

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 26 April 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I am attaching herewith a report on the Houthi bombardment of internally displaced persons camps in Marib (see annex). The Houthi militias are continuing their large-scale attacks on Marib governorate, which is home to over 2 million internally displaced persons who fled the Houthi grave violations in areas under their control. Those Houthi attacks have created and will continue to create large waves of displacement for millions of civilians and exacerbate the already catastrophic humanitarian situation in Yemen.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its attachment made available to the members of the Security Council for their valuable consideration and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Abdullah Ali Fadhel **Al-Saadi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 26 April 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic and English]

Report of the Executive Unit for Displaced Persons

Casualties and damages suffered by displaced persons in the north-west of Ma'rib governorate as a result of Houthi attacks

Introduction

Since the beginning of 2021, the Houthi militia has launched a wave of attacks. The most violent have been in Ma'rib governorate, using various internationally prohibited methods of warfare, including bombing, forced displacement and abuse. Those violations have taken the heaviest toll on displaced persons, as the Houthi militia has adopted a strategy of attack via displaced person camps that may well be unprecedented in the history of warfare. Exploiting the fact that neither the Army nor the resistance is deployed around the camps, except for a limited security presence, the Houthi militia have overrun those camps in order to get around the front lines, killing dozens of displaced persons and forcing thousands of families that were already displaced to flee yet again. Camps have been subjected to artillery shelling of various kinds, with women and children accounting for most of the casualties. Those violations have resulted in an unspeakable humanitarian disaster. Hundreds of families have lost their shelters, as dozens of dwellings and tents have been burned down. Various kinds of physical and psychological harm have been inflicted upon hundreds of displaced persons, who have endured days and nights of siege by the Houthi militia and ended up without a roof over their heads after fleeing the repeated bombardment.

Executive summary

Since 6 February 2021, the Houthi militia has carried out 43 attacks, firing artillery and Katyusha rockets; using unmanned aerial vehicles; and conducting raids against and besieging displaced persons. Those attacks took place in the Sirwah and Madghal districts, across nine internally displaced persons camps in north-western and western Ma'rib. As a result, 32 people were injured, including 11 women and 6 children; 3,030 families were displaced and forced to relocate after fleeing the Houthi shelling; and the main water well in Zawr camp in Sirwah and 21 mobile water tanks were destroyed by artillery shells. In addition, 89 tent dwellings for the displaced in the aforementioned camps burned down as a result of the shelling.

Details of the attacks

- On 8 February, Houthi militia fired artillery and mortar shells at a camp for displaced persons in Lafaj al-Malah, located in south-eastern Sirwah district in western Ma'rib governorate. Forty-seven families were displaced by the attack.
- On 10 February, Houthi militias attacked the camp for displaced persons in Zawr in Sirwah, in western Ma'rib, displacing 570 families. Several mortar shells fell on the camp, forcing hundreds of families to flee. The militia's shelling that day completely destroyed the camp's only water tank, which served as the main reservoir on which displaced persons in the Zawr camp and the camp hospital relied.

- On 11 February, Houthi militia repeatedly fired mortar shells and a .23-calibre machine gun at Zawr camp to prevent displaced persons from fleeing so they could use them as human shields.
- On 14 February, Houthi militia carried out a raid on the camps for displaced persons in Zawr. Militia members burned tents and planted explosive devices on camp roads.
- On 17 February, Houthi militia bombed Zawr mosque, causing material damage to four houses in the vicinity of the mosque. That same day, an artillery bombardment by Houthi militias demolished the home of civilian Jamal Sa'id Tu'ayman. The ten-day Houthi assault on the Zawr camp and camp hospital spurred a fresh exodus of 701 families, who fled the camp for the areas of Dhannat al-Rawdah and Madinah.
- On 19 February, Houthi militia fired mortar shells at the Sawabin and Hiyal camps in south-eastern Sirwah, injuring Yahya Ali Suwaylih, a displaced person 45 years of age. His 18-year-old son Yahya was hit directly in the abdomen by mortar shrapnel while collecting his belongings and preparing to relocate to a safe area with the rest of his family. Mubarak Nasir al-Duwayshah, Yahya Mubarak Rabi' and Salih Yahya Rabi' were also injured by mortar shrapnel. The militia also used snipers to attack the camp, injuring Jumhuri Hasan Isa Qasim Hasan, a 63-year-old displaced person from Hudaydah governorate. He was left completely paralyzed after being shot in the neck by a Houthi sniper. That same day, 19 February, five tents burned down as a result of the shelling. Between 18 and 21 February, continuing Houthi attacks on the Sawabin and Hiyal camps displaced 1,313 families, forcing them once again to flee to other areas, including Rawdat Dhannah in Sirwah, Madinah and the Wadi district.
- On Tuesday, 16 March, Houthi militias shelled Mayl camp; a 25-year-old woman sustained shrapnel injuries in her right shoulder. Houthi militia attacked the Tawasul camp, which was home to 110 displaced families, resulting in damage to five tents and two water tanks.
- On Thursday, 18 March, the militia attacked the camp again, bombing it using an unmanned aerial vehicle. A 40-year-old woman sustained serious injuries to several parts of her body and was subsequently transferred to intensive care. That same day, during artillery bombardments in Mayl and Khayr camps in north-western Ma'rib, two children and a woman, Samir Ali Hasan al-Kawkabani, 10 years of age, Shamikh Nasir Muhsin al-Hunayshi, nine years of age, and Afrah Husayn al-Mu'afa, 34 years of age, were also injured.
- On 18 and 19 March, nine tent dwellings burned down and seven water tanks were destroyed as a result of Houthi shelling of the Mayl, Khayr and Tawasul camps in north-western Ma'rib.
- On 23 March, mortar shells fell on Khayr and Mayl camps in north-western Ma'rib, injuring 34-year-old Ilham al-Qadi with shrapnel, 45-year-old Fahd Abdulaziz al-Qutaybi, with Katyusha fragments, and 13-year-old Hanin Muhammad Kabran and 30-year-old Ruqayah al-Imad with mortar shrapnel.
- On 26 March, Houthi militia fired mortar shells at Aydat al-Ra' camp, damaging the camp's makeshift school and burning some of the school furniture.
- On 27 March, Houthi militia dropped mortar shells on Mayl camp, injuring 40-year-old Anisa Ghalib al-Da'ini and 16-year-old Hanan Salih Muthanna al-Walidi.

- On 28 March, Houthi militia again shelled the camp for displaced persons in Suwayda', displacing 570 families, burning down 15 tents and injuring several people, some of whom were children.
- On 4 April 2021, Mayl camp was shelled, critically injuring 14-year-old Mazin Muhammad Abdulrahman al-Siyaghi.
- Beginning on 16 March, the Houthi militia's relentless and deliberate shelling once again displaced more than 1,000 families, forcing them to relocate to safe sites on the outskirts of Ma'rib.

Particulars of the victims of Houthi attacks on camps for displaced persons in February and March 2021

<i>No.</i>	<i>Name of injured person</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Type of injury</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Camp</i>
1	Jumhuri Hasan Isa Qasim Hasan	Male	63	gunshot to the neck	19 February 2021	Sawabin
2	Yahya Ali Suwaylih	Male	45	mortar	19 February 2021	Sawabin
3	Muhammad Yahya Ali Suwaylih	Male	19	mortar	19 February 2021	Sawabin
4	Mubarak Nasir Al-Duwayshah	Male	67	direct bombing	19 February 2021	Sawabin
5	Yahya Mubarak Rabi'	Male	18	artillery fragments	21 February 2021	Sawabin
6	Salih Yahya Rabi'	Male	25	mortar shrapnel	21 February 2021	Sawabin
7	Fahd Abdulaziz al-Qutaybi	Male	45	missile fragments	23 March 2021	Mayl
8	Anisah Ghalib al-Da'ini	Female	40	shrapnel	27 March 2021	Mayl
9	Hanan Salih Muthanna al-Walidi	Female	16	gunshot	27 March 2021	Mayl
10	Mazin Muhammad Abdulrahman al-Siyaghi	Male	14	shrapnel	4 April 2021	Mayl
11	Ilham Abdullah Muhammad al-Qadi	Female	34	shrapnel	23 March 2021	Tawasul
12	Samir Ali Hassan al-Kawkabani	Male	10	shrapnel	18 March 2021	Khayr
13	Shamikh Nasir Muhsin al-Hanishi	Male	9	shrapnel	18 March 2021	Mayl
14	Afrah Husayn al-Mu'afa	Female	34	shrapnel	18 March 2021	Khayr
15	Hanin Muhammad Kabran	Female	13	shrapnel	23 March 2021	Khayr
16	Ruqayah al-Imad	Female	30	shrapnel	23 March 2021	Khayr

Annex – Photos



(a) A child with mental disabilities, Hanan Salih Muthanna al-Walidi, 16 years of age, was wounded by shrapnel from a projectile in Mayl camp in western Ma'rib;



(b) Women and children prepare to sleep in a new location, having just fled Khayr camp in western Ma'rib after the Houthis shelled and directed sniper fire at the camp. Western Ma'rib;



(c) Tawasul camp in western Ma'rib, as artillery shells fired by Houthis land in the heart of the camp, marking the beginning of another displacement;



(d) Mayl camp, after the Houthi bombing spurred a fresh exodus.

**Ballistic missiles and other projectiles fired at Ma'rib governorate,
January through March 2021**

<i>Month</i>	<i>Ballistic missiles</i>	<i>Mortar</i>	<i>Unmanned aerial vehicles</i>
January	–	–	1
February	23	–	3
March	17	6	2
Total	40	6	6