



Mokha and Jazan: a port and a refinery in one morning

Around twenty drones and ballistic missiles against a Red Sea port held by Yemen's recognised government, killing at least eleven. Hours earlier a drone started a fire at a Saudi Aramco refinery. Both claimed.

INCIDENT DETAILS • 5WH

Who Yemen's Houthi movement, Iran-aligned. Both attacks claimed by spokesman Yahya Saree, who said Jazan was struck in response to alleged Saudi drone incursions over Saada and Hajjah.

What Two claimed attacks hours apart: ballistic missiles and nearly twenty drones at Mokha, and a drone strike starting a fire at the Jazan refinery.

Where Mokha, a Red Sea port north of Bab al-Mandeb held by government-aligned forces; Jazan, a 400,000 bpd Aramco refinery on the Saudi Red Sea coast.

When Sunday 9 Aug 2026. The Jazan fire at dawn; the Mokha strikes later in the day.

Why Stated as retaliation for Saudi airspace violations and for government reinforcements on the western coast.

How Missiles and mass drone attack; several intercepted. Casualties - at least 11 killed and 32 wounded at Mokha; no injuries at Jazan.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- A** Apr 2022: a UN truce pauses Yemen's civil war without settling it
- B** Jul 2026: naval blockade declared; Jazan reportedly damaged on 27 Jul
- C** 4 Aug 2026: an unconfirmed claim of a strike at Najran Airport
- 1** Dawn: fire at the Jazan refinery, extinguished, no injuries
- 2** Later: about twenty drones over Mokha; six explosions at the port
- 3** A residential building housing hospital staff reportedly struck
- 4** Al-Khokha: a missile lands near the Hodeidah governor's home
- 5** Two accounts of the target that agencies cannot verify

IMPACT

- Human: at least 11 killed at Mokha - three civilians and eight military - and 32 wounded. Figures still moving.
- Maritime: Mokha sits immediately north of Bab al-Mandeb, already under a declared Houthi blockade of Saudi-linked shipping.
- Energy: Jazan processes 400,000 barrels a day and was reportedly damaged in a separate attack under two weeks earlier.
- Political: the UN envoy warns Yemen faces its greatest risk of large-scale conflict since the 2022 truce.

ASSESSMENT, LESSONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The target selection is deliberately international - a chokepoint port and a major refinery, not battlefield objectives.
- Unlike the Najran claim five days earlier, this one came with corroborated effect.
- Accounts of what was hit at Mokha cannot be reconciled from open sources; report the dispute.
- It is highly likely that attacks on Saudi energy infrastructure and government-held ports continue.