

Iran's Foreign Minister Blames Israel for Chief Nuclear Scientist's Death

Iran is blaming Israel and is vowing revenge after the assassination of its chief nuclear scientist. The killing increases tension in the Middle East and puts some in Washington on edge.

Iranian media reported on Friday that senior nuclear scientist Dr. Mohsen Fakhrizadeh was assassinated just outside of Tehran. During Fakhrizadeh's funeral on Monday, a top Iranian security official accused Israel of using "electronic devices" to remotely kill the scientist.

Ali Shamkhani, the secretary of the country's Supreme National Security Council, added that Iran will continue Fakhrizadeh's work "with more speed and more power."

Shamkhani's remarks indicating that the scientist had been killed remotely differs from the initial account of Fakhrizadeh's death. On Friday, an Iranian journalist citing national officials said the ambush began with a car bomb, and then a 12-member squad opened fire on the car carrying the nuclear scientist and his bodyguards.

Later, Iran's English-language Press TV reported that a weapon bearing "the logo and specifications of the Israeli military industry" had been recovered from the scene of the attack. State TV's Arabic-language channel, Al-Alam, also claimed that the weapons used in the attack were "controlled by satellite."

While no one has claimed responsibility for the attack, Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javid Zarif blamed Israel, and Iran's President Hassan Rouhani pledged retaliation.

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