

# Bloodbath in Lamerd: The United States' New Weapon Targets Ordinary Iranians

*The American military-industrial complex successfully tested its most recent Mass-Killing Weapon on innocent civilians.*



By **Shapour Ghasemi**

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On the afternoon of Saturday February 28, 2026, the day that The United States and Israel preemptively attacked Iran assassinating the supreme leader of Iran, Ayatollah Khamenei and some of his close relatives, including his 14 months old granddaughter, and many more high ranking military and

civilian officials, just hours after massacre of 156 children, teachers, staff members, and parents at the [Shajareh Tayyibeh School](#) in Minab by Tomahawk missiles, a residential areas in Lamerd, including a sports hall, was struck by three U.S. Precision Strike Missiles (PrSM) loaded with thousands of pellets.

These “air-burst” missiles detonated in the air before impact, unleashing 180,000 high-velocity tungsten pellets that tore through the area in every direction with devastating force. These missiles are designed and missoned to inflict maximum human casualties.



The fragmentation pattern caused by airbursting PrSM warhead.

Following reports that PrSM missiles were deployed in a deadly strike in Lamerd,

Lockheed Martin, the company behind the missiles, experienced an immediate increase in its stock price. The performance of the PrSM missiles in Lamerd led the Pentagon and the Department of War to sign a major agreement with Lockheed Martin.

Subsequently, on March 25, 2026, Lockheed Martin revealed in a media release that, due to the contract awarded by the DoW, its missile production capacity would be quadrupled.

Furthermore, Lockheed Martin announced:

*“Lockheed Martin is mobilizing the full might of its industrial and technological power to build the **“Arsenal of Freedom”** by dramatically accelerating production of this critical munition, leveraging next-generation technologies to build faster and better.”*

On March 28, 2026, Merlyn Thomas, Sarah Jalali, and Shayan Sardarizadeh of BBC Verify released findings based on visual evidence examined by weapons

experts. On March 29, 2026, two visual investigators for The New York Times, Christiaan Triebert and John Ismay, released similar findings, based on visual evidence examined by weapons experts, confirmed that the Pentagon had used missiles untested in combat in a deadly attack against civilian sites in Lamerd on February 28, 2026.

In past wars, the Pentagon has always deployed developmental weapons like the PrSM to active war zones for what it calls “combat evaluation” before they have gone through further testing.

Immediately, after release of BBC and The New York Times findings, CENTCOM, in its press release on March 31, 2026, refutes Media Claims of U.S. Strikes in Lamerd, Iran.

U.S. Central Command Spokesperson U.S. Navy Capt. Tim Hawkins provided the following statement:

*“Several media outlets recently reported accusations of U.S. forces striking a sports hall and residential area in the city of Lamerd, Iran, on Feb. 28. After looking into the reports, U.S. Central Command has confirmed the accusations are false.*

*U.S. forces did not launch any strikes at any time into the city of Lamerd or anywhere within 30 miles during the opening day of Operation Epic Fury. Furthermore, video footage circulated by media outlets alleging U.S. involvement does not show a Precision Strike Missile (PrSM). A PrSM is 13 feet in length. The munition depicted in the video appears to be twice as long, consistent with the dimensions and silhouette of an Iranian Hoveyzeh cruise missile.*

*U.S. forces do not target civilians, unlike the Iranian regime which has attacked civilian locations in neighboring countries more than 300 times.”*

Again, on April 3, 2026, BBC Verify released new findings titled “Experts Dispute US Account of Deadly Iran Sports Hall Strike in Lamerd.” And on April 10, 2026, The New York Times visual investigators released their new findings titled “New Evidence Further Implicates U.S. Missiles in Strikes That Killed 21 Civilians in Iran.”

The new analysis was based on video footage of the detonations, photographic evidence of the damage, a missile trajectory assessment, and the opinions of multiple experts, including some U.S. government officials. The investigation concluded that there were three separate missile strikes on a sports hall, a residential area, and an area near an educational center in Lamerd that involved U.S.-made Precision Strike Missiles (PrSMs).



Lamerd's sports hall was struck while girls were practicing volleyball. Two of the girls were killed on the spot by flying pellets.

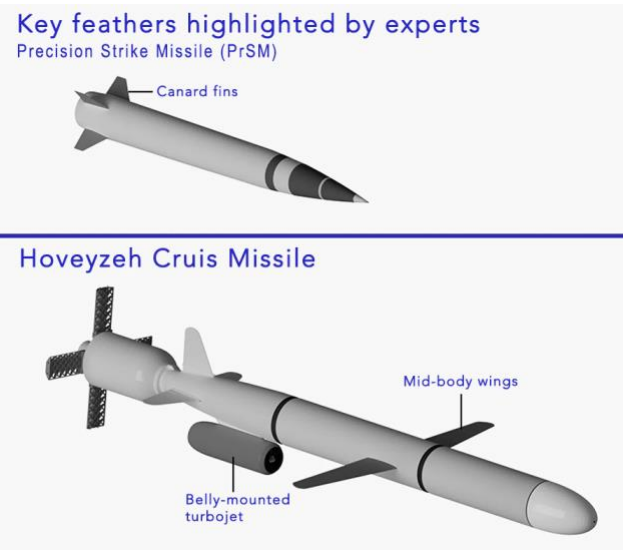
Multiple weapons experts have disputed a U.S. claim that Iran may have been responsible for a deadly strike on the town of Lamerd on the first day of the war on Iran.

“While it is feasible that an Iranian cruise missile could malfunction, it is somewhat beyond credulity to have several of them fail above the same location at the same time,” an analyst said.

The PrSM (pronounced like “prism”) is new to combat. Before the war with Iran, weapons experts had not seen it used in real-world conditions.

According to analysts and weapons experts, the missile seen in the video evidence lacks key visual features and characteristics of the Hoveyzeh missile and is closer in size to the PrSM. Experts also said that Iran does not possess a cruise missile that functions in the same way as the PrSM.

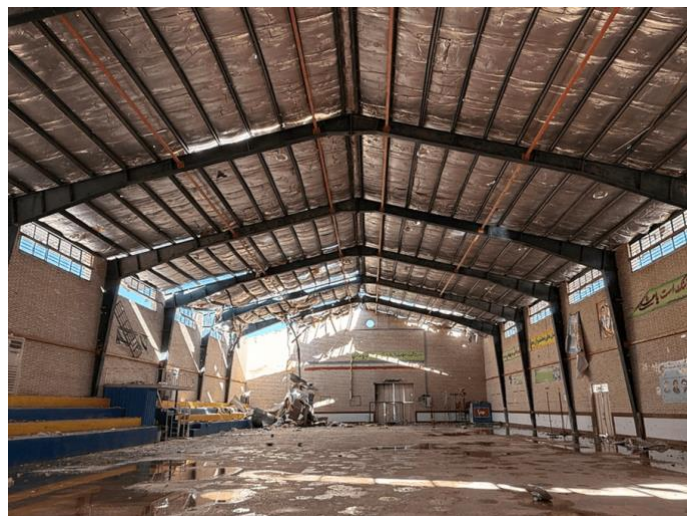
Furthermore, it is seen in the video evidence that, at all three locations, the missile detonations occurred directly above the targets rather than upon



impact. This is consistent with the PrSM's "air-burst" mechanism, which is designed to explode in the air and disperse more than 180,000 tungsten pellets outward. At each location, these bursts of pellets created a distinctive pattern of pockmarks on the walls of the sports hall, nearby residential buildings, and surrounding roadways.

The angle of the incoming missile captured in the video evidence indicates that it descended on Lamerd from the northwest, a direction that aligns with the location of U.S. forces based in Kuwait. This evidence also suggests Kuwait's complicity in the war against Iran.

These missile attacks, with such horrifying blasts that sprayed around 180,000 pellets, slaughtered only 24 civilians. Due to the month of Ramadan, most of the residents were resting at home or preparing for *iftar*; otherwise, the number of casualties could have been much higher. The victims included five children, two of whom had been attending volleyball practice at



Girls were practicing volleyball in this sports hall in Lamerd when an American PrSM missile struck it on February 28, 2026.

the sports hall. They were Helma Ahmadizadeh, 10, and Elham Zaeri, 11 years old. At the nearby football (soccer) pitch, two young boys, Ilia Khatami and Abdul Mosavar Rahmani, were killed alongside their coach, Mahmoud Najafi. The youngest victim was Avina Barzegar, 2 years old. More than 130 others were injured, many of whom now struggle for their lives, and some face permanent disabilities.

There is no doubt that The United States launched the strikes, and there is also no doubt that those missiles have not been used in combat before, which leads us to a clear conclusion that these missiles were fired at a small town with no military significance and at three sites with different types of structures that resemble test sites. What The United States did in Lamerd, beyond any doubt, is a deliberate act of savagery and a war crime. The United

States, the Department of War, and particularly those American servicemen and women who participated in such a heinous act of violence by loading and firing the missiles, should stand trial for the crimes they committed. There will be no excuses accepted, from the lowest to the highest ranks, that “we just followed orders.”

In a 1964 radio interview, Hannah Arendt, in the context of the Nuremberg trials, argued that “subordination does not justify abdicating moral responsibility.” She continues her argument that blindly “just following orders,” especially when those commands result in harm or injustice, is not an acceptable excuse. As a result, she stated, “No one has the right to obey.” Hannah Arendt adds that every individual retains the ethical obligation to think independently, weigh the evidence, and judge right from wrong for themselves. The danger of thoughtlessness arises when people stop questioning authority and stop evaluating the consequences of their actions; they become capable of participating in systemic atrocities without feeling personally guilty, Arendt said.

**"No one has the right to evade justice."**



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