## US Official to VOA: Houthis Shot Down US Drone Over Red Sea

PENTAGON — Houthi rebels have shot down a U.S. drone that was flying over the Red Sea, a U.S. official told VOA.

The Iranian-backed Houthis reported the downing in a statement earlier Wednesday.

"Our air defenses were able to down an American MQ-9 while it was carrying out hostile surveillance and espionage activities in Yemeni territorial waters as part of American military support for Israel," the group said.

Last month, the destroyer *USS Carney* shot down multiple missiles and drones that were launched from Yemen by the Houthis. The Pentagon says they were "heading along the Red Sea, potentially toward targets in Israel."

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