ISS GLOBAL / INCIDENT REPORT

Riyadh / PIF Tower

Damage following a Houthi missile threat on 19 November 2026

REPORTING / REVIEW WINDOW

19 November incident. Reporting reviewed through 20 November 2026, 21:55 GMT / 21 November, 00:55 Arabia Standard Time (UTC+3).

ISSUE DATE

2026-11-20

Saudi authorities confirmed damage to a financial-district tower and neighbouring buildings. Reporting and an official photograph identify the PIF Tower, headquarters of the kingdom’s sovereign wealth fund.

A concise incident record separating confirmed damage, official attribution, reported missile impact and unresolved questions about how the damage occurred. [1] [3] [4]

01 / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

What happened and its threat significance

COUNTRY	WHERE	WHEN
Saudi Arabia	PIF Tower, King Abdullah Financial District (KAFD), Riyadh. [3] [6]	19 November 2026. Civil Defence statement published at 18:15 Riyadh time (15:15 GMT). [1]

What happened

Civil Defence attributed the attack to the Houthis and reported material damage to several floors and nearby buildings, with no injuries reported. Reuters identified the affected tower as the PIF headquarters. [1] [3]

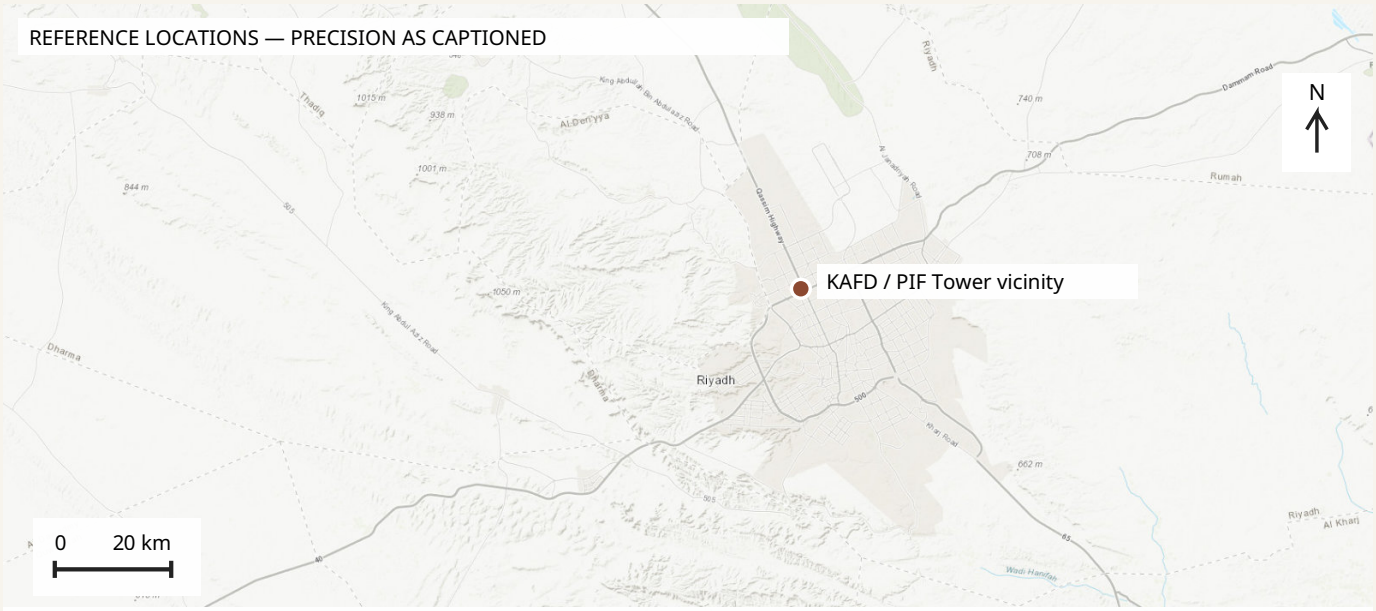
Threat significance

ISS Global assessment. Damage and access restrictions in a prominent financial district create business-continuity and civilian-safety concerns beyond the affected building. [2] [3]

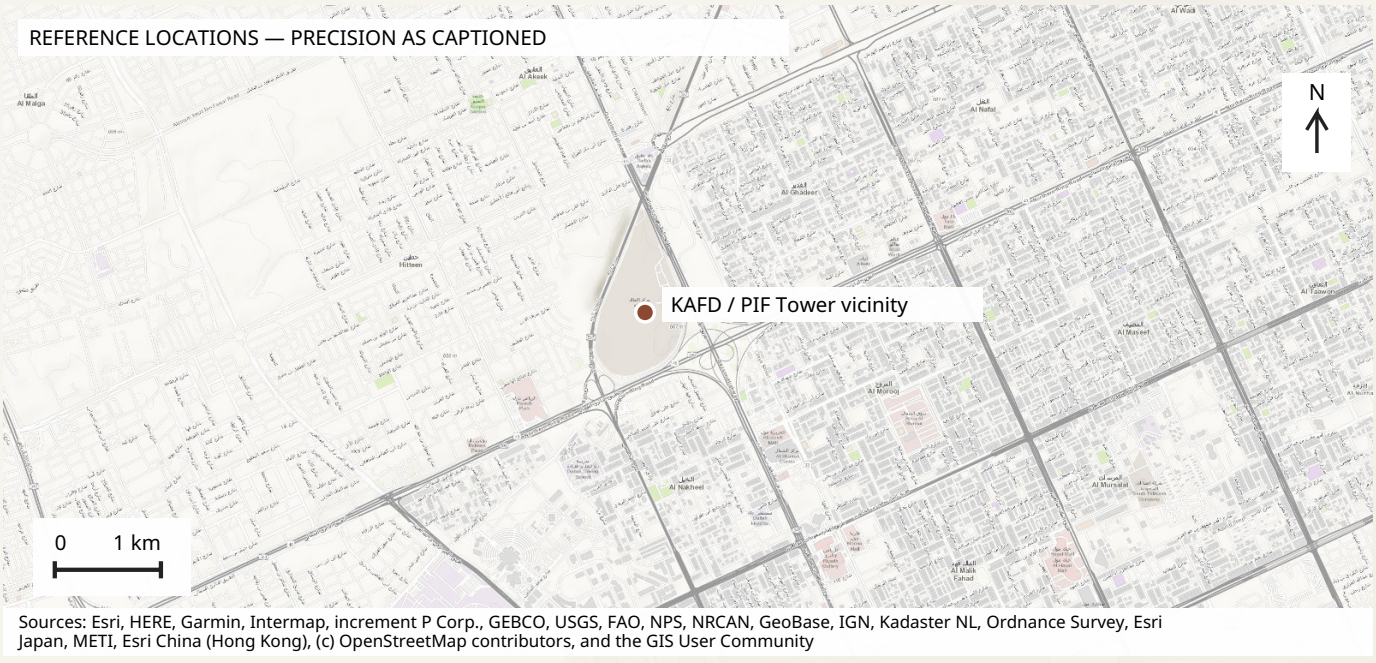
> EXECUTIVE JUDGEMENT
>
> Maintain a confirmed damage record with attribution to the Saudi statement. Keep the reported missile impact and the coalition’s debris account as separately sourced descriptions of the mechanism. [1] [2] [3]

02 / LOCATION ATLAS

Riyadh and the financial district



Map 1. Regional setting. Marker is a rounded KAFD / PIF Tower vicinity reference. [6] [7] [8]



Map 2. District context, not an impact coordinate. North, geodesic scales and provider credits retained. Acquired 20 November 2026. [6] [7] [8]

Map images are the intellectual property of Esri and are used herein under its static-map report terms. Copyright © 2026 Esri and its licensors. All rights reserved. WGS84 input; Web Mercator display. No launch site or flight path inferred. [9]

03 / RECONSTRUCTION AND IMAGERY

Damage confirmed; mechanism unresolved

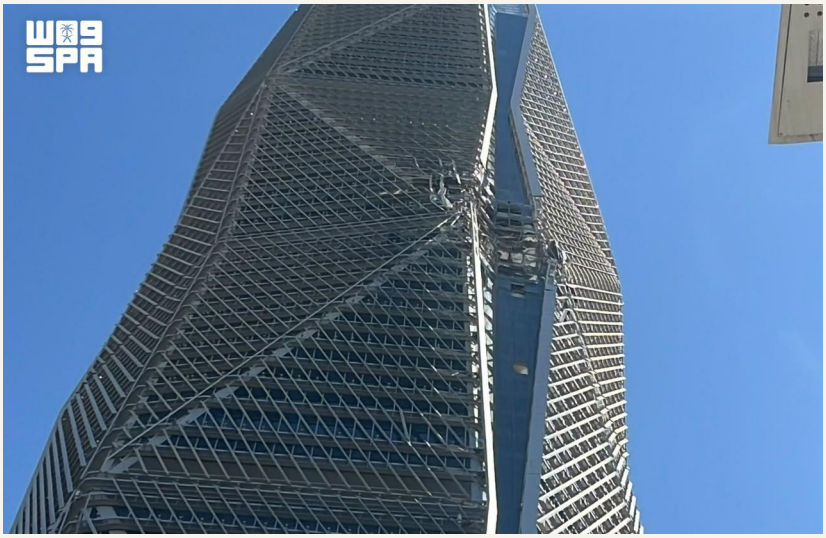


Plate 1. Official damage image released by SPA on 19 November. Disrupted exterior glazing and façade elements are visible. The image does not distinguish a missile impact from debris damage. Capture time unavailable. [1] [4]

SEQUENCE, 19 NOVEMBER	REPORTED DEVELOPMENT
Early hours, exact time unverified	Residents heard a loud boom. Coalition subsequently reported a missile threat and falling debris. [3]
Initial Reuters report, 13:30 IST / 11:00 Riyadh	Sources identified the PIF building; a Reuters witness described district evacuation and emergency vehicles. [2]
18:15 Riyadh / 15:15 GMT	SPA publishes the Civil Defence damage and no-injuries statement. [1]
Later reporting; claim time unverified	Reuters reports a Houthi claim of two attacks on the financial district, at dawn and in the evening. This does not verify two impacts on the tower. [3]

The early Reuters version carried no Houthi claim; later reporting included one. These are reporting stages. The official statement’s publication time is not the strike time. [2] [3]

04 / ASSESSMENT AND EVIDENCE PRIORITIES

What the incident record supports

ISSUE	ASSESSMENT
Building identification	Reuters and AFP identify the PIF Tower. The Civil Defence text names a financial-district tower; the associated photograph supplies visual context. [1] [3] [4]
Damage mechanism	Reuters cites sources describing an incoming missile impact. The coalition describes debris. Publicly reviewed accounts do not resolve the causal sequence. [2] [3]
Scale and consequence	KAFD lists the tower as 385 metres and 80 floors. These building specifications do not measure blast effect, damage depth or structural safety. [6]

Attribution and limitations

The Saudi attribution and the reported Houthi claim support recording Houthi involvement as attributed reporting. They do not establish the missile model, warhead, launch position or interception sequence. Reuters and AFP supply separate reporting efforts; their unnamed contacts may overlap. [1] [3] [4]

A second landmark in the district, an Aramco building, was reported damaged on 8 November. That supports a repeated district exposure concern, rather than proving identical weapons, targeting accuracy or a shared damage mechanism. [2] [5]

Investigative intelligence

ISS Global assessment. In a Dfuze-oriented record, link the incident to the tower, district, official statement, photograph and attributed claim. Keep mechanism hypotheses separate from accepted findings. Do not turn the reported two-attack claim into two verified tower strikes.

The next useful findings are a competent damage and debris examination, an authenticated event time, the duration of access restrictions and a PIF continuity update. Structural safety, financial loss and business interruption remain unquantified in this source set.

Scope. Open-source incident brief, not a forensic examination. English and Modern Standard Arabic editions share the same source cutoff. The photograph was inspected as released; no image-derived weapon identification is offered. No IED finding is supported, so no component profile is included.

SOURCE REGISTER

Sources 01–05

Source families and access limits are recorded below. Repetition of a statement is not independent proof.

01 Civial Defesne: Houthi Terrorist Attack on Riyadh Financial District Tower Causes Material Damage, No Injuries

Saudi Press Agency / **Saudi Civil Defence** · 19 Nov 2026, 18:15 local / 15:15 GMT

Family: Primary Civil Defence statement and released image · Original title spelling retained. Full statement read from page metadata via direct public retrieval; web text extraction empty. Photograph downloaded from SPA CDN. Official attribution is not independent forensic confirmation.

https://www.spa.gov.sa/en/N2731674

02 Riyadh skyscraper housing Saudi wealth fund damaged in Houthi strike, sources say

Reuters via ThePrint · 19 Nov 2026, 13:30 IST

Family: Reuters initial account, sources and witness · Full syndicated text read. Initial reporting stage, before a Houthi claim was included. Same Reuters family as source 3.

https://theprint.in/world/riyadh-skyscraper-housing-saudi-wealth-fund-damaged-in-houthi-strike-sources-say/3102945/

03 Riyadh’s tallest skyscraper hit in Houthi strike on Saudi wealth fund HQ

Reuters via StreetInsider · 19 Nov 2026 dateline; page retains 18 Nov 22:17 EST timestamp

Family: Reuters updated report · Full text read. Later Houthi claims appear in updated body. Page timestamp is not an update time or attack time. Reuters original direct retrieval failed.

https://www.streetinsider.com/Reuters/Riyadh%E2%80%99s%2Btallest%2Bskyscraper%2Bhit%2Bin%2BHouthi%2Bstrike%2Bon%2BSaudi%2Bwealth%2Bfund%2BHQ/27371744.html

04 السعودية تؤكد تضرر برج في المركز المالي بالرياض جراء هجوم حوثي

AFP via Alwasat · 19 Nov 2026 incident; page date not exposed in extraction

Family: AFP reporting and Saudi statement reproduction · Full Arabic text read and translated for analysis. Identifies PIF Tower and separately reports witness accounts. Names and claim status checked against English sources.

https://alwasat.ly/news/485627

05 Saudi Arabia releases first images of damage to skyscraper after Houthi attack

Gulf Business; Gareth van Zyl · 19 Nov 2026

Family: SPA statement and wire-derived building identification · Full incident article read. Its inserted image has a circular detail overlay; the original SPA photograph is used instead. Following unrelated feed articles excluded.

https://gulfbusiness.com/en/2026/saudi-arabia/saudi-arabia-releases-photo-pif-tower-damage-riyadh/

SOURCE REGISTER

Sources 06–09

Source families and access limits are recorded below. Repetition of a statement is not independent proof.

06 Lifestyle Directory / PIF Tower

King Abdullah Financial District · Undated; accessed 20 Nov 2026

Family: Primary district operator description · Building specifications only. Shared directory address is not an impact coordinate. Independent of attack accounts.

https://www.kafd.sa/en/lifestyle/directories?default-category=Landmarks&directoryItemTitle=PIF+Tower

07 Capital Market Authority Headquarters, Q13892708

Wikidata · Current record accessed 20 Nov 2026

Family: Geographic reference · Former-name building reference, 24°45′46″ N, 46°38′25″ E. Marker deliberately rounded to district context and cross-checked against KAFD operator geography and map.

https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q13892708

08 World Topographic Map / MapServer

Esri · Service accessed 20 Nov 2026

Family: Primary basemap service · Static exports at 1600 × 760 pixels. Extents, projected marker and geodesic scale records retained. Full provider credits shown on maps.

https://services.arcgisonline.com/ArcGIS/rest/services/World_Topo_Map/MapServer

09 Terms of use for static maps

Esri · Accessed 20 Nov 2026

Family: Primary provider terms · Static report use with attribution. No separate map resale or tile redistribution. Usage terms checked for this report.

https://doc.esri.com/en/arcgis-online/latest/reference/static-maps.html