

High and Extreme Severity Events - March 17, 2026

Iran-US-Israel-Gulf Conflict

ISRAEL & PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

Aerial Attacks Continue

- Color Red sirens sounded in Southern Golan, Lower Galilee, and Beit Sha'an Valley at 01:03 on March 17, 2026.
- The Israel Defense Forces attributed the sirens to missile launches from Iran.
- Multiple waves of Iranian missile attacks targeted central and northern Israel throughout March 16, 2026.
- On March 16, 2026 at 22:20, sirens sounded in Tel Aviv and parts of the West Bank due to Iranian missile launches.
- Earlier on March 16, 2026 at 21:04, additional sirens were activated in Tel Aviv, Ashkelon, Ashdod, and West Bank areas.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Sustained Iranian Attacks

- Air defense systems remained active nationwide during overnight hours on March 16-17, 2026.
- The Ministry of Defense confirmed interceptions of ballistic missiles and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles from Iran.
- Explosions heard across the country resulted from air defense systems intercepting incoming threats.

Infrastructure Strikes

- On March 16, 2026, a fire broke out at the Shah oil field in Al Dhafra, Abu Dhabi following a Unmanned Aerial Vehicle attack.
- Emergency operations brought the fire under control during overnight hours on March 16-17, 2026.
- A Unmanned Aerial Vehicle strike caused a fire at a building in Umm Al Quwain on March 16, 2026.
- Dubai International Airport suspended flight operations on March 16, 2026 following a Unmanned Aerial Vehicle strike near the facility.

IRAQ

Multiple Attack Vectors

- A projectile fell on the roof of the Al-Rasheed Hotel in Baghdad during late night hours on March 16, 2026.
- No injuries were reported, but the extent of damages remained unconfirmed.
- Two Unmanned Aerial Vehicles attacked the Majnoon Oil Field in Basra Governorate during night hours on March 16, 2026.
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles were intercepted near the US Embassy, Victory Base Complex, and Balad Air Base on March 16, 2026.

US Personnel Targeted

- Counter-Rocket, Artillery, and Mortar systems were activated at the US Embassy in Baghdad on March 16, 2026.
- The Victory Base Complex near Baghdad International Airport was targeted in a suspected aerial attack.

SAUDI ARABIA

Escalating Aerial Threats

- Saudi forces intercepted 61 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles targeting the Eastern Province on March 16, 2026.
 - Three Unmanned Aerial Vehicles were intercepted in Riyadh and the eastern region during morning hours on March 16, 2026.
 - The attacks marked a notable escalation targeting the region hosting critical energy export infrastructure.
- ##### Strategic Implications
- Iran's attacks aligned with its doctrine of calibrated reciprocity.
 - The surge in attacks followed US strikes on Iran's Kharg Island on March 13, 2026.
 - Iran likely perceived that the USS Gerald Ford was receiving logistical support from Saudi Arabia.

LEBANON

Ongoing Israeli Operations

- Israeli airstrikes continued targeting Hezbollah infrastructure throughout Lebanon.
- The Israel Defense Forces issued evacuation warnings for areas south of the Zahrani River on March 12, 2026.
- Hezbollah announced a new military campaign titled Operation "Eaten Straw" on March 11, 2026.
- Approximately 100 rockets were launched toward northern Israel as part of the campaign.

REGIONAL ASSESSMENT

Conflict Trajectory

- The escalatory trajectory showed no signs of abating in the short term.
- Iran and its allies continued launching missile salvos to strain Israel's air defenses.
- Maritime attacks persisted in the Strait of Hormuz despite US naval presence.
- Gulf states accelerated procurement of air defense systems to counter Iranian threats.

