

Iran Launches Destroyer in Caspian

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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TEHRAN, Iran — Iran has launched a domestically built destroyer in the Caspian Sea, its first deployment of a major warship in the oil-rich region, state TV reported.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad inaugurated the guided missile destroyer Jamaran-2 on Sunday in the port city of Anzali, about 250 kilometers northwest of Tehran. He said the deployment aimed to bolster peace and friendship in the region.

There are multiple disputes between the nations that surround the Caspian — Iran, Russia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan — on how the inland sea should be divided.

After final tests, the report said, Jamaran-2 will join Iran's naval fleet in the sea in coming months.

The 1,400-ton destroyer is equipped with surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles as well as sophisticated radar and communications terminals, the report said.

(AP)

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