

US will lift ban on offensive weapons sales to Saudi Arabia: Report

The Biden administration will lift its ban on the sales of offensive weaponry to Saudi Arabia, Reuters reported on Friday, a move that reverses the three-year US ban amidst ongoing attempts by the administration to broker a Saudi-Israeli normalisation deal.

The move comes against the backdrop of the 10-month-long Israeli war on Gaza and after Middle East Eye's reporting that Russia has deployed military intelligence officers to assist Yemen's Houthis with targeting commercial vessels in the Red Sea.

A congressional aide told Reuters that the administration briefed Congress this week on the decision, and another source said that Biden was moving ahead on Friday afternoon with notifications about a sale.

"The Saudis have met their end of the deal, and we are prepared to meet ours," a senior Biden administration official told Reuters.

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