Israeli Ben Gurion airport shut until further notice after Yemeni missile attack



An El Al airplane is seen at the Ben Gurion International Airport in Tel Aviv, the Israeli-occupied territories. (File photo via Getty Images)

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Tel Aviv, July 7 (RHC)-- Israeli aviation authorities have suspended all arrival and departure flights at Ben Gurion International Airport and stated the facility will remain closed "until further notice," after Yemeni Armed Forces conducted a missile attack in reprisal for the Tel Aviv regime's ongoing genocidal war against Palestinians in Gaza.

The pan-Arab media outlets reported that the Israeli-occupied territories were effectively cut off from international air travel early on Sunday, as air raid sirens sounded across multiple locations in the Dead Sea area following the launch of the ballistic missile. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The Israeli military later claimed in a brief statement that its anti-air missile systems were working to shoot down the projectile. The development came less than a week after the Yemeni army claimed responsibility for launching a ballistic missile targeting Ben Gurion airport.

In a televised statement broadcast by al-Masirah TV on July 1, the Yemeni military spokesperson Brigadier General Yahya Saree said they had "carried out a special military operation targeting Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv using a hypersonic ballistic missile of the Palestine-2 type."

He added that the missile strike "successfully achieved its goal" by forcing "millions of settlers into shelters and disrupting airport operations." Saree also said that a wave of one-way unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) attacks targeted "three sensitive sites" in Eilat, Tel Aviv, and Ashkelon.

As the genocidal war on Gaza intensified, the Yemenis implemented a strategic blockade on vital maritime routes, aiming to hinder the transportation of military supplies to Israel and to prompt the international community to address the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

The Yemeni Armed Forces have announced that they will continue their attacks until Israel halts its ground and aerial offensives in Gaza, where over 57,300 Palestinians have lost their lives since the war began on October 7, 2023.

[SOURCE: AL JAZEERA and NEWS AGENCIES]

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