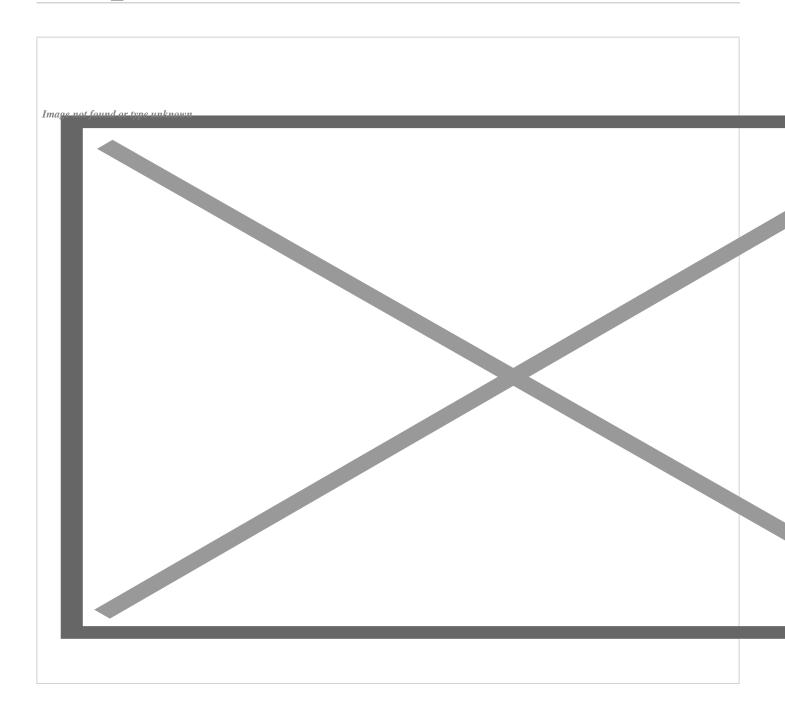
Pentagon chief calls U.S.-Israel ties unshakable and pledges more weapons to kill Palestinians



Tel Aviv, December 20 (RHC)-- U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has reaffirmed the Biden administration's support for Israel's assault on the Gaza Strip, calling U.S.-Israeli ties "unshakable." Austin made the remarks in Tel Aviv Monday, where he met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu, Israel's Minister of Defense Yoav Gallant and other members of Israel's war cabinet.

The Pentagon chief said: "America's commitment to Israel is unwavering, and no individual, group or state should test our resolve. ... Iran's support for Houthi attacks on commercial vessels must stop. Now, we'll continue to provide Israel with the equipment that you need to defend your country, Mr. Prime Minister, including critical munitions, tactical vehicles and air defense systems."

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