

## Iranian radio: Iran tests missile during naval maneuver

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Iran tests new anti-ship missile in Gulf of Oman - TV

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Associated Press , THE JERUSALEM POST

The Iranian navy has test-fired a sea-to-sea missile during a six-day naval maneuver in the Sea of Oman, the country's state radio reported Sunday.

The report quoted Adm. Ghasem Rostamabadi, the maneuver's spokesman, who said that the mid-range missile was launched from a battleship late Saturday in the waters off the port town of Chabahar near the Iran-Pakistan border.

The report did not elaborate on the range or give other details about the missile, dubbed Nasr-2 or Victory-2.

Iran said last week that it launched the large-scale naval maneuver that was to cover 50,000-square miles (129,500-sq. kilometers) of Iranian territorial waters and involve about 60 warships.

Iran regularly holds war games in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

This article can also be read at <http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1227702455806&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull>

Iran tests new anti-ship missile in Gulf of Oman - TV  
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TEHRAN, December 7 (RIA Novosti) - Iran has test-launched a new anti-ship missile as part of large-scale naval exercises in the Gulf of Oman, Iranian television said on Sunday.

The new missile, called Nasr-2 (Victory-2), was launched on Saturday in the Gulf of Oman close to the border with Pakistan. The missile, developed by the Iranian defense ministry's specialists, was launched from a warship and hit the target at a distance of 30 km (19 miles), the Iranian television said.

Over 60 warships, as well as other military hardware and equipment, are involved in a large-scale naval exercise, code-named Unity-87, that will last through December 7.

Iranian Deputy Navy Commander Adm. Qasem Rostamabadi earlier said the aim of the exercises was to "increase the level of readiness of Iran's naval forces and also to test and to use domestically-made naval weaponry," and also to "enhance the country's deterrence capability."

According to national media, the Iranian navy has developed "exclusive" military equipment such as stealth micro submarines and lightweight aircraft in an effort to maintain the sovereignty and integrity of the country's coastal waters.

Iran is also believed to possess one of the largest ballistic missile forces in the developing world.

Iran has launched a domestic weapons procurement campaign aimed at improving its defense capabilities and has announced the development of 109 types of advanced military equipment over the past two years.

Tehran has conducted several high-profile war games this year, while promising to strike back hard in the event of any attack, including closing off the Strait of Hormuz, through which over 25% of the world's oil passes.

There has been speculation that the United States or Israel might launch air strikes against Iran's nuclear facilities. Washington and Tel Aviv have consistently refused to rule out military action against Iran over its refusal to halt its controversial nuclear program. Iran says it needs the program for power generation.

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20081207/118735113.html>

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Iran Tests Sea-Launched Missile  
By VOA News  
07 December 2008

Iran says it has test-fired a new missile during a six-day naval maneuver in the Sea of Oman.

Iran's state radio said Sunday that military officials launched a mid-range missile from a battleship late Saturday in the waters near the Iran-Pakistan border.

Iran announced the beginning of naval exercises last week.

The United States and its Western allies accuse Iran of trying to build nuclear weapons and testing new missiles as part of a nuclear program.

Iran insists its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes, and says it will not abandon its effort to develop nuclear technology.

On Saturday, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed ElBaradei told the Los Angeles Times newspaper that the world has not "moved one inch" toward addressing Tehran's nuclear issues.

ElBaradei said the use of sanctions has helped to harden Iran's position. He also says Iranians who dislike the current leadership are supporting the regime because they feel their country is "under siege."

Some information for this report was provided by AFP, AP and Reuters.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/2008-12-07-voa7.cfm?rss=topstories>

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