



Marib: the ceasefire nobody has formally ended

Yemen has been at war since 2014. A UN truce in April 2022 largely stopped the big battles but settled nothing and was never formally ended. Over two days in August it stopped describing reality.

INCIDENT DETAILS • 5WH

Who Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis movement, which claimed the strikes and said it targeted Saudi-backed forces, depots and equipment.

What Two waves - strikes on military camps in Marib and Hadramawt, then ballistic missiles and drones against displacement camps and residential areas in Marib city.

Where Marib and Hadramawt provinces, central and eastern Yemen - government strongholds. The city strikes included the Sahn al-Jinn camp area.

When Camp strikes Thursday 6 Aug 2026; strikes on Marib city Friday 7 Aug.

Why Presented as attacks on Saudi-backed military forces and logistics, alongside the declared Red Sea blockade.

How Ballistic missiles and drones against fixed camps. Casualties - at least 30 troops reported killed; two killed and fourteen wounded in the city.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

A 2014-15: Houthis seize Sanaa; a Saudi-led coalition intervenes

B Apr 2022: a UN truce pauses the fighting but settles nothing

C Marib: the government's main northern stronghold, gas-rich, hosting vast displacement

1 Thu 6 Aug: military camps struck in Marib and Hadramawt

2 Fri 7 Aug: displacement camps and homes struck in Marib city

3 The movement names Sahn al-Jinn camp as a military target

4 The UN envoy warns of the greatest risk since 2022

5 Government forces counter-attack; Mokha and Jazan follow

IMPACT

- Human: at least 30 government troops reported killed in the camp strikes; two killed and fourteen wounded in Marib city.
- Humanitarian: Marib hosts a very large displaced population, and strikes were reported on displacement camps.
- Strategic: sustained strikes on the government's principal stronghold and its eastern base simultaneously.
- Regional: the UN envoy ties these strikes directly to the maritime escalation, framing one deterioration rather than two.

ASSESSMENT, LESSONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The 2022 truce has failed in practice without failing on paper - it never contained a way to end it.
- Displacement camps inside the target area is the humanitarian finding, whatever the aim point.
- Both sides' claims are unverifiable and should be recorded as claims.
- It is highly likely that fighting continues at this intensity, and likely that further external actors are drawn in.