

FRESH TURKISH AIRSTRIKES ON NORTH AND EAST SYRIA TARGET ELECTRICITY, OIL AND OTHER CIVILIAN INFRASTRUCTURE.

14.01.2024

BACKGROUND

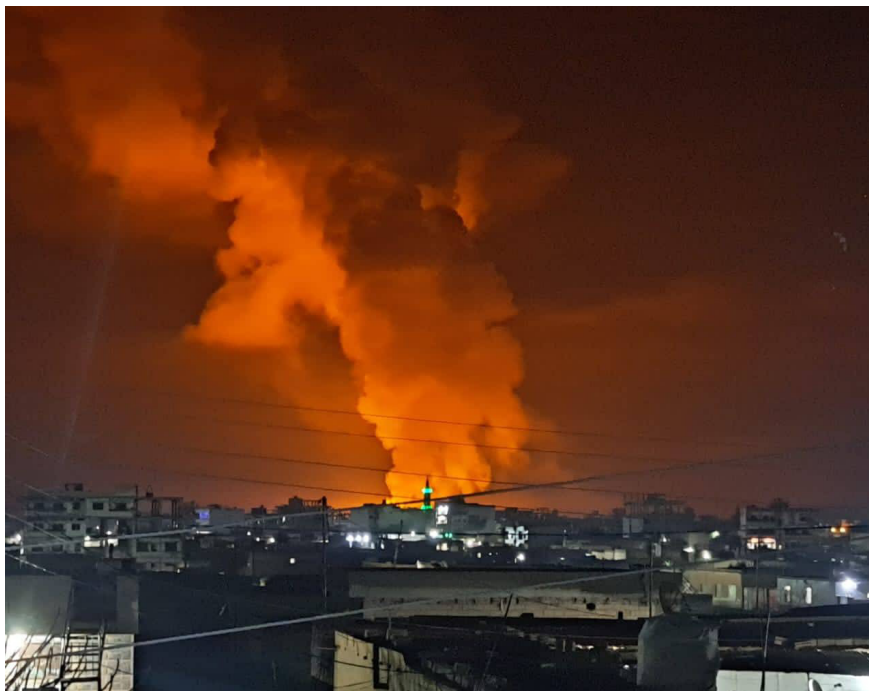
- Across 3 days, Turkey targets over 30 locations across North and East Syria (NES), conducting airstrikes on electricity and oil infrastructure and civilian factories and warehouses
- This marks the third time in three months that Turkey has embarked on an airstrike campaign targeting NES' essential infrastructure; such repeated destruction of oil and electricity infrastructure raises fears of humanitarian disaster in region home to millions already suffering power-blackouts, fuel shortages and water cuts
- One woman and her two children injured from Turkish strike on civilian house; two mill workers injured from Turkish strike on mill
- Video footage shows Turkey conducting repeat strikes on locations, targeting first responders who arrive after the initial strike
- Rojava Information Center is available to provide on-the-ground comment, plus photos and videos from airstrike sites and contact to political representatives and humanitarian personnel for comment



Kobane electricity station following Turkish airstrike, 14.01.2024

BACKGROUND

- Turkey's campaign of airstrikes against NES has been ongoing since the 2019 invasion, killing hundreds of civilians to date
- Turkey conducts periodic, limited yet destructive, airstrike campaigns, targeting NES' civilian infrastructure
- In October, one such Turkish campaign systematically struck NES' electricity, gas and oil facilities with airstrikes, causing extensive infrastructural and economic damage and worsening the already-fragile humanitarian situation in NES. In December, another such Turkish campaign targeted factories producing construction materials, agricultural products and foods, as well as grain silos, a mill, industrial sites, and medical facilities; Turkey's current airstrikes mirror these previous campaigns. Turkey is both re-striking energy infrastructure already targeted in previous aerial campaigns, as well as hitting factories and warehouses not targeted before
- As in December, Turkey initiated these airstrikes following operations of the militant Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) against Turkish bases in the mountains of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), in which nine Turkish soldiers were killed
- NES' political and military leaders state that Turkey's attacks amount to war crimes and deny Turkey's claims that the PKK stage their attacks from NES



Tirbespi oil fields burn following Turkish airstrikes, 14.01.2024

LATEST STRIKES

- Turkey hits 5 electricity stations – Amude, Qamishlo North, Kobane, Tirbespi

and Ayn Issa – triggering widespread blackouts. Ziyad Rustem, DAANES' Energy Office co-chair, claims "their targeting is systematic, aimed at depriving the population of electricity". Turkey had already targeted these stations in October, putting them out of service and costing the DAANES tens of thousands of dollars to restore them

-Turkey re-targets key energy facilities which it previously hit in December and October 2023 and November 2022: Odeh oil field and Suwaydiyah gas plant.

-DAANES officials say Turkey is conducting a "flagrant cross-border attack" and committing war crimes by targeting civilian infrastructure

-The SDF media center states that "these attacks have disrupted the delivery of essential services, including power, electricity, water, and other necessities, affecting hundreds of thousands of people" and claim that the attacks "constitute blatant and deliberate war crimes aimed at causing maximum harm to the lives of civilians, instilling fear, and inflicting suffering on their daily existence"



Turkish airstrike on a civilian house, Girbetli, 14.01.2024

FULL LIST OF AIRSTRIKES:

12.01.2024

1. Odeh oil field, Tirbespi; 2. Zarba oil field, Tirbespi; 3. Bashout, Derik countryside

13.01.2024

4. SAA point, Kharbesan, Kobane; 5. Gir Dahol oil facility, Tirbespi; 6. 'Agricultural Bank' site; 7. Kocherat countryside, Derik; 8. Gir Kendal, Derik; 9. Teqil Beqil, Derik

14.01.2024

10. Ayn Issa power station; 11. Ayn Issa Asayish (Internal Security Forces); 12. LaFarge cement company site; 13. Civilian house, Girbetli village, Darbasiyah; 14. Supply center, Darbasiyah; 15. Kobane electricity station; 16. Car repair shop, Kobane; 17. Livestock barn, Kobane; 18. Wheat warehouse, Kobane; 19. Sponge factory, Darbasiyah; 20. SAA point, Shawargah, Shehba; 21. Amude electricity station; 22. Abdullah Derbas mill, Amude; 23. Qamishlo North electricity station; 24. Warehouse, Qamishlo; 25. Former driving school site, Qamishlo; 26. Dibana, Qamishlo; 27. Odeh oil field, Tirbespi; 28. Asayish checkpoint, Tirbespi; 29. Nerkiz company, Qamishlo; 30. Halva factory, Qamishlo; 31. Asayish checkpoint, Kafri Spi, Qamishlo; 32. Tirbespi electricity station; 33. Suwaydiyah gas and electricity plant.

CONTACT

Contact Rojava Information Center via WhatsApp on: +963 992 461 683 for photos, videos, comment and contact to interviewees on the ground