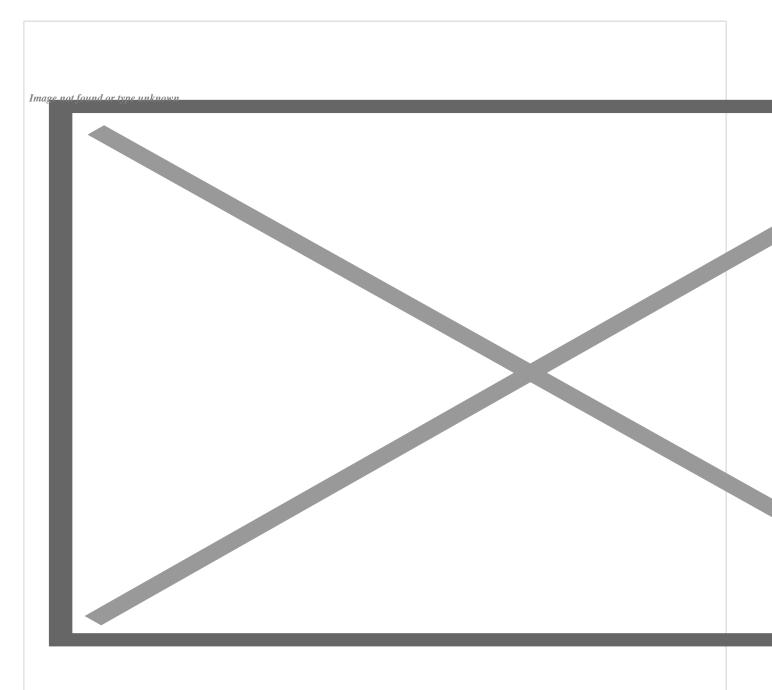
Syrian air defenses thwart Israeli airstrike targeting outskirts of Damascus



In this file picture, missiles rise into the sky as the Israel military carries out a strike against

Damascus, November 17 (RHC)-- Syrian air defense units have managed to intercept and bring down most of the missiles launched by Israeli military aircraft at targets in the vicinity of the Arab country's capital city of Damascus.

Syria's official news agency SANA, citing a military source, reported that Israeli warplanes fired several missiles from the direction of the occupied Golan Heights at some targets near Damascus at around 2:25 a.m. local time on Friday (2325 GMT Thursday), but Syrian air defenses could bring down most of the projectiles. The source noted that the strike had caused material damage to the targeted site.

The Israeli airstrike against the crisis-hit Arab nation comes amid the regime's bloody onslaught against Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip. Israel has launched relentless air and ground attacks on the coastal territory, including hospitals, residences, and houses of worship, since Palestinian resistance movements launched their surprise attack, dubbed Operation al-Aqsa Storm, against the regime on October 7.

At least 11,500 Palestinians have been killed, including 4,710 children. More than 29,800 individuals have sustained injuries as well. According to the Ministry of Health, 3,640 citizens are still missing or under the rubble, including 1,770 children.

Israel frequently targets military positions inside Syria, especially those of the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah which has played a key role in helping the Syrian army in its fight against foreign-backed terrorists.

The Tel Aviv regime rarely comments on its cowardly attacks on Syrian territories, which many see as a knee-jerk reaction to the Syrian government's phenomenal success in confronting and decimating terrorism.

Israel has been the principal supporter of terrorist groups that oppose the democratically-elected government of President Bashar al-Assad since the foreign-backed militancy erupted in Syria.

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