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# SYLLOGE ON WEST ASIA

**FOCUS, NUCLEAR, MISSILES & OTHER  
SECURITY ISSUES IN WEST ASIA**

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मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

## Armenia

### **No information about radiation leakage, Armenia has no reason to worry, Iranian ambassador says**

News.am, June 17, 2025

We do not have any information about radiation leakage as a result of attacks on nuclear facilities. Iranian ambassador to Armenia Mehdi Sobhani stated this at a press conference in Yerevan and regarding the Israeli attacks on Iran. According to him, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has not issued a respective report either. Sobhani added that the Natanz nuclear plant of Iran is very far from Armenia, and therefore there is no reason to worry. The Iranian ambassador to Armenia emphasized that Tehran was engaged in organizational matters to ensure the transfer of people from Armenia to Iran who were unable to reach Iran due to canceled or delayed flights because of the current situation.

<https://news.am/eng/news/888833.html>

### **Armenia nuclear plant 2nd power unit operating life to be extended**

News.am, June 20, 2025

The government of Armenia made a decision at its Cabinet meeting Friday, according to which the period of operation of the second power unit of the Armenian Nuclear Power Plant (ANPP) will be extended in order to carry out the work envisaged by the program. As part of the program to extend the period of operation, large-scale modernization and re-equipment have been carried out at the ANPP.

<https://news.am/eng/news/889588.html>

### **Pezeshkian calls on Aliyev to investigate reports about use of Azerbaijani airspace in attacks on Iran**

News.am, June 26, 2025

In a telephone conversation between Iranian and Azerbaijani Presidents Masoud Pezeshkian and Ilham Aliyev today, June 26, the issue of using Azerbaijan's airspace to attack Iran was also touched upon. "Dr. Pezeshkian stressed the need to investigate reports of the Zionist regime's drones infiltrating Iran from Azerbaijan's airspace," IRNA reported. Aliyev responded by saying that "the Azerbaijani government will under no circumstances allow its airspace to be used against friendly and brotherly Iran."

<https://news.am/eng/news/890903.html>

## Azerbaijan

### **Azerbaijan's president congratulates Iranian counterpart for ceasefire with Israel**

Burc Eruygur

Anadolu Agency, June 26, 2025

The Azerbaijani president on Thursday congratulated his Iranian counterpart on a US-brokered ceasefire reached two days ago, ending a 12-day conflict between Iran and Israel. "The Head of State (Ilham Aliyev) conveyed his congratulations to Masoud Pezeshkian on the cessation of the Iran-Israel conflict and the achievement of a ceasefire, and once again noted that peace and security in the region are essential conditions," said a statement by Azerbaijan's presidency following a phone conversation between the two leaders. Aliyev once again conveyed Baku's

position concerning the conflict, as well as Azerbaijan's concerns regarding the escalation in the region as a whole, expressing his condolences over the deaths of Iranian citizens, the statement said. Pezeshkian expressed his gratitude to Aliyev for the condolences, it added.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/azerbaijans-president-congratulates-iranian-counterpart-for-ceasefire-with-israel/3613899>

## Cyprus

### India, Cyprus deepen Strategic Defence Partnership amid regional tensions

Huma Siddiqui

Bharat Shakti, June 16, 2025

In a significant diplomatic development, India and Cyprus have agreed to formulate a strategic roadmap to deepen cooperation in defence, counterterrorism, and maritime security. The move comes as both nations seek to reinforce their security architectures amid growing geopolitical instability in the Eastern Mediterranean and South Asia. During his landmark visit to Cyprus—the first by an Indian Prime Minister in over two decades—PM Narendra Modi held wide-ranging talks with Cypriot President Nikos Christodoulides. The discussions culminated in a joint declaration outlining shared priorities in defence-industrial collaboration, cyber security, and counterterrorism coordination. “India and Cyprus are committed to advancing a comprehensive strategic partnership. We will collaborate closely in defence

production and emerging technologies while launching dedicated dialogues on cyber and maritime security,” PM Modi said at a joint press conference.

<https://bharatshakti.in/india-cyprus-deepen-strategic-defence-partnership-amid-regional-tensions/>

### India, Cyprus condemn terrorism, reaffirm stand to counter hybrid threats

News on Air, June 16, 2025

India and Cyprus have unequivocally condemned terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations and reaffirmed their shared commitment to countering hybrid threats that undermine peace and stability. The two countries also urged all States to respect the sovereignty of other nations and called for the disruption of terrorism financing networks, the elimination of safe havens, dismantling of terrorist infrastructure, and bringing perpetrators of terrorism to justice swiftly. In a joint declaration, issued after delegation-level talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Cyprus President Nikos Christodoulides in Nicosia today, the two nations emphasised the need for a comprehensive, coordinated, and sustained approach to combat terrorism across borders. Cyprus expressed solidarity and unwavering support to India in its fight against cross-border terrorism.

<https://www.newsonair.gov.in/india-cyprus-condemn-terrorism-reaffirm-stand-to-counter-hybrid-threatsreaffirm-stand-to-counter-hybrid-threats/>

## India–Cyprus defence ties deepen: A strategic gateway to Europe emerges

Huma Siddiqui

Bharat Shakti, June 26, 2025

As global attention turns to new strategic alignments across the Mediterranean and Indo-Pacific, India and Cyprus are building a defence relationship that holds promise for opening up new avenues of cooperation. During the recent official visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Cyprus – marking the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister in over three decades – the two nations elevated their relationship to a Comprehensive Partnership. At the heart of this deepening cooperation lies a growing convergence on defence, security, and emerging technology. Cyprus, a frontline European Union (EU) member state located at the intersection of three continents, has increasingly found itself navigating a complex security environment. With longstanding tensions in the Eastern Mediterranean, including persistent maritime disputes with Turkey and the continued occupation of its northern territory since 1974, Nicosia has sought to diversify its defence partnerships. India, with its global stature, indigenous defence manufacturing base, and longstanding support for Cypriot sovereignty, has emerged as a natural and reliable partner.

<https://bharatshakti.in/india-cyprus-defence-ties-deepen-a-strategic-gateway-to-europe-emerges/>

## Iran

### Iran downs 4th Israeli F-35, Lockheed Martin stock falls

Tehran Times, June 16, 2025

The Deputy Governor of East Azerbaijan Province has announced that an Israeli F-35 fighter jet was shot down in the skies above Tabriz. According to Tasnim news agency, the aircraft was identified by Iranian air defence systems stationed in the area and was successfully targeted with a precision-guided missile. The fate of the pilot is unknown. This is the fourth time Iran has downed an F-35 fighter jet in the ongoing war with Israel, which began on June 15, 2025 after the regime launched unprovoked and deadly airstrikes on Tehran's residential buildings, as well as nuclear and military sites across the country. Two Israel pilots are currently in Iran's captivity. Lockheed Martin, the American defence contractor that manufactures the F-35 stealth fighter, has seen a sharp decline in its stock value following reports that Iran has downed four F-35 jets since the outbreak of hostilities. Sources say debris from the last downed aircraft is being recovered and moved to secure locations for further analysis.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514520/Iran-downs-4th-Israeli-F-35-Lockheed-Martin-stock-falls>

## Why it will be hard for Trump to stay out of the conflict with Iran

Stephen Collinson

CNN World, June 16, 2025

Compelling national security arguments and domestic political considerations mean it makes sense to stop short of direct US offensive operations in the long-dreaded conflict that Israel describes as a matter of preserving its own existence. But powerful forces could suck America deeper into the conflict than its current role in helping to shield Israel from Iran's deadly rain of missiles and drones. CNN reported that over the weekend, Trump rejected an Israeli plan to kill Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, according to two sources. But some of this is out of Trump's hands. Should Iran's battered regime decide it has nothing to lose and attack US bases and personnel in the region, or US targets across the globe, Washington will be forced to respond hard to preserve credibility and deterrence. Another possibility is that Tehran could create duress on Trump to rein in Israel by attacking international shipping in the Gulf or Red Sea and bring on a global energy crisis. Pressure is also mounting on Trump from inside his own party for action that only the United States could carry out — a mission to destroy Iran's subterranean site at Fordow, which is believed to be beyond Israel's airborne capabilities. The logic of such a strike would be that Iran is now uniquely vulnerable, and a better chance may never come for the US to destroy the possibility of an Iranian nuclear weapon.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2025/06/16/politics/trump-iran-israel-peace-efforts-g7>

## Iran crushes Mossad cells in nationwide sweep; Seizes missiles, drones after Israeli aggression

Tehran Times, June 16, 2025

In a blow to the Israeli regime's espionage apparatus, Iranian security forces have dismantled multiple Mossad sabotage networks across the country, seizing Israeli-made Spike anti-tank missiles, suicide drones, and explosives destined for attacks on critical infrastructure and residential areas. The operations, which included execution of convicted Mossad agent Esmail Fekri, demonstrate Iran's unwavering resolve following Israel's unprovoked aggression in the early hours of June 15, 2025, that has martyred over 224 Iranian nationals, including top military commanders and nuclear scientists. Fekri, arrested in December 2023 after a complex intelligence operation, was hanged after Iran's Supreme Court upheld his death sentence. Judicial authorities confirmed he had gathered "classified national security intelligence, including strategic site locations and internal organisational missions" for Mossad handlers using encrypted communications and cryptocurrency payments. His execution—the third in recent weeks—follows the April elimination of Mossad operative Mohsen Langarneshin, linked to the 2022 assassination of IRGC Colonel Hassan Sayyad-Khodaei.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514516/Iran-crushes-Mossad-cells-in-nationwide-sweep-Seizes-missiles>

### **Israeli strike came when Iran was in middle of diplomatic track with US: Tehran**

Tehran Times, June 16, 2025

Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Esmail Baghaei says the Israeli strike has effectively sabotaged indirect nuclear negotiations with the United States. Addressing reporters at a weekly press briefing, he said: “We were in the middle of a diplomatic track when this regime launched its aggression—an act that could not have occurred without coordination or at least tacit approval from Washington.” Baghaei dismissed recent U.S. statements as “contradictory and evasive,” calling for a clear stance from Washington. “This is not a time for ambiguity. The U.S. must choose between its professed commitment to diplomacy and its apparent support for a regime engaged in war crimes.” Asked about remarks made by the U.S. President Donald Trump and other U.S. officials regarding potential negotiations, Baghaei said talks under the current circumstances were meaningless. “If the United Nations Charter means anything, then the aggression must be condemned unequivocally and countered with firm international measures,” he stated.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514509/Israeli-strike-came-when-Iran-was-in-middle-of-diplomatic-track>

### **Iranian missile hits near US embassy in Tel Aviv**

Mehr News Agency, June 16, 2025

Israeli sources claim that one of the Iranian missiles has hit near a building affiliated

with the United States Embassy in Tel Aviv. An Iranian missile has landed near an office building affiliated with the US Embassy in Tel Aviv, the Zionists say. It was previously reported that last night's wave of Iranian missile attacks on occupied territories in four areas, including Haifa and Tel Aviv, left more than 120 dead and wounded.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233195/Iranian-missile-hits-near-US-embassy-in-Tel-Aviv>

### **In new Iranian fusillade, a huge number of missiles are seen making impact; ‘Iron Dome’ is said to be hacked**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 16, 2025

The Armed Forces are hitting targets inside Israeli-occupied territories in a new wave of strikes. The combined strikes started, sending millions of Israelis into underground bomb shelters for a fourth day in a row. Initially, drones were launched, and powerful missiles were fired shortly later. Reports said the Israeli “Iron Dome” missile system was hacked, and Israeli missiles were being fired at Israeli locations in a mix of confusion and incompetence. Footage captured by cellphone cameras from inside the Israeli-occupied territories also showed large numbers of Iranian missiles passing through Israeli air defences uninterrupted and making impact on targets on the ground. Earlier on June 16, 2025, Israel’s National Cyber Directorate said text messages had been sent to Israelis by the military unit that issues civilian safety guidelines falsely instructing people to avoid entering public bomb shelters, in



what seemed to be another successful cyberattack.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85864942/In-new-Iranian-fusillade-a-huge-number-of-missiles-are-seen>

### **11 IAEA BoG members condemn Israeli strike on Iran's nuclear sites**

Tehran Times, June 16, 2025

Eleven member states of the International Atomic Energy Agency (I.A.E.A.) Board of Governors have issued a joint statement condemning the Israeli regime's military attack on Iran's peaceful nuclear facilities and urged immediate action by the United Nations nuclear watchdog and the Security Council to prevent such aggression. The members of the I.A.E.A. Board of Governors condemned Israel's aggression against Iran, including its military attacks on nuclear facilities under I.A.E.A. safeguards, calling them a flagrant violation of international law, the U.N. Charter, and the Statute of the I.A.E.A. The statement emphasised that these military attacks not only threaten international peace and security but also undermine confidence in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (N.P.T.), constitute a blatant disregard for the I.A.E.A. safeguards system, and jeopardise the advancement of peaceful nuclear energy. The signatories also stressed that any armed attack or threat against nuclear facilities dedicated to peaceful purposes constitutes a violation of the principles of the U.N. Charter, international law, and the Statute of the I.A.E.A.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51450/8/11-IAEA-BoG-members-condemn-Israeli-strike-on-Iran-s-nuclear>

### **Israel's strikes zeroed in on Iran's nuclear program. How much damage was done?**

Rob Picheta

CNN World, June 16, 2025

Israel's unprecedented attacks on Iran had at their core an elusive and high-risk goal: eradicating the country's controversial nuclear program. Israel targeted three key Iranian nuclear facilities – Natanz, Isfahan and Fordow – and a number of top scientists involved in nuclear research and development. The extent of the damage is beginning to come into view, with satellite imagery and expert analysis hinting that the strikes had a significant impact in at least two of the locations. But much remains unclear – not least because Iran's most sensitive nuclear infrastructure is buried deep underground – and each side gave predictably contrasting assessments: An Israeli military official said at a briefing that strikes on Iran's nuclear sites in Natanz and Isfahan were able to damage the sites "significantly," while Iran claimed that damage to the facilities was limited. "The whole (nuclear) supply chain has been disrupted," Ali Vaez, the Iran Project Director at the International Crisis Group, told CNN, as Israel and Iran continued to exchange fire. Vaez stressed the significance of each targeted nuclear site, which are all involved in the complex sequence of steps required to create a nuclear weapon.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2025/06/14/middle-east/iran-israel-nuclear-facilities-damage-impact-intl>

### **Iran shoots down Israeli F-35 fighter jet over Tabriz**

Mehr News Agency, June 17, 2025

Director General of East Azerbaijan Crisis Management says the Iranian Armed Forces' air defence in Tabriz successfully shot down an Israeli F-35 fighter jet in Tabriz, northwestern Iran. Majid Farshi said two combat drones had earlier been shot down in Tabriz. He added that three locations around Tabriz were targeted on June 17, 2025, and air defence systems engaged the Israeli invading micro air vehicles (MAVs). This marks the fourth F-35 fighter jet to be intercepted and destroyed by Iran's air defences. The Israeli regime began strikes inside Iranian territory, including on residential buildings, in an unprovoked act of aggression overnight on June 13. High-ranking Iranian military officials were assassinated in targeted strikes. Civilians lost their lives as houses were directly struck, affecting entire population centers. The Israeli military also carried out strikes against Iran's top military brass. Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff of Iran's Armed Forces Major General Mohammad Baqeri and Chief Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Major General Hossein Salami were among the senior military officials assassinated in Tehran.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233253/Iran-shoots-down-Israeli-F-35-fighter-jet-over-Tabriz>

### **Condition for ending the war is destruction of Israel, not cessation of attacks**

Tehran Times, June 17, 2025

Kayhan discussed the full-scale war between Iran and Israel in an article and wrote: The war that has been started in West Asia these days is more than just a normal military conflict. A battle that will not end with a ceasefire, but only with the complete collapse of the sinister and fake structure of the Zionist regime. Now, Islamic Iran must use this historic opportunity with all its might to cleanse the region of Zionism. The Zionists, at the height of their stupidity, initiated a war that they thought would take Iran by surprise at the very beginning. The night attack on Iran's military, nuclear, and defence centers was supposed to be the beginning of a "big blow." The Israelis thought that with a few blind air strikes they could bring Tehran to its knees, unaware that Tehran is neither Kyiv nor Tripoli! Today, powerful Iran has not only imposed terrible situation on Tel Aviv and Haifa but is also just showing part of its strategic power. The enemy, who had come to finish the job in his naive imagination, is now waiting with deep wounds for the final blow. The condition for ending the war is only one thing: the destruction of Israel, That's it. Shargh devoted its headline to the consequences of withdrawing from the NPT and wrote: Countries can withdraw from the NPT through Article 10 of the



treaty, but this action has far-reaching consequences and implications that cannot be easily ignored.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51457/0/Condition-for-ending-the-war-is-destruction-of-Israel-not-cessation>

### **Iran vows more surprises following successful stealth missile strike against Israel**

Tehran Times, June 17, 2025

Iran's Ministry of Defence confirmed Tuesday the successful deployment of a previously undisclosed missile system during its ongoing defensive operations against Israeli aggression and warned the regime to expect "further strategic surprises." Defence Ministry Spokesperson Brigadier General Reza Talaei-Nik, in an interview with Iran's National Television, revealed that the advanced missile struck its target undetected by Israeli forces. "Today, one of our missiles was used for the first time, and the Zionist regime did not notice it at all," he stated, adding, "They will see more such surprises." Talaei-Nik did not provide further details about the new missile used. However, Iranian commanders and officials have long asserted that the world's perception of Iran's military capabilities falls far short of reality, as many of their true capabilities remain undisclosed. The spokesperson emphasised Iran's defensive posture in an "imposed war" targeting the nation's resilience. Talaei-Nik asserted that Tehran is mobilizing all offensive and defensive capabilities to protect its sovereignty, noting that "the trenches of our defensive front are comprehensive," with all

segments of Iranian society contributing to the effort.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51454/5/Iran-vows-more-surprises-following-successful-stealth-missile>

### **Israeli media says 10 missiles launched in latest round of Iranian missile strike**

Tehran Times, June 17, 2025

Following Iran's latest missile barrage on June 17, 2025, air raid sirens were activated in more than 100 locations across the occupied Palestinian territories, according to a report by Al Araby TV. Channel 14, a Zionist network, claimed that Iran targeted Israel with 10 missiles during this latest round of attacks. The strikes reportedly led to widespread panic and emergency responses throughout the affected regions. The missile attack comes amid escalating tensions between Iran and the Israeli regime, with Tehran vowing to respond to recent acts of aggression that targeted both military and civilian sites inside Iranian territory. An Al Jazeera correspondent reported that the Israeli air defence system is facing serious difficulties intercepting Iranian missiles, suggesting a potential failure in detection capabilities.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51455/9/Israeli-media-says-10-missiles-launched-in-latest-round-of-Iranian>

### **IRGC strikes hit Aman, Mossad headquarters in Israel**

Tehran Times, June 17, 2025

Missiles launched by Iran have struck various locations across the occupied Palestinian territories, with footage

showing the Aman logistics center—part of the Israeli military intelligence complex in Gilot—still burning following the attack. The Israeli military has attempted to downplay the strikes by highlighting damage to a nearby bus parking lot. However, reports indicate that the missile strikes directly targeted strategic sites, including the Aman logistics facility and the Mossad headquarters in Herzliya. IRGC strikes hit Aman, Mossad headquarters in Israel. Aman headquarters in Gilot. According to Hebrew media sources, there is a strong possibility that secret backup sites linked to Israel's Unit 8200—an elite electronic surveillance and intelligence division—were completely destroyed in Herzliya.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514532/IRGC-strikes-hit-Aman-Mossad-headquarters-in-Israel>

### **Iran air defence down 28 Israel aircraft in past 24**

Mehr News Agency, June 17, 2025

The Iranian air defence shot down as 28 Israel aggressor aircraft in the past 24 hours. The Iranian air defence shoot down as many as 28 Israel aggressor aircraft in the past 24 hours since June 17, 2025. According to Iranian media citing reconcienss military sources, an Israel Herms drone was one of the targeted aircraft.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233265/Iran-air-defanse-down-28-Israel-aircraft-in-past-24>

### **IRGC unveils new Shahed-107 suicide drone**

Tehran Times, June 17, 2025

The Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) Aerospace Force has unveiled its latest suicide drone, the Shahed-107. According to images released by Iranian media, the Shahed-107 is a piston-engine loitering munition that appears to have a range exceeding 1,500 kilometers. The new drone is the latest addition to Iran's growing fleet of long-range unmanned aerial systems, signaling continued advancements in its drone capabilities.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514515/IRGC-unveils-new-Shahed-107-suicide-drone>

### **How did Israel fall into its own self-developed trap?**

Sondoss Al Asaad

Tehran Times, June 17, 2025

Noam Chomsky has long warned against the seduction of power when exercised without political rationality and against imperialist narratives that obscure facts behind flimsy pretexts such as “deterrence” and “self-defence.” This is exactly what Israel fell into, and the euphoria surrounding Iran's lightning strike last June 13, 2025, morning will cost it a heavy price. The Israeli enemy, and Washington behind it, delude themselves into believing that they can impose a balance of power to their imperial advantage through a surprise attack on a regional state the size of Iran. However, the reality is complex and open

to unexpected surprises, revealed in succession by the creative and innovative Persian carpet weaver. Indeed, Tehran has exposed the enemy, which flees from one predicament to another after its failures in Gaza, the West Bank, Lebanon, and Yemen; the battle with Iran is more dangerous and complex! Since day one, the Hebrew and pro-Israel Arab media have been demonstrating the aggression against Iran as a restoration of the Israeli enemy's honor following the humiliating slap it received on October 7, 2023. Nevertheless, what happened and is happening was not and will not be a victory, but rather a slide into greater danger. This is precisely what Chomsky warns against when he speaks of the "Orientalist flattening" of the Western mind toward its opponents.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514560/How-did-Israel-fall-into-its-own-self-developed-trap>

### **'Any US military intervention will be met with irreparable harm': Leader**

Tehran Times, June 18, 2025

"Americans must know that any U.S. military intervention will undoubtedly be met with irreparable harm." The Leader's statement followed U.S. President Donald Trump's threats to target Ayatollah Khamenei and potential U.S. military entry into the war to assist Israel. The Tehran Times understands that every Israeli action since Friday has received full U.S. support, coordination, and cooperation—though American jets have yet to directly engage. U.S. analysts confirm Iranian missiles could devastate American bases in the

region, where tens of thousands of troops are stationed. These missiles have already demonstrated precision and destructive strikes across occupied Palestinian territories in recent days. Analysts tell the Tehran Times that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's failed objectives in attacking Iran now require Trump to "bail him out" of the crisis.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514589/Any-US-military-intervention-will-be-met-with-irreparable-harm>

### **New type of Iranian missiles, previously undisclosed, reach occupied territories**

Tehran Times, June 18, 2025

Iran has launched a barrage of missiles into the occupied territories as part of the latest phase of Operation True Promise III—this time sending missiles that sport a higher range and power in comparison to the ones that were used before in the course of last five days of conflict with Israel. According to the informed sources, the range of these new missiles, that have been launched around 8 p.m. local time on Wednesday, have an approximate range of 6000 kilometres. Iran's armed forces intensified their military operations against occupied Palestine, continuing Operation True Promise III with a series of missile strikes on June 17 and 18. On June 17, 2025 evening and into June 18, 2025 morning, Iran launched three new waves of ballistic missiles targeting various locations across the occupied territories. Reports indicate that these attacks caused widespread explosions from the northern to southern parts of occupied Palestine, with numerous

videos and images circulating showing the aftermath, including incidents of self-damage involving Israeli missile defence systems. The Iranian Armed Forces Chief of Staff issued a warning on Tuesday to Israeli settlers to evacuate Tel Aviv, Haifa, and other cities, saying that recent retaliatory operations against Israeli targets were meant as deterrent warnings, and that a more forceful and punitive military response is imminent.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514629/New-type-of-Iranian-missiles-previously-undisclosed-reach-occupied>

### **Israel may run out of missile interceptors if war continues**

Mehr News Agency, June 18, 2025

As the Israeli aggression against Iran entered its fifth day on June 17, 2025, US officials are becoming increasingly concerned over the rapid depletion of the Israeli regime's advanced missile interceptors, a report says. Quoting a senior US official familiar with resupply efforts, a report in the Middle East Eye said Israel is burning through its stockpile of ballistic missile interceptors at a "rapid clip." The concern is particularly acute within segments of the US government that worry a direct American strike on Iran could provoke massive Iranian retaliation against Israel, risking a "horrendous" drawdown of the US global inventory of interceptors, Press TV reported. Since June 13, Iranian retaliatory military operation True Promise III has inflicted heavy blows not only on the Israeli military-industrial

complex but also on its depleting air defenses.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233275/Israel-may-run-out-of-missile-interceptors-if-war-continues>

### **Iran's nuclear facilities operating normally, says Atomic Chief**

Tehran Times, June 18, 2025

The head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation says the country's nuclear facilities remain secure and fully operational, as international scrutiny intensifies following recent Israeli attacks on Iranian territory. Mohammad Eslami, head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), said staff morale at nuclear sites is high and personnel remain firmly in place despite recent tensions. "The Iranian people have never yielded to pressure or coercion. Our colleagues at the nuclear facilities are performing their duties with determination and strength," Eslami stated. "Our nation is built on pride and power. The enemy should understand that this path will lead them nowhere—just as it always has." He emphasised that the situation at Iran's nuclear facilities remains stable, and staff are working without disruption. Meanwhile, Rafael Grossi, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), reiterated in an interview with CNN that the agency has found no evidence of an organised Iranian effort to build nuclear weapons.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514593/Iran-s-nuclear-facilities-operating-normally-says-Atomic-Chief>

## **IRGC targets Israeli airbases in tenth wave of True Promise III, vows sustained strikes**

Tehran Times, June 18, 2025

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) announced on June 15, 2025, that its aerospace forces struck Israeli airbases that used to launch "audacious aggression" against Iranian territory, marking the tenth wave of Operation True Promise III. In a statement (Communiqué No. 9), the IRGC emphasised these precision strikes were a direct response to the Zionist regime's attacks on sovereign Iranian soil and signaled that "complex, multi-layered, and gradual operations will continue relentlessly." The operation commenced June 13, 2025, night after Israel launched its act of aggression against Iran and assassinated senior IRGC commanders, nuclear scientists, and civilians—including children—in Tehran and other Iranian cities. In the third phase of Operation True Promise III, initiated late Sunday, the IRGC unleashed coordinated missile and drone strikes deep inside occupied territories. According to military sources, six strategic sites were hit, including: Military and intelligence command centers in Tel Aviv, Haifa's oil refinery, a critical energy hub supplying the regime, Rafael Advanced Defence Systems facilities, which produce the Iron Dome. Although the regime has imposed strict military censorship, social media footage showed ballistic missiles overwhelming Israeli air defences, causing great precision and success against targets. The strikes triggered massive explosions in Haifa, flattened buildings in Tel Aviv, and

damaged 61 structures in Bat Yam alone—six of which were completely destroyed.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514571/IRGC-targets-Israeli-airbases-in-tenth-wave-of-True-Promise-III>

## **Is Iran 'very close' to building a nuclear bomb as Trump claims?**

Yashraj Sharma and John T Psaropoulos

Aljazeera, June 18, 2025

Returning early from the Group of Seven summit in Canada early on June 17, 2025, United States President Donald Trump told reporters he believed Iran was "very close" to building nuclear weapons. His comments were in keeping with increasingly threatening social media posts and language from Trump against Iran in recent days during Israel's escalating conflict with its longtime Middle Eastern rival. Israel has bombed Iran's top nuclear facilities and has killed at least 14 Iranian nuclear scientists. Israel's armed forces said the scientists "were key factors in the development of Iranian nuclear weapons" and "their elimination is a significant blow to the regime's ability to acquire weapons of mass destruction (WMDs)." Iran insists that its nuclear programme is entirely peaceful and for civilian purposes. It points to Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei's edict against nuclear weapons to back up its assertion. But Trump's comments echoed the claims made on multiple occasions by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for more than two decades – and repeated by him during the current conflict – to justify military action against Iran. "In recent

months, Iran has taken steps that it has never taken before: steps to weaponise enriched uranium,” Netanyahu said on June 13, 2025, after the first wave of missiles struck Iranian nuclear facilities.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/6/18/is-iran-very-close-to-building-a-nuclear-bomb-as-trump-claims>

### **IAEA chief says no evidence Iran is building nuclear weapons**

Mehr News Agency, June 18, 2025

In a significant admission that contradicts assertions of Israeli regime and US officials, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) confirms that there is no evidence Iran is pursuing nuclear weapons program. Speaking to CNN journalist Christiane Amanpour on Tuesday, Rafael Grossi acknowledged what Iran has repeatedly stated and the UN nuclear agency has also confirmed in its reports. “What we reported was that we did not have any proof of a systematic effort [by Iran] to move toward a nuclear weapon,” the director general of the IAEA was quoted as saying. He reiterated that the agency’s findings align with other independent sources on the issue. The statement marks a clarification from the UN nuclear agency following heightened scrutiny and criticism of its most recent quarterly report on Iran’s nuclear activities, which Iran dismissed as “politically motivated.” Iranian officials maintain that obligations under the JCPOA are no longer binding in the absence of compliance by other signatories, notably the Europeans,

and maintain that the country continues to uphold its commitments under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and related IAEA Safeguards Agreement.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233293/IAEA-chief-says-no-evidence-Iran-is-building-nuclear-weapons>

### **Iran destroys Israel’s key military intelligence center**

Mehr News Agency, June 18, 2025

The logistical headquarters of the Israeli Military Intelligence Unit, known as ‘Aman,’ has been destroyed in Iran’s retaliatory operation ‘True Promise III’. Another facility associated with the Unit 8200 was also targeted in an operation. In a statement on June 17, 2025, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) confirmed the successful strike on the Israeli Military Intelligence Unit 8200 at the Gilot base near Tel Aviv. “In the early hours of today, 17 June, IRGC aerospace division, in an impact-oriented operation, despite the presence of highly advanced defence systems, struck the Zionist regime’s military intelligence center known as Aman and the center for planning terror operations and evils of the Zionist regime (Mossad) in Tel Aviv, and this center is currently burning,” read the statement. Images circulating on social media on June 17, 2025, showed the ‘Aman’ logistics center, part of the Israeli military intelligence complex in Gilot near Tel Aviv, up in flames. A man is known as one of the oldest intelligence organizations that was established soon after the illegitimate



Zionist entity came into existence. Its main mission is to gather and supply intelligence to the Israeli regime and its spy agency, Mossad, for its terror and sabotage attacks across the world, including in Iran. Aman includes high-tech spying units that enable specialized military attacks like Unit 8200 (Signals Intelligence), Unit 504 (Human Intelligence), and Unit 9900 (Geospatial Intelligence).

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233303/Iran-destroys-Israel-s-key-military-intelligence-center>

### **I.R.G.C. says it has targeted Israeli bases in impact-oriented ops**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 18, 2025

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (I.R.G.C.) says it has targeted Israeli military bases in impact-oriented operations. The I.R.G.C. said in a press release late that the attacks in the 10th wave of punitive Iranian strikes on Israel had targeted aerial bases that had been used to launch attacks on Iran. It said those operations would continue non-stop and in multi-layered and gradual formats. Meanwhile, footage appeared from the Israeli-occupied territories early on Wednesday, showing Iranian missiles making impact on ground targets. For a second night in a row, at least one Israeli “Iron Dome” missile was also seen failing mid-sky and falling on Tel Aviv, causing a massive fire.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85865820/I-R-G-C-says-it-has-targeted-Israeli-bases-in-impact-oriented>

### **IRGC says Fattah missiles shattered myth of Zionist regime's air defence invincibility**

Tehran Times, June 18, 2025

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has said in a statement that the 11th wave of the retaliatory strikes on Israel included the first generation of Fattah hypersonic missiles, which have “shattered the myth of invincibility of the Zionist regime’s air defence systems”. IRGC Aerospace Force on Wednesday carried out one of the heaviest and most destructive missile attacks that Iran has launched against the Zionist regime in the past recent days in retaliation for the Israeli war of aggression on the Iranian people. As the Iranian Armed Forces’ counterattacks against the Zionist regime continue, the IRGC launched a massive missile strike on the Israeli targets in the early hours of the day. According to the statement, the powerful and maneuverable Fattah missiles have penetrated into the Israeli air defence shields and rattled the shelters of the cowards several times. The IRGC said the latest wave of missile strikes proved that Iran has gained complete control over the skies of the occupied territories as the occupants have become totally defenceless in the face of Iran’s missile attacks.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514596/IRGC-says-Fattah-missiles-shattered-myth-of-Zionist-regime-s>

### **Update on Developments in Iran**

IAEA, June 19, 2025

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is continuing to closely monitor

and assess the situation regarding the Israeli attacks on nuclear sites in the Islamic Republic of Iran, providing frequent public updates about developments and their possible consequences for human health and the environment, Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi said. Since the military attacks began almost a week ago, the IAEA has been reporting on damage at several of these facilities, including at nuclear-related sites located in Arak, Esfahan, Natanz and Tehran, and their potential radiological impact. In his statement to the Board of Governors on 13 June, the morning of the attacks on Iranian nuclear facilities, the Director General recalled the numerous General Conference resolutions on the topic of military attacks against nuclear facilities, in particular, GC(XXIX)/RES/444 and GC(XXXIV)/RES/533, which provide, inter alia, that “any armed attack on and threat against nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes constitutes a violation of the principles of the United Nations Charter, international law and the Statute of the Agency”.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/update-on-developments-in-iran>

### **Iran to close Strait of Hormuz if US joins aggression**

Mehr News Agency, June 19, 2025

Iran will not close Strait of Hormuz for the time being but if the Global Arrogance (US and Western states) joins Israeli regime, Tehral will have to shut the strategic waterway way to protect its national interests. Tehran MP in the Iranian parliament Seyyed Ali Yazdi Khah said that

the enemies must know that Iran has too many choices that will employ them if needs be. The lawmaker stressed that Iran will not close Strait of Hormuz for the time being but if the Global Arrogance (US and Western states) joins Israeli regime directly, Tehral will shut the strategic waterway way as the good and easy choice. The Islamic Republic of Iran will allow freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz only if the Iranian strategic interests are not endangered.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233321/Iran-could-close-Strait-of-Hormuz-if-US-joins-aggression>

### **Another Israeli Hermes drone downed in Iran airspace**

Tehran Times, June 19, 2025

Iran Army air defence shot down an advanced Israeli Hermes drone over the western Lorestan province. The first Israeli Hermes 900 drone was shut down over the Isfahan province earlier on the day. The Hermes 900 is an Israeli-made, medium-altitude long-endurance UAV developed for tactical operations. Issuing a statement after launching the 12th phase of Operation True Promise III against Israel on Wednesday evening, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said that it has successfully managed to challenge Israeli defence systems across occupied Palestine. "And now, the airspace of the occupied territories is open to hug the Iranian missiles and drones," it added. Addressing the residents of the illegal Israeli settlements, the IRGC said that it is set to launch continuous missile attacks on occupied Palestine, recalling the promise

made by the former IRGC chief Hossein Salami who had vowed that Iran would open the gates of hell to the criminal Zionists in response to their numerous crimes.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514636/Another-Israeli-Hermes-drone-downed-in-Iran-airspace>

### **Official briefs on Israeli attack on Khondab nuclear site**

Mehr News Agency, June 19, 2025

The Director General of Crisis Management of the Markazi Province that the Israeli regime's attack on the Khondab heavy water complex did not result in any casualties, radioactive emission, or environmental pollution. Earlier on June 19, 2025, Iranian media reported air defences were activated in the area of the Khondab nuclear facility and two projectiles hit an area close to it. Morteza Miri said that "At around 6 am today, the Khandab heavy water complex area was attacked by the Israeli regime's air force." He added that "With the evacuation of the complex and the measures that had been taken in advance, this attack did not result in any emission of materials from the complex and does not pose any danger to the people in the surrounding area." However, this morning's Israeli attack has also been reported in the International Atomic Energy Agency as according to international treaties, attacks on nuclear facilities are prohibited.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233323/Official-briefs-on-Israeli-attack-on-Khondab-nuclear-site>

### **What is the Sejil missile that Iran launched in its latest attack on Israel?**

Firstpost, June 19, 2025

Iran on Thursday fired a Sejil missile at Israel. This marks the first time Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has launched this medium-range ballistic missile (MRBM) in an attack on Israel. "The twelfth wave of Operation 'True Promise 3' has begun with the launch of ultra-heavy, long-range, two-stage Sejil missiles," the IRGC said in a statement. "Sejil missiles, powered by solid fuel and with long-range capabilities, are among Iran's most accurate and powerful strategic weapons. They possess the ability to penetrate and destroy critical enemy targets." Iran launched 'Operation True Promise 3' to counter Israel's 'Operation Rising Lion'.

<https://www.firstpost.com/explainers/what-is-the-sejil-missile-that-iran-launched-in-its-latest-attack-on-israel-13898695.html>

### **Iran exercises 'right to self-defence' but 'remains committed to diplomacy:' Araghchi**

Tehran Times, June 19, 2025

In a Thursday post on X, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi emphasised the nation's commitment to self-defence in light of the Israeli-imposed war on Iran, while reaffirming that Tehran has never sought nuclear weapons and will not do so in the future. "Now, the whole world must know that Iran is merely defending itself," Araghchi asserted. He highlighted that Iran's responses have been limited to

reciprocal actions against the Israeli regime, rather than those who "assist and encourage" it. The backdrop to Araghchi's remarks is the recent Tel Aviv's campaign of aggression against Iran, launched in the early hours of June 13, 2025 by attacking Iran, assassinating several officials and scientists, and martyring hundreds of Iranians as well as injuring thousands, predominantly civilians. Araghchi warned that the Israeli regime, weakened by its own internal issues, is attempting to draw other nations into its conflicts, stating, "Just as Netanyahu launched this war to destroy diplomacy, the world must be very vigilant regarding the increasing efforts of the weakened Israeli regime to compel others to save it."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514632/Iran-exercises-right-to-self-defense-but-remains-committed>

### **Israel attacks Arak Heavy Water Nuclear facility, no casualties reported**

Tehran Times, June 19, 2025

Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation confirmed on June 19, 2025, that Israel launched an attack targeting the Arak Heavy Water Nuclear Facility, also known as the Shahid Khondab Research Reactor, located in Iran's central Markazi province. According to a statement released by the organisation, the strike occurred in the early morning hours but resulted in no casualties or injuries. The agency emphasised that preemptive security measures had been in place, preventing any threat to nearby residents or critical infrastructure. "The attack resulted in no casualties or injuries.

Thanks to security measures taken in advance, there is no risk or damage to the population in the area surrounding the facility," the statement read. Iranian sources also confirmed that there was no nuclear leak or environmental hazard following the strike. The incident has been formally reported to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Iranian officials said, calling the Israeli action a dangerous escalation in the ongoing conflict with the Zionist regime.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514639/Israel-attacks-Arak-Heavy-Water-Nuclear-Facility-no-casualties>

### **Grossi betrayed the non-proliferation regime: Foreign Ministry spokesperson**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 19, 2025

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baghaei says that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director-General Rafael Grossi has betrayed the non-proliferation regime and made the agency a partner to the unjust war of aggression against Iran. "DG @rafaelmgrossi: "We did not have any evidence of a systematic effort [by Iran] to move into a nuclear weapon." This is too late, Mr. Grossi: you obscured this truth in your absolutely biased report that was instrumentalised by E3/U.S. to craft a resolution with baseless allegation of 'non-compliance'; the same resolution was then utilised, as a final pretext, by a genocidal warmongering regime to wage a war of aggression on Iran and to launch an unlawful attack on our

peaceful nuclear facilities,” Baqaei wrote in a post on his X account.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85866924/Grossi-betrayed-the-non-proliferation-regime-Foreign-Ministry>

### **Why Israel wants US bunker busters to hit Iran's Fordow nuclear site**

Marium Ali

Aljazeera, June 19, 2025

US President Donald Trump says he is still weighing his options regarding United States military intervention amid escalating hostilities between Israel and Iran. Standing on the South Lawn of the White House Trump said, “The next week is going to be big,” adding that Iranian officials are eager to negotiate. However, he warned them that “it’s very late to be talking,” after they reached out to him. Officials and experts have suggested that the US’s 30,000-pound (13,000kg) bunker buster bomb is the only weapon capable of destroying the Fordow Fuel Enrichment Plant, a facility believed to be central to Tehran’s nuclear programme and carved deep into a mountain. The United States is the only country to possess these bombs, which it delivers using B-2 bombers. If deployed against Iran, it would represent a major shift from primarily intercepting missiles on Israel’s behalf to conducting active offensive strikes against Iran. “Bunker buster” is a general term for bombs designed to destroy targets located deep underground that conventional bombs cannot reach. The US military’s most powerful bunker buster is the GBU-57 Massive Ordnance Penetrator. Weighing

about 30,000 pounds (13,600 kg), including a 2,700kg (6,000-pound) warhead, this precision-guided bomb is made of high-strength steel and built to penetrate up to 200 feet (61 metres) underground before exploding.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/6/19/why-israel-wants-us-bunker-busters-to-hit-irans-fordow-nuclear-site>

### **Iran ready for nuclear talks when ‘Israeli aggression stops’**

Jillian Kestler-D'Amours and Nils Adler

Aljazeera, June 20, 2025

Iran said it would not discuss the future of its nuclear programme while under attack by Israel, as the countries continue to exchange aerial attacks for an eighth day. At least 17 people, including three in serious condition, have been wounded in Israel after Iran’s latest missile salvo, with explosions reported in several locations. A meeting between Iran’s foreign minister and top European diplomats yielded hopes of further talks but no indication of any immediate concrete breakthrough. Israel’s envoy to the UN says the country will not apologise for its attacks across Iran, pledging to continue “until Iran’s nuclear threat is dismantled”. The White House says, due to “chance of negotiation”, President Donald Trump will decide in the next two weeks whether the US will join Israel in attacking Iran.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/liveblog/2025/6/20/live-iran-israel-continue-missile-fire-irans-fm-to-meet-eu-counterparts>



### **Iran is using cluster bombs against Israel: What are these bombs and why are they banned in war?**

The Economic Times, June 20, 2025

Israel accused Iran of launching at least one missile carrying cluster munitions, marking the first reported use of such weapons in the seven-day-old conflict. According to Israeli officials, the missile dispersed submunitions designed to increase civilian casualties, raising serious humanitarian concerns. Cluster bombs, a type of cluster munition, are designed to release numerous smaller explosives—known as submunitions—over a wide area. These weapons can be dropped from aircraft or launched from the ground. Once deployed, the main shell opens mid-air and scatters submunitions across an area equivalent to several football fields. One of the most controversial aspects of cluster munitions is their long-term danger. Some submunitions fail to explode on impact and remain lethal for years, posing significant risks to civilians and hindering post-conflict recovery. Removing unexploded ordnance is both costly and time-consuming.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/iran-is-using-cluster-bombs-against-israel-what-are-these-bombs-and-why-are-they-banned-in-war/articleshow/121969534.cms?from=mdr>

### **Iranian Missiles' Accuracy Tripled, Israeli Officials Admit**

Tasnim News Agency, June 20, 2025

Senior Israeli military sources have acknowledged a sharp rise in the accuracy of Iranian missile strikes, with recent

operations achieving three times the hit rate compared to the previous attacks. The Israeli regime's media, citing high-ranking military officials, reported that the accuracy of Iranian missiles targeting positions in the occupied territories has increased significantly compared to previous operations known as "True Promise I and II." According to the sources, nearly one out of every two Iranian missiles is now hitting its intended target -a figure they admit marks a substantial improvement. The acknowledgment starkly contrasts with earlier Israeli claims that 90% of the Iranian projectiles were intercepted and neutralized.

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2025/06/20/3338685/iranian-missiles-accuracy-tripled-israeli-officials-admit>

### **Update on Developments in Iran (2)**

IAEA, June 21, 2025

A centrifuge manufacturing workshop has been hit in Esfahan, the third such facility that has been targeted in Israel's attacks on Iran's nuclear-related sites over the past week, Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi said today, citing information available to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The workshop – which made the machines used to enrich uranium – was previously under IAEA monitoring and verification as part of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), including with installed Agency cameras. "We know this facility well. There was no nuclear material at this site and therefore the attack on it will have no radiological consequences," Director General Grossi said. It came a few days after the IAEA on 18 June reported that the



Tehran Research Center, where advanced centrifuge rotors were manufactured and tested, had been hit, as had a workshop in the city of Karaj where different centrifuge components were manufactured. There was no radiological impact, internally or externally.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/update-on-developments-in-iran-2>

### **Update on Developments in Iran (3)**

IAEA, June 21, 2025

A large nuclear complex in Esfahan has been targeted for a second time during Israel's attacks on Iran over the past nine days, with several more buildings struck, Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said today. The site in central Iran was first hit on 13 June when four buildings were damaged: the central chemical laboratory, a uranium conversion facility, a reactor fuel manufacturing plant, and an enriched uranium metal processing facility under construction. No increase of off-site radiation levels was reported. Based on information available to the IAEA today, six other buildings at the same site have now also been attacked: a natural and depleted uranium metal production facility which had not yet begun operations, a fuel rod production facility, a building with low-enriched uranium pellet production as well as a laboratory and nuclear material storage, another laboratory building, a workshop handling contaminated equipment and an office building with no nuclear material.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/update-on-developments-in-iran-3>

### **Command headquarters: Israel's radar capabilities and weapons stockpiles have been considerably depleted**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 21, 2025

The central command headquarters of the Armed Forces says Israel's radar and air defence capabilities and weapons stockpiles have been considerably depleted, warning that any shipments of equipment to the regime will be a legitimate target for Iran. The Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters said in a statement on Saturday that intelligence showed that Israel, despite access to the world's most advanced and most expensive missile defence systems, was now suffering from depleted radar capabilities and weapons stockpiles. "We warn that shipments of any type of military or radar equipment, whether transferred by ship or aircraft, and originating from any country to help the Zionist regime will constitute participation in the aggression against the Islamic Iran and will be a legitimate target for the Armed Forces," the command said.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85869060/Command-headquarters-Israel-s-radar-capabilities-and-weapons>

### **Iran won't forgo Nuclear Rights: President**

Tasnim News Agency, June 21, 2025

Expressing Iran's determination to uphold its absolute right to enjoy nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, President Masoud Pezeshkian vowed that Iran will give crushing retaliatory responses to the Israeli regime's aggression. In a telephone

conversation with his French counterpart, President Pezeshkian said the Zionist regime has flagrantly violated all international rules by waging a war of aggression against Iran. It is impossible to deprive the nations of the rights they have been entitled to under the international law through wars and threats, Pezeshkian stated. Expressing Iran's readiness for dialogue and cooperation to build confidence over its peaceful nuclear activities, the president said, "On the one hand, we will not approve of the nuclear activities being driven down to zero by any means, and on the other hand, our responses to the Zionist regime's continued aggression will be more crushing and decisive." "Iran has always voiced readiness to give guarantees and build confidence about its peaceful nuclear activities within the framework of the international law, but at the same time emphasises that it will never give up its inalienable rights in accordance with the international law to enjoy peaceful nuclear capabilities," President Pezeshkian underlined.

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2025/06/21/3339815/iran-won-t-forgo-nuclear-rights-president>

#### **Update on Developments in Iran (4)**

IAEA, June 22, 2025

Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi said he will call an emergency meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors on June 23, 2025, in light of the "urgent situation" in Iran following the latest attacks on the country's nuclear facilities. "In view of the increasingly serious situation in terms of

nuclear safety and security, the Board of Governors will meet in an extraordinary session tomorrow, which I will address," Director General Grossi said. The Director General said the IAEA has been informed by the Iranian regulatory authorities that there has been no increase in off-site radiation levels after the recent attacks on three Iranian nuclear facilities, including the Fordow uranium enrichment site. "As of this time, we don't expect that there will be any health consequences for people or the environment outside the targeted sites," he said. "We will continue to monitor and assess the situation in Iran and provide further updates as additional information becomes available."

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/update-on-developments-in-iran-4>

#### **Update on Developments in Iran(5)**

IAEA, June 22, 2025

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) can confirm that the Iranian nuclear sites of Fordow, Natanz and Esfahan have been hit, following U.S. aerial attacks overnight, Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi said today. Based on an analysis of the information available to it, the IAEA assessed that there has been extensive additional damage at the sprawling Esfahan site, which had already been struck several times by Israel since it began targeting Iran's nuclear facilities on 13 June, Director General Grossi said. The IAEA had previously reported that several buildings at the Esfahan complex were damaged, some of which may have contained nuclear material. "The latest attacks early this morning damaged other

buildings in Esfahan. In addition, we have established that entrances to underground tunnels at the site were impacted,” Director General Grossi said. The extent of damage to the Fordow uranium enrichment facility – built deep inside a mountain in central Iran – was not immediately possible to assess in view of its underground location and the penetrating nature of the bombs used.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/update-on-developments-in-iran-5>

### **Iran Entitled to Counter US Strike: Foreign Ministry**

Tasnim News Agency, June 22, 2025

Condemning the US military attacks on Iran’s nuclear facilities as an egregious violation of the UN Charter, the Iranian Foreign Ministry said Tehran is entitled to stand against the American military aggression and protect its national interests in the face of crimes. While the Zionist regime’s war of aggression against Iran has entered its 10th day, the US stepped in and conducted military strikes on three nuclear sites in Iran. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns the brutal US military aggression against Iran’s peaceful nuclear facilities, which was carried out in gross and unprecedented violation of the most fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter and international law. It holds the warmongering and lawless US government fully responsible for the extremely dangerous consequences of this major crime. The US military aggression against the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of a UN member state, carried

out in criminal collaboration with the genocidal Zionist regime, once again demonstrates the depth of cruelty and depravity dominating US foreign policy, and the profound hostility of the American ruling establishment toward the peace-loving and independence-seeking Iranian people.

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2025/06/22/3339959/iran-entitled-to-counter-us-strike-foreign-ministry>

### **Iran condemns US, Israeli attacks on Nuclear Facilities as International Crime**

Tasnim News Agency, June 22, 2025

The Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran (AEOI) strongly condemned the joint US-Israeli military strikes on its nuclear sites, denouncing them as a clear violation of international law and a reckless provocation that will not go unanswered. In a statement released following the US aggression against Iran’s nuclear infrastructures, the AEOI revealed that the country’s peaceful nuclear facilities in Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan were targeted at dawn in a “barbaric and illegal act,” in flagrant breach of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). “The American enemy, through a statement by its president in social media, has officially claimed responsibility for the attacks on these sites, which are under continuous monitoring by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) based on the safeguards agreement and the NPT,” the statement read. The organisation denounced the passive stance of the IAEA, which is not only ignoring the violations but, through its silence, enabling

such aggressive behavior. “It is unfortunate that this action—clearly against international law—has taken place with the indifference and, in some cases, complicity of the International Atomic Energy Agency,” the AEOI added.

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2025/06/22/3339892/iran-condemns-us-israeli-attacks-on-nuclear-facilities-as-international-crime>

### **Missiles rain down on Israeli targets in fresh round of Iranian strikes**

Tasnim News Agency, June 22, 2025

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps fired various types of long-range ballistic missiles at targets across the occupied Palestinian territories on June 22, 2025, in the latest round of retaliatory attacks against the Israeli regime. The 20th wave of Iran’s attacks as part of the Operation True Promise 3 included multiple long-range ballistic missiles running on solid and liquid fuel. The missiles, equipped with powerful warheads, have defeated the Israeli regime’s air defences. Israeli media reported that around 30 Iranian missiles have been launched against targets in Haifa and Tel Aviv. The chief targets in the most recent round of Iran’s strikes involved Ben Gurion airport, the Israeli regime’s biological research center, its logistical bases, and various bureaus of its command-and-control centers.

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2025/06/22/3339939/missiles-rain-down-on-israeli-targets-in-fresh-round-of-iranian-strikes>

### **IRGC warns US bases are 'points of vulnerability' in the region**

Iran International, June 22, 2025

The widespread presence of US military bases across the region represents not a strength but a point of vulnerability, Iran’s Revolutionary Guards said in a statement following overnight American strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities. “As we have repeatedly stated, the number, dispersion, and extent of US military bases in the region are not a point of strength, but rather have doubled their vulnerability,” the Revolutionary Guards said in a June 19, 2025, statement. Iran’s nuclear capabilities are resilient against foreign attacks, the IRGC added. “We firmly assert that Iran’s indigenous and peaceful nuclear technology cannot be destroyed by any attack,” the statement said.

<https://www.iranintl.com/en/202506227935>

### **Iran urges I.A.E.A. probe into U.S. illegal action against nuclear sites**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 22, 2025

Following U.S. attacks on Iranian nuclear sites in Fordow, Isfahan, and Natanz early, the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran (A.E.O.I.) urged International Atomic Energy Agency (I.A.E.A.) Director General Rafael Grossi to investigate these illegal actions against Iran’s nuclear facilities. The A.E.O.I. expressed strong objections to the blatant violation of international law, particularly the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (N.P.T.) and other mechanisms that prohibit even threats against nuclear facilities. The

organisation also criticised the director general's inaction, urging him to condemn such violations of international regulations. Furthermore, the A.E.O.I. addressed Grossi, stating that Iran has taken the necessary actions to defend its sovereignty and will pursue appropriate legal procedures regarding the inaction and complicity of the secretary general in this matter.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85869573/Iran-urges-I-A-E-A-probe-into-U-S-illegal-action-against-nuclear>

### **It is Israel, not Iran that has secret nuclear weapons program**

Tehran Times, June 22, 2025

An Al Jazeera analyst says it is not Iran but the Israeli regime that has a secret nuclear weapons program. "The sole clandestine nuclear weapons power in the Middle East is not Iran but Israel, which has refused to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and has never allowed UN safeguards on its facilities," Belén Fernández wrote. The text of the analysis titled "By bombing Iran, US continues to make the world safe for war" is as follows: It seems like just on Saturday that United States President Donald Trump was pushing a "diplomatic resolution" to the Iranian nuclear issue. Now, the U.S. has joined Israel's illegal assault on Iran, striking three Iranian nuclear sites on the early morning of Sunday (Middle Eastern time) in what Trump has boasted was a "very successful attack".

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514810/It-is-Israel-not-Iran-that-has-secret-nuclear-weapons-program>

### **Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran: Nuclear sites are attacked; nuclear industry path will continue**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 22, 2025,

The Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran (A.E.O.I.) says enemies have struck nuclear facilities in Fordow, Natanz, and Esfahan in contravention of international law, the Non-Proliferation Treaty (N.P.T.) in particular. The A.E.O.I. said in a statement early on June 19, 2025, that the United States has claimed responsibility for the strikes. "The international community is expected to, while condemning the [instances of] lawlessness based on the law of the jungle, accompany Iran in reclaiming its rights," the statement read. It said the A.E.O.I. assures the Iranian nation that, despite the evil conspiracies of the enemies, and "by relying on the efforts of thousands of revolutionary and motivated scientists and experts," it will not allow the path to the development of this national industry to be hindered.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85869163/Atomic-Energy-Organization-of-Iran-Nuclear-sites-are-attacked>

### **How the US used stealth and decoys to launch surprise attack on Iran**

Demetri Sevastopulo, Henry Foy, James Shotter and David Sheppard

Financial Times, June 23, 2025

Before dawn in the US on June 19, 2025, plane spotters using flight tracker apps noticed B-2 stealth bombers based in Missouri flying to the Pacific, sparking

speculation they were heading to Guam to prepare for an attack on Iran. As experts debated why the B-2s were flying towards Guam and not Diego Garcia, an Indian Ocean location closer to Iran where the US and UK have a base, the US was already conducting a top-secret attack on Iran. Very early on June 19, 2025, eastern time, seven other B-2s took off from Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri. Unlike the planes that flew to the Pacific and made themselves detectable at times, the seven B-2s flew east in stealth mode. Roughly 18 hours later, they dropped 14 massive bunker-buster bombs on two of Iran's three nuclear sites that were hit in the strikes. After the strikes on Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan, US defence secretary Pete Hegseth said Operation Midnight Hammer involved very tight operational security and "misdirection". "The scope and scale of what occurred... would take the breath away of almost any American if you had an opportunity to watch it in real time," Hegseth said.

<https://www.ft.com/content/3714b0eb-846e-4a2e-b429-3607f8e6bba6>

### **Armed Forces fire missiles at HQs of USAF Central Command**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 23, 2025

The Armed Forces have fired missiles at a U.S. military base in Qatar in retaliation for U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities. Powerful missiles were fired at the United States' Al Udeid airbase in Qatar as part of Operation Harbinger of Conquest. The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (I.R.G.C.) said in a statement that the headquarters of the United States Air

Forces Central Command, the United States' largest strategic asset in West Asia, was being hit. The I.R.G.C. said Iran's message to the White House and its allies was clear: By relying on God the Almighty, and backed up by the Iranian people, the Islamic Republic of Iran would under no circumstances leave a violation of its territorial integrity, sovereignty, and national security unanswered.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85871145/Armed-Forces-fire-missiles-at-HQs-of-USAF-Central-Command>

### **Iran to continue uranium enrichment despite U.S. attack, says deputy FM**

Tehran Times, June 23, 2025

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Majid Takht-Ravanchi has reaffirmed Iran's commitment to uranium enrichment within the framework of the NPT, emphasising that no country can dictate Iran's peaceful nuclear policies. In an interview with Germany's ARD television, he condemned the recent U.S. strike on Iranian nuclear facilities as a blatant act of aggression and defended Iran's right to respond under international law. Takht-Ravanchi strongly rejected Western demands for halting Iran's nuclear activities following a U.S. military strike on Iranian nuclear infrastructure. "We are a committed member of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and will continue uranium enrichment for peaceful purposes and to meet our national needs," Takht-Ravanchi stated. "As long as we remain within the framework of our NPT obligations, no one can tell us what to do or not to do." Responding to questions about Iran's possible reaction, Takht-Ravanchi invoked Article 51 of the United Nations



Charter: “As the victim of aggression, we have the right to self-defence, and that’s what we will do. This right is fully recognised under international law.”

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514829/Iran-to-continue-uranium-enrichment-despite-U-S-attack-says>

### **I.R.G.C. fires multiwarhead Kheibar missiles at Israel for first time**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 23, 2025

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (I.R.G.C.) has said multiwarhead Kheibar missiles (Qadr H) were fired at Israeli regime for the first time during the 21st wave of “Operation True Promise 3”. The 21st wave of “Operation True Promise 3” was launched in response to the continued evils of the Israeli regime, firing in solid and liquid fuel missiles and the combination of smart drones. In this operation, multiwarhead Kheibar missiles (Qadr H) was used for the first time using new and surprising tactics to hit more accurately, destructive and more effective, and strategic targets across the occupied territories from north to south and the center of Israel. The I.R.G.C. has conducted the 21st wave of the Operation True Promise 3 on Israel in response to the its strikes on Iran. The 21st wave of the operation began on June 21, 2025 morning, utilising drones and missiles, the spokesperson for Operation True Promise 3 Colonel Iman Tajik announced.

<https://en.irma.ir/news/85870846/I-R-G-C-fires-multiwarhead-Kheibar-missiles-at-Israel-for-first>

### **Iran carries out 21st wave of Operation True Promise 3 in response to Israeli aggression**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 23, 2025

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (I.R.G.C.) has conducted the 21st wave of the Operation True Promise 3 on Israel in response to the its strikes on Iran. The 21st wave of the operation began, utilising drones and missiles, the spokesperson for Operation True Promise 3 Colonel Iman Tajik announced. Meanwhile, the chief commander of the Islamic Republic of Iran Army reacted to the U.S. strikes on Iran’s nuclear facilities in Fordow, Natanz, and Esfahan. Every time the Americans committed a crime, they received a crushing response, Major General Amir Hatami said, adding that the same destiny awaits the U.S. this time too. The Israeli regime attacked Iran, including residential buildings in Tehran, in an unprovoked act of aggression overnight on June 13. Top Iranian military officials were assassinated in targeted strikes. Civilians died when houses were directly struck.

<https://en.irma.ir/news/85870696/Iran-carries-out-21st-wave-of-Operation-True-Promise-3-in-response>

### **Everything you need to know about the Iran-Israel war**

Mona Hojat Ansari

Tehran Times, June 24, 2025

The war between Iran and Israel appeared to grind to a halt on June 22, 2025, after a dizzying 12 days in which the world

watched President Donald Trump demand the evacuation of Tehran's 10 million residents, threaten to assassinate Iran's Leader, advocate for "regime change," launch strikes on Iranian nuclear sites, and then claim he harbored no beef with the Iranian government and even wish for God to "bless Iran." Iran and Israel haven't signed a ceasefire deal, but have only agreed to halt fighting, according to Iranian Foreign Minister Seyyed Abbas Araghchi. He stated on X that Iran will hold back from striking Israel as long as the regime refrains from further aggression. This war brought the region to the edge of a full-scale conflict, especially after American forces directly joined the fight and faced retaliatory strikes from Iran. Regional leaders watched with anxiety, fearing that the flames ignited by Trump would engulf them as well. For now, it seems the region might be safe. However, given the well-documented history of Israel and Washington breaking their word and even violating official ceasefire agreements, the threat of renewed conflict remains a very real possibility for every country in West Asia.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514906/Everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-Iran-Israel-war>

### **Iran urges the world to condemn U.S. aggression against nuclear facilities under I.A.E.A. safeguards**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 24, 2025

Ali Bahreini, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office in

Geneva, in a letter to the United Nations Independent Expert on the Promotion of a Democratic and Equitable International Order, called for the explicit condemnation of the recent U.S. military aggression against Iran's safeguarded nuclear facilities. The U.S. attack on nuclear sites in Natanz, Fordow, and Isfahan, all under full supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (I.A.E.A.), constitutes a blatant violation of Article 2(4) of the U.N. Charter and fundamental principles of international law, the letter reads. Bahreini warned that these aggressive acts not only target the basic principles of the global order but also the right of the Iranian people to live in peace, dignity, and security. These developments represent a dangerous sign of replacing law with force and multilateralism with unilateralism, he said.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85871671/Iran-urges-the-world-to-condemn-U-S-aggression-against-nuclear>

### **Iran's parliamentary committee approves plan to suspend cooperation with I.A.E.A.**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 24, 2025

A parliamentary committee has approved a general plan of a bill aimed at suspending Iran's cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (I.A.E.A.), in response to the U.N. nuclear watchdog's conduct over the U.S. and Israeli aggression against the Islamic Republic. According to Ebrahim Rezaei, the spokesperson for Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee, the plan was approved by members after reviewing the details in a

session held on Monday. The bill, if approved, would require the government to suspend cooperation with the I.A.E.A. as long as Tehran is not given tangible guarantees of the agency's professional conduct. The spokesperson said that Iran, under the plan, might not cooperate with installing cameras at its nuclear sites, inspections, the entry of inspectors, or submitting reports to the Agency, until the security of all nuclear facilities is guaranteed. The decision followed U.S. strikes on several Iranian nuclear sites, in violation of international law, including the United Nations Charter.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85871687/Iran-s-parliamentary-committee-approves-plan-to-suspend-cooperation>

### **Update on Developments in Iran(6)**

IAEA, June 24, 2025

Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi has welcomed today's announcements regarding the situation in Iran and stressed the need for a resumption of the IAEA's indispensable safeguards verification work in the country following a 12-day military conflict that severely damaged several of its nuclear sites. In a letter to Iranian Foreign Minister Dr Abbas Araghchi, Director General Grossi also proposed that they meet soon. "Resuming cooperation with the IAEA is key to a successful diplomatic agreement to finally resolve the dispute over Iran's nuclear activities. I've written to Foreign Minister Araghchi stressing the importance of us working together and proposing to meet soon," he said. IAEA inspectors have remained in Iran

throughout the conflict and are ready to start working as soon as possible, going back to the country's nuclear sites and verifying the inventories of nuclear material – including more than 400 kg of uranium enriched to 60% - which they last verified a few days before the Israeli air strikes began on 13 June.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/update-on-developments-in-iran-6>

### **No depleted uranium detected in Iran after aggression: report**

Mehr News Agency, June 26, 2025

Investigations found no traces of depleted uranium used by the Israeli regime in its ammunition in strikes on some targets in Iran. Following initial speculation about the possibility of using munitions containing depleted uranium in recent attacks on specific centers in Iran, informed sources said that investigations conducted so far have not found any traces of materials containing depleted uranium in the ammunition used by the Zionist regime. An informed source had told the Tehran-based Fars News Agency that there was a possibility that the Israeli regime in some recent attacks on critical centers in Iran may have used ammunition containing depleted uranium. According to the source, initial tests had conducted at the targeted sites confirmed the detection of traces of depleted uranium. The sources said that research is continuing and the final results will show the reality.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233678/Israel-may-have-used-depleted-uranium-in-aggression-on-Iran>

### **Israel requested end to hostilities after Iranian retaliation: FM Araghchi**

Tehran Times, June 27, 2025

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on that the Israeli regime was forced to end its 12-day war of aggression against Iran “out of desperation” and with no preconditions, following a wave of Iranian retaliatory strikes that inflicted severe damage across the occupied territories. Speaking during a nationally televised interview, Araghchi addressed a wide array of developments surrounding the recent conflict, including the role of the United States and Europe, the status of nuclear negotiations, Iran’s decision to suspend cooperation with the UN nuclear watchdog, and his diplomatic engagements in Geneva and Istanbul amid the hostilities. Araghchi revealed that it was the Zionist regime that first reached out to request a halt to Iranian operations in exchange for ceasing its own attacks. However, Iran rejected any form of negotiated ceasefire or reciprocal arrangement.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/51499/0/Israel-requested-end-to-hostilities-after-Iranian-retaliation>

### **Update on Developments in Iran**

IAEA, June 27, 2025

Radiation levels in the Gulf region remain normal following the 12-day conflict that severely damaged several nuclear facilities in Iran, Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said. Citing regional data reported regularly to the IAEA through the International Radiation Monitoring System

(IRMIS), Director General Grossi noted that this 48-nation network would have detected an important radioactive release from any damaged nuclear power reactor. “From a nuclear safety perspective, Iran’s Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant and the Tehran Research Reactor represented our main concern as any strike affecting those facilities—including their off-site power lines—could have caused a radiological accident with potential consequences in Iran as well as beyond its borders in the case of the Bushehr plant. It did not happen, and the worst nuclear safety scenario was thereby avoided,” Director General Grossi said.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/pressreleases/update-on-developments-in-iran-7>

### **Grossi is now justifying potential attacks on Iran's historical sites**

Tehran Times, June 27, 2025

The modern world, crafted in the image of the West, has always had its enforcers – figures who, under the banner of international law, primarily served the interests of Western powers and their prized colonial venture, Israel. The current Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is one of these people. He, however, is a league of his own. Rafael Grossi’s disgracefulness, his sheer audacity, and his utter lack of genuine concern for the very laws he is entrusted to uphold surpass even the most egregious Western puppets who have come before him. Driven by Grossi’s politically motivated reports, the IAEA Board of Governors passed an anti-Iran resolution on June 12, alleging Iran's non-compliance with its nuclear obligations. Within a day,

Israel launched a series of aggressive actions on Iranian soil, targeting high-ranking military figures, nuclear scientists, civilians, and the country's nuclear sites. Less than ten days after the initial Israeli attacks, American B-2 bombers struck Iranian nuclear facilities once more. Both regimes cited Iran's "non-compliant" actions as justification for their strikes.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/514998/Grossi-is-now-justifying-potential-attacks-on-Iran-s-historical>

### **The failure of an offensive: Israel's unfulfilled objectives and Iran's strategic resilience**

Xavier Villar

Tehran Times, June 28, 2025

According to the official statement released by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office, Israel achieved all of its stated objectives in its operation against Iran. "All the goals of the operation have been fulfilled," the text declared, thereby justifying Israel's acceptance of the ceasefire proposed by former U.S. President Donald Trump. However, beyond this triumphalist tone, the strategic balance presents a far more nuanced picture. What exactly was Israel aiming for? And to what extent can it be said to have reached those goals? The first stated objective was to neutralise what Tel Aviv considers an existential threat: Iran's nuclear program. According to Ori Goldberg, an Israeli analyst specialising in regional politics, the attack was justified on the premise that Iran was just days away from reaching uranium enrichment levels "Although the Natanz, Fordow, and

Isfahan facilities were bombed and damaged, the core of Iran's nuclear program remains operational. Israel cannot omit Iran's technological and scientific knowledge, nor can it affect the nation's resolve to maintain a nuclear program.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/515048/The-failure-of-an-offensive-Israel-s-unfulfilled-objectives>

### **Iran will exit NPT if vital interests threatened, envoy warns UK Parliament**

Tehran Times, June 28, 2025

Iran's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, Ali Mousavi, issued a stern warning during a heated session of the British Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee on June 17, emphasising that Iran is a legitimate sovereign state, and declaring that Tehran reserves the right to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) under Article 10 if its vital national interests are jeopardized. The session focused on regional escalation, Iran's nuclear activities, and diplomatic paths forward. Mousavi pushed back forcefully against the "hostile rhetoric, biased narratives, and double standards" from Western officials. Asked about speculation that Iran may exit the NPT, Mousavi said such decisions fall under the authority of Iran's independent parliament. "According to Article 10, if a signatory's vital interests are threatened, withdrawal is a legal option. There's no ambiguity," he said, holding up photos of Iranians killed in recent Israeli attacks. "We are accountable to these people."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/515041/Iran-will-exit-NPT-if-vital-interests-threatened-envoy-warns>



### **Israel and U.S. smashed Iran Nuclear site that grew after trump quit 2015 accord**

William J. Broad and Ronen Bergman

New York Times, June 28, 2025

Israeli and American strikes appear to have created a major roadblock to Iran's manufacture of atomic bombs, even if its cache of uranium fuel remains untouched, analysts say. That's because attacks on one of the sites, in Isfahan, shattered gear that Iran was preparing to use for the transformation of enriched uranium gas into dense metal. That process, known as metallisation, is among the last steps in making the explosive core of an atomic bomb. Some nuclear experts argue that the demolished gear might never have existed but for President Trump's abandoning a restrictive nuclear deal in his first term that President Barack Obama had negotiated. Mr. Trump and his allies faulted the 2015 Obama deal as preserving Iran's ability to produce as much nuclear fuel as it wanted after 2030. But some experts see that criticism as ignoring a far more immediate threat. They note that Iran ramped up work at Isfahan only after Mr. Trump canceled the deal, and that now, in effect, he has been forced to neutralize a danger of his own making.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/28/science/iran-nuclear-uranium-metal.html>

### **Iran managed to preserve some of its enriched uranium**

Mehr News Agency, June 29, 2025

Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael

Grossi claims that Iran has managed to preserve some of its enriched uranium despite US and Israeli attacks on its nuclear sites. Speaking about the alleged 400 kilograms of uranium enriched to 60%, which Tehran allegedly presumably had, Grossi said: "We don't know where this material could be." "Some could have been destroyed as part of the attack, but some could have been moved. So there has to be at some point a clarification," the IAEA chief claimed, TASS reported. Earlier, CNN reported, citing sources, that the US intelligence community believes that American strikes on Iran did not destroy the main components of the country's nuclear program.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233772/Iran-managed-to-preserve-some-of-its-enriched-uranium>

### **Iran could restart enriching uranium in months, says nuclear watchdog chief**

Malcolm Moore and James Shotter

Financial Times, June 29, 2025

Iran could be able to start producing enriched uranium again "in a matter of months", the head of the UN's nuclear watchdog said, adding that there is no military solution to stop Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. Rafael Grossi, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, said that while US bombs had dealt a "very serious level of damage" to Iran's nuclear facilities, "one cannot claim that everything has disappeared and there is nothing there". In an interview with CBS news aired on Sunday, Grossi said: "They can have, you know, in a matter of months, I would say, a few cascades of



centrifuges spinning and producing enriched uranium.” Grossi’s comments follow a week of conflicting claims about the level of damage done to Iran’s nuclear programme by Israeli and US forces during the 12-day war launched by Israel this month. Israel began bombing Iran’s nuclear and military sites on June 13, and also killed several senior Iranian nuclear scientists in a series of targeted assassinations. The US then bombed three of Iran’s most important nuclear facilities: Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan, on June 21.

<https://www.ft.com/content/b639c6ab-49ac-438c-9a3c-dfda75b2f4dd>

### **After war with Israel and U.S., Iran rests on a Knife Edge**

Roger Cohen

New York Times, June 29, 2025

Roxana Saberi felt like she was back behind bars in Tehran. As she watched Israel’s bombing of Evin prison, the notorious detention facility at the core of Iran’s political repression, she shuddered at memories of solitary confinement, relentless interrogation, fabricated espionage charges and a sham trial during her 100-day incarceration in 2009. Like many Iranians in the diaspora and at home, Ms. Saberi wavered, torn between her dreams of a government collapse that would free the country’s immense potential and her concern for family and friends as the civilian death toll mounted. Longings for liberation and for a cease-fire vied with each other.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/29/world/middleeast/iran-israel-war-future.html>

### **President Pezeshkian criticizes I.A.E.A.’s “double standards” in call with Macron, urges impartial stance**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 30, 2025

President Masoud Pezeshkian criticised the International Atomic Energy Agency’s (I.A.E.A.) “double standards,” warning they have undermined regional and global security, during a phone call with his French counterpart, Emmanuel Macron. Pezeshkian, responding to Macron’s concerns over Tehran’s reduced cooperation with the I.A.E.A., said the agency’s “biased conduct,” including the publication of “inaccurate reports” about Iran’s nuclear program and failure to condemn attacks on its facilities, had eroded trust and credibility. “The dual behavior of the I.A.E.A. has caused many problems for regional and global security,” Pezeshkian said. The president questioned the agency’s reliance on information from the “criminal regime” of Israel which he said is not a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (N.P.T.) and flouts international law.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85877017/President-Pezeshkian-criticizes-I-A-E-A-s-double-standards>

### **Deputy FM denies plan for Iran-US talks**

Tasnim News Agency, June 30, 2025

An Iranian deputy foreign minister rejected the claims of plans for a new round of negotiations between Iran and the US. In comments after a meeting with the members of the Iranian Parliament’s National Security and Foreign Policy

Commission on June 29, 2025, Majid Takht Ravanchi denied the claims made by the American officials on a date for a fresh round of talks between Iran and the US. The deputy foreign minister stated that no arrangement has been made for talks, saying the claims made by the US are untrue. While the Zionist regime waged a war of aggression against Iran on June 13 and struck Iran's military, nuclear and residential areas for 12 days, the US stepped in and conducted military attacks on three nuclear sites in Iran's Natanz, Fordow and Isfahan on June 22. The Iranian military forces conducted powerful counterattacks immediately after the aggression. The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Aerospace Force carried out 22 waves of retaliatory missile strikes against the Zionist regime as part of Operation True Promise III that inflicted heavy losses on cities across the occupied territories.

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2025/06/30/3345348/deputy-fm-denies-plan-for-iran-us-talks>

### **Resumption of nuclear talks conditional on U.S. refraining from aggression against Iran: Takht-e-Ravanchi**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 30, 2025

The senior Iranian diplomat said Tehran wants to engage in dialogue and diplomacy, but it is cautious not to be surprised again with attacks amid negotiations. Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Majid Takht-e-Ravanchi says the Islamic Republic has made it clear that the United States must rule out any further

aggressive actions if it is eager to resume nuclear talks. In an interview with the BBC, Takht-e-Ravanchi acknowledged that the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump had told Tehran through mediators that it wanted to return to negotiations, but Washington had "not made its position clear" on the issue of further aggression against Iran.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85876765/Resumption-of-nuclear-talks-conditional-on-U-S-refraining-from>

### **C.S.T.O. foreign ministers condemn U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran as U.N. Charter violation**

Islamic Republic News Agency, June 30, 2025

The Collective Security Treaty Organisation (C.S.T.O.) has condemned recent Israeli and U.S. strikes on Iran, calling them a violation of the United Nations Charter and a threat to regional and global stability. In a joint statement released after a meeting in Kyrgyzstan on June 30, 2025, C.S.T.O. foreign ministers condemned the attacks, saying such actions dangerously escalate tensions in the Middle East and undermine international legal norms, Russia's TASS news agency reported. The foreign ministers expressed condolences to the families of victims, warning that any attack on civilian infrastructure – including nuclear energy facilities – was unacceptable and a serious breach of international law.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/85877070/C-S-T-O-foreign-ministers-condemn-U-S-and-Israeli-strikes-on>

## Iraq

### Iraq launches Arab nuclear crisis cell over Iran-Israel tensions

Shafaq, June 18, 2025

Iraq has launched a regional crisis cell to respond to potential nuclear emergencies, as Israeli military operations targeting Iranian nuclear facilities escalate. In a statement, the National Nuclear, Radiological, Chemical, and Biological Regulatory Commission (I-NRC) announced on Wednesday the formation of the joint operations room, in coordination with Arab counterparts, to monitor radiological risks stemming from ongoing military strikes. “The goal is to safeguard populations, protect the environment, and uphold nuclear safety and security,” it explained. The crisis unit was reportedly approved during a high-level virtual meeting chaired by Salem Hamdi, Director-General of the Arab Atomic Energy Agency, and Sabah Hassan Al-Hussaini, Head of the Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR). Representatives from nuclear regulatory authorities in Jordan, Lebanon, Yemen, Kuwait, Libya, Bahrain, Tunisia, and Sudan also participated.

<https://shafaq.com/en/Security/Iraq-launches-Arab-nuclear-crisis-cell-over-Iran-Israel-tensions>

### Iraq Probes Drone Attacks on Military Radar Systems

The Defense Post, June 24, 2025

Iraq said it will investigate suicide drone attacks on radar systems at two military

bases, adding that its forces intercepted several other attempted incursions. There has been no claim of responsibility for the attacks, and the government has not yet identified any perpetrators. Sabah al-Numan, the military spokesman for the Iraqi prime minister, described the attacks as “cowardly and treacherous.” He said that, “several small suicide drones targeted multiple Iraqi military sites and bases.” “The assault severely damaged radar systems at Camp Taji, north of Baghdad, and Imam Ali Base in Dhi Qar Province” in southern Iraq, he added. No casualties were reported. Iraqi forces also thwarted other attacks against “four additional sites across various locations,” Numan said, adding that the drones were downed “before they could reach their intended targets.”

<https://thedefensepost.com/2025/06/24/iraq-drone-attacks-military-radar/>

### Balancing acts and breaking points: Iraq’s US-Iran dilemma

C. Anthony Pfaff

Atlantic Council, June 30, 2025

Even without the current conflict between Israel and Iran, the prospects for future US-Iraq relations have often appeared dim. Due in part to the reduced threat from the Islamic State in Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS), and also to public opposition to US military presence under Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR), Washington and Baghdad agreed to reduce the role of US forces in combating ISIS and transition to a new security relationship. Moreover, Iran-backed militias had renewed attacks against US forces over Washington’s support for

Israel's military operations in Gaza in the aftermath of October 7, 2023. Making matters worse, popular expressions of anti-US sentiment, due to Iraqis' long-held animosity towards Israel, led to attacks on US-linked businesses, limiting already low interest in expanding economic ties. Thus, with a diminishing security cooperation footprint and little room to expand into other sectors, it is difficult to envision where US-Iraq relations could go, except for termination or a status quo that does not adequately serve the interests of either party.

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/menasource/iraq-between-the-us-and-iran/>

## Israel

### Israel destroyed a third of Iran's ballistic missile launchers, IDF says

Yonah Jeremy Bob

The Jerusalem Post, June 16, 2025

IDF Chief Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Effie Defrin on June 16, 2025 announced that the air force has destroyed a third of Iran's ballistic missile launchers, 120 in total. Each launcher could have fired dozens of missiles over the course of the current war. The Islamic Republic was only able to fire around half of the missiles it had intended to fire overnight, said Defrin. This means that for the rest of the war, Iran's ability to launch more missiles at once will be reduced by at least a third, if not more, given that during the overnight attack, Tehran's firing capability was reduced by around half. Overnight, Defrin said that the air force also destroyed 20 ballistic missiles that were on their way to being fired. This means that given that Iran fired 40 ballistic

missiles, it would have fired at least 60, without getting into how many missiles it lost the ability to fire, given its losses in the area of missile launchers.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-857897>

### Trump said to veto Khamenei assassination; Netanyahu: Conflict may result in regime change

Lazar Berman

Times of Israel, June 16, 2025

Israel had a window of opportunity on June 13, 2025, to assassinate Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, but US President Donald Trump vetoed the move, several major news outlets reported June 15, 2025, while Israeli officials cast the series of reports as “fake news.” At the same time, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu—who himself refused to comment one way or another about the vetoed assassination reports—told Fox News on June 15, 2025, that regime change in Iran “could certainly be the result” of Israel's ongoing military campaign, though he did not say it was the goal and Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar denied outright on June 15, 2025, that this was the goal. Israeli officials have said repeatedly since launching the intensive waves of airstrikes on Iran early June 13, 2025, that the campaign is preemptive and was initiated to stave off the imminent, existential threat of Iran obtaining a nuclear weapon and growing its ballistic missile arsenal.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/trump-said-to-veto-khamenei-assassination-netanyahu-conflict-may-result-in-regime-change/>

## **IDF drone destroys Iranian F-14 fighter jets in Tehran airbase just before taking off**

The Jerusalem Post, June 16, 2025

An IDF drone struck two Iranian F-14 fighter jets in a Tehran airbase minutes before they were set to take off, the Israeli military revealed on June 16, 2025 evening. Additionally, the IAF struck and thwarted an attempt to launch drones toward Israel. In recent days, an Air Force aircraft have been tracking the drone launch team and identifying the launchers deploying the drones and the weaponry in the area. The launch team was killed, and the launchers were destroyed just minutes before they were able to launch towards Israeli territory. The originally American-made F-14 fighter jets were exported to Iran during the rule of the deposed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-857964>

## **Five practical points about the Israel-Iran war**

Rossella Tercatin

Times of Israel, June 16, 2025

In the early hours of June 13, 2025, Israel started to carry out preemptive strikes against Iran and its nuclear program. Within hours, Iran began retaliating with barrages of missiles and drones. Over the past four days, Israel has been hit multiple times and seen its casualty toll rising, and life has mostly come to a standstill to ensure the highest protection for its population. Here are five key questions and answers.

Since 3 a.m. on June 13, 2025, the Israel Defence Forces' Home Front Command has issued nationwide emergency guidelines. All gatherings, whether indoors or outdoors, have been prohibited. Workplaces and businesses are closed, except for essential services such as supermarkets and pharmacies.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/news-you-can-use-five-practical-points-about-the-israel-iran-war/>

## **IAEA: All 15,000 centrifuges at Iran's main enrichment plant likely 'severely damaged'**

Times of Israel, June 16, 2025

It is very likely all the roughly 15,000 centrifuges operating at Iran's biggest uranium enrichment plant at Natanz were badly damaged or destroyed because of a power cut caused by an Israeli strike, the UN nuclear watchdog chief told the BBC on June 16, 2025. The International Atomic Energy Agency and its Director General Rafael Grossi had previously said the centrifuges at the underground enrichment plant at Natanz may have been damaged as a result of an airstrike on its power supply, even though the hall housing the plant itself did not seem to have been hit. "Our assessment is that with this sudden loss of external power, in great probability the centrifuges have been severely damaged if not destroyed altogether," Grossi said in an interview with the BBC. "I think there has been damage inside," he said, going further than in an update to an exceptional meeting of his agency's 35-nation Board of Governors hours earlier. Power cuts pose a threat to the fragile, finely balanced



machines that spin at extremely high speeds.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/all-centrifuges-at-irans-main-enrichment-plant-likely-severely-damaged-iaea-chief/>

### **How Iran could further retaliate for Israel's offensive**

Times of Israel, June 17, 2025

As Israel pounds Iran with airstrikes targeting military facilities and nuclear sites, officials in Tehran have proposed a variety of steps the Islamic Republic could take outside of launching retaliatory missile barrages. Those proposals mirror those previously floated by Iran in confrontations with either Israel or the United States in the last few decades. They included disrupting maritime shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, leaving the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, and directing attacks by terrorists abroad. Here's a look at what those options could mean—both to Iran and the wider Middle East. The Strait of Hormuz is the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf, through which some 20% of all oil traded globally passes. The strait is in the territorial waters of Iran and Oman, which at its narrowest point is 33 kilometers (21 miles) wide. The width of the shipping lane in either direction is only 3 kilometers (2 miles).

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/how-iran-could-further-retaliate-for-israels-offensive/>

### **How Israel used spies, smuggled drones and AI to stun and hobble Iran**

Julia Frankel

Times of Israel, June 17, 2025

Israel stunned and hobbled Iran last week when it pulled off an intelligence and

military operation years in the making that struck high-level targets with precision. Guided by spies and artificial intelligence, the Israeli military unleashed a nighttime fusillade of warplanes and armed drones smuggled into Iran to quickly incapacitate many of its air defences and missile systems. With greater freedom to fly over Iran, Israel bombarded key nuclear sites and killed top generals and scientists. By the time Iran mustered a response hours later, its ability to retaliate — already weakened by past Israeli strikes — was greatly diminished. This account is based on conversations with 10 current and former Israeli intelligence and military officials, some of whom spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss clandestine operations. It was not possible to independently verify some of their claims. But the former head of research at Israel's spy agency, the Mossad, confirmed the basic contours of the attack, saying she had inside knowledge of how it was planned and executed. "This attack is the culmination of years of work by the Mossad to target Iran's nuclear program," said Sima Shine, the former Mossad research director who is now an analyst at the Institute for National Security Studies.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/how-israel-used-spies-smuggled-drones-and-ai-to-stun-and-hobble-iran/>

### **Iran's nuclear program has been hit hard, but won't be knocked out if Fordo remains**

Lazar Berman

Times of Israel, June 17, 2025

Taking the podium at his first press conference since deciding to strike Iran's



nuclear program, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on June 16, 2025, read out Israel's achievements in Operation Rising Lion. The list is impressive. Israeli forces have taken out Iran's military leadership, hit hundreds of ballistic missiles and dozens of launchers, wiped out half of Iran's UAVs, and established air superiority in western Iran. On the nuclear front, Netanyahu also has much he can point to. Israel has killed 10 senior nuclear scientists, and promises to reach more. It has caused extensive damage to key nuclear sites as well. But – as Israel has learned in Gaza – impressive tactical achievements do not automatically amount to operational success, and damage to some core elements of Iran's nuclear program does not necessarily mean Israel has set it back very far. "The blow is not yet critical," said Raz Zimmt, director of the Iran and the Shiite Axis research program at the Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/irans-nuclear-program-has-been-hit-hard-but-wont-be-knocked-out-if-fordo-remains/>

### **IAEA says Israeli strike directly hit Iran's Natanz underground enrichment plant**

Times of Israel, June 17, 2025

An Israeli military strike on Iran's nuclear complex at Natanz directly hit the underground uranium enrichment plant there, the United Nations nuclear watchdog said on June 17, 2025, revising its assessment after initially reporting it had been hit only indirectly. Israel bombed the site on June 13, 2025, during the first wave of major strikes to start its shock campaign against Iranian military and nuclear sites, in

a move it says was needed to thwart an immediate existential nuclear threat. The International Atomic Energy Agency had previously said an above-ground pilot enrichment plant at Natanz was destroyed, but assessed that the larger underground plant was not directly hit, although IAEA chief Rafael Grossi said on June 16, 2025, its roughly 15,000 centrifuges had very likely been badly damaged by a strike on the plant's power supply. However, on June 17, 2025, the IAEA said on X: "Based on continued analysis of high-resolution satellite imagery collected after Friday's attacks, the IAEA has identified additional elements that indicate direct impacts on the underground enrichment halls at Natanz." Located 135 miles (220 kilometers) southeast of Tehran, the Natanz facility was protected by anti-aircraft batteries, fencing and Iran's paramilitary Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/iaea-says-israeli-strike-directly-hit-irans-natanz-underground-enrichment-plant/>

### **Israel running low on Arrow interceptors, US burning through its systems too – WSJ**

Times of Israel, June 18, 2025

Israel is running low on defensive "Arrow" missile interceptors, The Wall Street Journal reported June 18, 2025, citing an unnamed US official. The shortage has raised concerns about the country's ability to continue to counter long-range ballistic missiles from Iran, the report said. Since Israel launched its shock operation on Friday to remove the "existential threat" of the Iranian nuclear program and ballistic

missile capabilities, the Islamic Republic has retaliated by launching more than 370 missiles and hundreds of drones at Israel. So far, 24 people have been killed in Israel and more than 500 wounded. According to the Journal report, the US has known about the shortage of Arrow interceptors for months, and has been working to bolster Israel's air defences accordingly. But those stocks are limited, too. Having dispatched many to Israel, "there is now concern about the US burning through interceptors as well," the newspaper said. A report in The Washington Post June 17, 2025, cited a person briefed on US and Israeli intelligence, who said that, according to "some assessments," Israel can maintain its air defence for 10-12 days at the current rate of Iranian attacks — which have lessened since the start of the fighting last week — before it will require the US to replenish its stocks or get more involved in the war.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-running-low-on-arrow-interceptors-us-burning-through-its-systems-too-wsj/>

### **IAF destroys Iran attack helicopters, Emad missile launchers**

The Jerusalem Post, June 18, 2025

Approximately 25 fighter jets struck over 40 missile infrastructure components, including missile storage sites and military operatives of the Iranian regime. Israel Air Force fighter jets struck five Iranian AH-1 Cobra attack helicopters at an airbase in the Kermanshah region of western Iran, the IDF said Wednesday. An additional three Cobra attack helicopters were destroyed by IAF fighter jets in a later operation, it said,

adding that the helicopters "were designated to harm IAF aircraft operating in Iranian airspace." In first, Israeli drone shot down over Iran; IDF says no fear of information leaking

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-858170>

### **In first, Israeli drone shot down over Iran; IDF says no fear of information leaking**

Times of Israel, June 18, 2025

In an apparent first, an Israeli Air Force drone was shot down over the Isfahan area in central Iran overnight, the Israeli military and Iranian media said. Footage broadcast by Iran's state broadcaster IRIB on June 18, 2025 morning showed what appeared to be a crashed Israeli Air Force Hermes 900. "During operational activity, a surface-to-air missile was launched at an air force unmanned aerial vehicle," the Israel Defence Forces said later, confirming the drone crashed in Iran. The IDF said that "there is no fear of information leaking." The IAF has been operating over Iran, at a distance of more than 1,500 kilometers from Israel, since early June 13, 2025. The military says it has air supremacy over western Iran and Tehran, and is working to extend it to other parts of the country, to thwart Iranian ballistic missile attacks on Israel. More than 70 Iranian air defence batteries have been destroyed in strikes so far, according to the IDF.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-first-israeli-drone-shot-down-over-iran-idf-says-no-fear-of-information-leaking/>

### **Israeli Air Force to receive next-generation refueling aircraft for Iran strikes**

The Jerusalem Post, June 18, 2025

The Israel Air Force is set to receive a next-generation aerial refueling aircraft, the KC-46, the IDF said June 18, 2025. Since the beginning of the IDF's attacks on Iran as part of Operation Rising Lion, dozens of Israeli fighter jets in the IAF's 120th Squadron have conducted sorties and performed over 600 aerial refueling missions in the skies of the Middle East. These aerial refueling missions are crucial for the Air Force's operations in Iran, enabling the continued maintenance of aerial superiority in the region, according to the military. The refueling aircraft are capable of long-range flights, precise refueling in a wide range of scenarios, and complex coordination with strike squadrons.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-858217>

### **Cluster bomb fragments spark fear Iran's missile carried multiple bombs - explainer**

Jerusalem Post, June 19, 2025

Technicians from the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) say they recovered dozens of unexploded canisters on June 19, 2025, after one of the missiles Iran fired toward central Israel carried a cluster bomb warhead, and have opened an inquiry into whether Tehran's arsenal might also include true MIRV (multiple independently-targetable reentry vehicle) capability. A cluster bomb is a containered

warhead that, upon reaching its target area, opens in mid-air and scatters dozens or hundreds of smaller explosives, known as "bomblets," over a wide zone. Those bomblets are unguided and designed to increase the chance of hitting troops, vehicles or soft targets across an area roughly the size of several football fields. By contrast, a MIRV-equipped missile carries several precision warheads, each with its own guidance system. After the missile's main rockets burn out, an onboard "bus" maneuvers in space, releasing each reentry vehicle on a separate trajectory aimed at distinct targets. In effect, one missile becomes multiple cross-country threats.

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-858339>

### **Iran using 'cluster bomb warheads' with smaller explosives in attacks on Israel**

The Jerusalem Post, June 19, 2025.

Iran used "cluster bomb warheads" with smaller explosives attached in its attacks on Israel on June 19, 2025. According to an initial investigation, somewhere around seven kilometers above the ground, the missile splits into several smaller bombs, each of which has an impact of an eight-kilometer radius. Each one of the smaller bombs carries around two kilograms of explosives. The cluster bombs were used in the attack on Azur. If one of the cluster bombs fell in Holon, it could explain why many heard "miniature blasts" that occurred after the initial blast.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-858329>

### **Going at it alone: Can Israel complete its mission in Iran without US assistance? - analysis**

Keren Setton

The Jerusalem Post, June 19, 2025

Israel continues to expand its aerial assault on Tehran on the fourth day of its war against Iran, raising speculation about whether the US will join the campaign to help eliminate Iran's nuclear capabilities. Since the offensive began Friday, Israel has struck top Iranian military leaders, nuclear scientists, uranium enrichment facilities, and ballistic missile infrastructure. On June 17, 2025, US President Donald Trump said he wants to see a "real end" to the conflict, not just a ceasefire. The American president has repeatedly insisted that Iran must not be allowed to develop nuclear weapons or continue enrichment on its soil. "Trump wants a commitment from Iran that they will rid themselves of their nuclear capabilities on their own and he wants to see effective supervision on that process," said Prof. Eytan Gilboa, an expert on US-Israel relations at Bar-Ilan and Reichman Universities. "The question is whether his statements are a threat or a promise."

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-858267>

### **IDF close to destroying half of Iran ballistic missile launchers, 'hundreds' already blown up**

Yonah Jeremy Bob

The Jerusalem Post, June 19, 2025

The IDF is close to destroying half of Iran's ballistic missile launchers, sources told The

Jerusalem Post on June 19, 2025. The disclosure came after IDF Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Effie Defrin, on June 19, 2025 afternoon, noted that the air force has now destroyed "hundreds" of such launchers. Such statistics could be highly significant because there is a likely tipping point around 50-70% damage to Iranian launchers where, even if the Islamic Republic still has 15,000 ballistic missiles left, it will be unable to launch more than 10-30 at a time, which will make it much easier to shoot down all of the missiles. Already on June 16, 2025, the IDF said it had destroyed 120 Iranian ballistic missile launchers, which it placed at around one-third of the total.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-858303>

### **Iranian missile with cluster warhead scattered bombs in central Israel, IDF says**

Times of Israel, June 19, 2025

At least one ballistic missile launched by Iran at Israel in a barrage on June 19, 2025 morning was carrying a cluster bomb warhead, the Israel Defence Forces said, marking a dangerous new development after nearly a week of attacks. The IDF Home Front Command said the missile's warhead split while descending, at an altitude of around 7 kilometers (4.3 miles), spreading around 20 smaller munitions at a radius of around 8 kilometers (5 miles). The munitions do not have their own propulsion or guidance and simply fall to the ground, where they are designed to explode on impact. An Israeli military official said such a missile poses a threat to a much

wider area than Iran's other ballistic missile warheads, but the explosion from each of the cluster bombs is far smaller. One of the small munitions, with an explosive warhead of around 2.5 kilograms, struck a home in the central town of Azor, causing damage equivalent to that of a small rocket. Many of the other munitions did not explode, according to the military official. The unexploded ordnance still poses a danger to anyone who happens upon them.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/iranian-missile-with-cluster-warhead-scatters-bombs-in-central-israel-idf-says/>

### **Israel faces immediate threat, Operation Rising Lion was last resort, Gilad Noam tells UNSC**

Bini Aschkenasy

The Jerusalem Post, June 19, 2025

"Operation Rising Lion was initiated as part of the ongoing armed conflict between Iran and Israel, in response to the existential and immediate threat posed by Iran's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs," Noam said. "The operation is in strict compliance with international law," Noam assured. "As part of the ongoing conflict, Israel faced an existential and immediate threat, one that Iran intended to carry out. Israel had no choice but to act at this crucial moment, the last window of opportunity. Operation Rising Lion was a last resort, after diplomatic efforts had been exhausted and proven ineffective," he told the UNSC. This statement from the attorney-general followed a report revealing tensions between Baharav-Miara and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the Israeli

High Court over the appointment of a permanent Shin Bet chief. The attorney-general asserted that Netanyahu is prohibited from making the appointment due to the involvement of Qatar and the leakage of classified documents from his office.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-858332>

### **Why Israel-Iran tensions might not raise prices at the pump as much as feared**

Times of Israel, June 19, 2025

The unexpected attack by Israel on Iran, a major oil-producing nation, may undermine anemic global economic growth and hinder central banks' ability to cope in an already uncertain market. Iran exports up to 2 million barrels per day (mbd) of oil and refined petroleum products. Due to long-standing sanctions, most of this oil is sold to China at discounted prices. Normally, a sudden loss of the Iranian exports (equivalent to around 2 percent of global oil supply) would trigger panic. But OPEC (the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) is in the process of reversing the production cuts imposed early in the COVID pandemic (and subsequently). This leaves the organisation with an unusually large spare capacity of at least four million barrels per day, most of which is held by Saudi Arabia (up to 3.5 million) and the UAE (about one million). On top of that, the International Energy Agency (IEA) holds more than 1.2 billion barrels of emergency reserves across OECD countries, ready to be deployed if needed. China, too, has significant reserves, though



the line between its commercial and strategic stocks is less clear.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/why-israel-iran-tensions-might-not-raise-prices-at-the-pump-as-much-as-feared/>

### **Israel shoots down hundreds of Iranian drones, IDF at 95% interception rate**

The Jerusalem Post, June 19, 2025

The Israeli Air Force and Navy have intercepted around 95% of threats that have approached Israeli airspace, the IDF announced June 19, 2025. The IAF and Israeli Navy intercepted hundreds of Iranian drones amid the war, which are included in the 95% figure. "Observation units in the IAF and the Navy are operating in close coordination with IDF aerial defence arrays, aircraft, missile ships, and other security personnel to defend the skies of the State of Israel around the clock," the IDF said.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-858396>

### **Timeline: A Recent History of the Israel-Iran Conflict**

Ephrat Livni, Cassandra Vinograd and Eve Sampson

The New York Times, June 24, 2025

The conflict between Iran and Israel, once relegated to the shadows, has escalated yet again. On June 13, explosions rocked Tehran as Israel carried out a major attack on Iran's nuclear program. Iran retaliated and has launched barrages of ballistic missiles and drones at Israel. Since then, Israel and Iran have carried out waves of

deadly attacks, in the most intense fighting in decades between the two heavily armed countries. The war moved into a potentially more volatile phase when the United States attacked three nuclear sites in Iran, but a fragile cease-fire later took hold. Iran's rulers have pledged to destroy Israel and have long supported regional militias who share that goal. Israel views Iran as an existential threat and has vowed to prevent it from building a nuclear bomb.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/12/world/middleeast/israel-iran-conflict-history.html>

### **Could Iran's missiles carry nuclear warheads? An expert breaks down the threat**

Stav Levaton

Times of Israel, June 19, 2025

As Iran continues to launch missiles at Israel, a question looms large in the minds of defence analysts and civilians alike: If Iran's nuclear program is able to advance, could those same missiles one day carry nuclear warheads? To understand the threat and the technology behind it, The Times of Israel spoke with Tal Inbar, a veteran expert in aviation policy, space, and missile issues. Inbar has spent decades tracking the development of missile systems in Iran, North Korea, and beyond. According to Inbar, two basic features determine whether a missile can be equipped with a nuclear warhead: the weight the missile can carry (payload capacity) and the physical space inside the warhead compartment. "Every missile with a warhead of roughly 500 kilograms (1,100 pounds) could



theoretically be fitted with a nuclear warhead,” he explained.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/could-irans-missiles-carry-nuclear-warheads-an-expert-breaks-down-the-threat/>

### **Putin: Peace offers shared with Israel and Iran; Moscow hasn't abandoned Tehran**

Times of Israel, June 20, 2025

Russian President Vladimir Putin said Friday he has secured Israel's pledge to safeguard Russian personnel at Iran's Russia-built nuclear power plant and that he has reached out to both sides to try to end the week-old war. Answering questions on a variety of issues at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, Putin also warned Ukraine that it could lose more territory if it keeps rejecting Russia's conditions for peace. Putin said Russia has proposed “some ideas” for a possible settlement between Iran and Israel that are currently being discussed. He said Moscow asked Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to ensure the security of Russian personnel who are working to construct two more reactors at the nuclear power plant in Iran's port of Bushehr, and that he also raised the issue with US President Donald Trump. “Prime Minister Netanyahu has agreed with that, and President Trump has promised to support our legitimate demands,” Putin said.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/putin-peace-offers-shared-with-israel-and-iran-moscow-hasnt-abandoned-tehran/>

### **Iran launched cluster bomb on Beersheba, second use in war, IDF confirms**

Yonah Jeremy Bob

The Jerusalem Post, June 20, 2025

Multiple IDF sources have confirmed that Iran used a cluster bomb warhead in the missile strike on Beersheba on June 20, 2025 afternoon. There are no reports of injuries in Beersheba despite the attack. A cluster bomb is a containerized warhead that, upon reaching its target area, opens in mid-air and scatters dozens or hundreds of smaller explosives, known as "bomblets," over a wide zone. The New York Times reported that while Iranian officials assume that talks with Trump were on negotiating a ceasefire with Israel, the US president wants to focus on the Iranian nuclear program. Cluster bombs have been outlawed in 112 countries; however, neither Israel nor Iran is party to the treaties outlawing them.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-858438>

### **Mossad says Iran 15 days from bomb, US agencies still say up to a year – report**

Times of Israel, June 20, 2025

Despite Iran's development of a large stockpile of enriched uranium that cannot serve any peaceful purpose, US intelligence agencies continue to differ with more foreboding Israeli assessments that the Islamic Republic is actively pursuing a nuclear weapon, according to a June 19,

2025 report. According to The New York Times, the Mossad believes that Iran could assemble a nuclear weapon within 15 days, while US assessments are more conservative, estimating it would take Tehran several months or up to a year to make a bomb, and that it is not currently actively pursuing one. Citing intelligence and other US officials, the report said the current US assessment has not changed since the issue was last evaluated in March, even though Israel has since launched an extensive bombing campaign against Iran's nuclear facilities, research centers and scientists, along with its ballistic missile program and other military infrastructure. Senior US intelligence officials cited in the report, however, that Tehran could decide to actively break out to the bomb should Israel assassinate Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/mossad-says-iran-15-days-from-bomb-us-agencies-still-say-up-to-a-year-report/>

### **Israel's historic attack on Iran: A detailed breakdown of the 14-month build-up - explainer**

Yonah Jeremy Bob

The Jerusalem Post, June 20, 2025

Although June 13, 2025, will go down in the history as the date that changed the Middle East forever, likely even more than October 7, 2023, the truth is that the real dates that had already shifted the course of history were April 13 to 14, 2024. On that day, concluding a decades-long covert shadow war with Israel, Iran transformed the region by openly and directly attacking

the Jewish state with more than 100 ballistic missiles, 170 drones, and dozens of cruise missiles. Israel struck back on April 19, 2024, by attacking one S-300 anti-aircraft defence system that was guarding the Islamic Republic's nuclear facility at Isfahan. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the cabinet (which then included defense minister Yoav Gallant and war cabinet minister Benny Gantz) never seriously contemplated bombing Iran's nuclear sites that April like it considered doing so in October later that year, or like it finally did eight months later on June 13; but it was that first direct exchange between the sides which set the stage for the current regional war.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-858271>

### **Banned by 100+ countries, Iran attacks Israel with “Cluster Munitions”; Here's why they are widely prohibited**

Sakshi Tiwari

The Eurasian Times, June 20, 2025

In what may be a first in the ongoing Iran-Israel war, Iran launched a ballistic missile with cluster munitions in a devastating strike on Israel, indicating that it is unlikely to back out and is far from being crippled. The Israel Defence Force (IDF) Home Front Command confirmed that Iran launched a ballistic missile carrying a cluster bomb warhead aimed at targets in central Israel on June 19. It stated that the warhead split at an altitude of 7 kilometres while descending, and then spread out about 20 sub-munitions across a radius of 8 kilometres. One of the small explosives,

about the size of a small rocket, inflicted some damage on a house near the central town of Azor. An unidentified Israeli military officer told The Times of Israel that although the explosion from each cluster bomb is substantially smaller, such a missile threatens a far larger area than Iran's other ballistic missile warheads. The army advised the civilians to notify authorities right away if they see any missile wreckage on the ground and to avoid approaching any such wreckage. The conflict between Israel and Iran began on June 13 with unprecedented IDF strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities and its top military leadership. Iran Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) retaliated soon after the first round of air strikes by the IDF, and has launched dozens of missile and drone strikes on Israel, breaching its air defences and hitting strategic assets like the Mossad Headquarters.

<https://www.eurasiantimes.com/banned-by-100-countries-iran-attacks-israel/>

### **IDF successfully intercepts drone with Barak missile defence system**

The Jerusalem Post, June 20, 2025

The IDF intercepted a drone in Israeli territory with the Barak medium-range surface-to-air missile system on Friday, the military announced. Developed by India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in collaboration with IAI, the MRSAM system provides advanced protection against various aerial threats. The MRSAM system has previously completed several proof-of-concept trials and passed acceptance trials with the Indian Army back in April.

Following the successful interception, the IAI said, "The Barak system provides a robust defense against a wide range of threats, including aircraft, cruise missiles, sea-to-sea missiles, rockets, and ballistic missiles. It is fully operational with various clients and offers the most effective solution through the use of multiple interceptor types, capable of engaging targets at ranges of up to 30 km, 70 km, and 150 km." "All intercepts are guided by an advanced radar system, a comprehensive command and control network, and versatile launchers designed to carry a range of interceptors."

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-858433>

### **IAEA: No fear of 'radiological effects' after IDF hits Iran's Arak heavy water reactor**

Times of Israel, June 20, 2025

The UN nuclear watchdog confirmed June 19, 2025 that IDF strikes had hit Iran's partially built Khondab Heavy Water Research Reactor and damaged the nearby plant that makes heavy water, a component used in nuclear react. "IAEA has information the Khondab (former Arak) heavy water research reactor, under construction, was hit. It was not operational and contained no nuclear material, so no radiological effects," the International Atomic Energy Agency said in a post on X. In its first statement on the attack in central Iran, the IAEA said it had no information indicating the nearby plant that produces heavy water had been hit. The agency later issued a statement revising that assessment. "While damage to the nearby Heavy Water

Production Plant was initially not visible, it is now assessed that key buildings at the facility were damaged, including the distillation unit,” the IAEA statement said.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/iaea-says-no-fear-of-radiological-effects-after-idf-hits-iran-heavy-water-reactor/>

### **From 90% To 65% — Israel’s Interception Rate Goes Down Big Time; IAF Expert Decodes Why IDF’s SAMs Are Leaking Missiles**

Vijander K Thakur

The Eurasian Times, June 20, 2025

NBC News, citing a senior Israeli intelligence official, reported that only about 65% of Iranian missiles were intercepted in the past 24 hours, significantly lower than the nearly 90% interception rate the day before. Several other outlets have echoed NBC’s report. Earlier, The New York Times reported that Iran had fired around 400 missiles, with nearly 40 evading interception and striking Israeli neighborhoods—implying a 90% interception rate. The drop in interception rate coincides with reports from The Wall Street Journal and Newsweek highlighting concerns over Israel’s dwindling stockpile of Arrow missile interceptors. The decline in Israel’s interception rate could be due to its dwindling stockpile of interceptors, the use of more technically advanced missiles by Iran, or a combination of both. In the first case, Israel may be conserving interceptors when an incoming missile is unlikely to hit a significant target, which would naturally lower the interception rate. Newsweek reports that Iran has deployed

hypersonic missiles, which are particularly difficult to intercept due to their high speed and maneuverability. These missiles significantly reduce the time available for Israel’s air defence systems to respond.

[https://www.eurasiantimes.com/from-90-to-65-israels-interception/#google\\_vignette](https://www.eurasiantimes.com/from-90-to-65-israels-interception/#google_vignette)

### **IDF hits Isfahan nuclear site for 2nd time; Iran fires 5 missiles in overnight barrage**

Times of Israel, June 21, 2025

The Israeli Air Force bombed Iran’s Isfahan nuclear site early June 21, 2025, for the second time since the start of the conflict, as Iran fired an overnight volley of five ballistic missiles at central Israel. According to the military, some 50 IAF fighter jets were involved in overnight strikes, dropping 150 munitions on dozens of targets in Iran, including the Isfahan nuclear facility and four primed missile launchers. The Israel Defence Forces said the strikes at the Isfahan nuclear site, which Israel had targeted on June 13, were intended to cause further damage to Iran’s nuclear program. The strike on the first day of the conflict destroyed several critical sections, including uranium conversion infrastructure and labs, according to the IDF. “Within the compound, a centrifuge production facility was also targeted, along with additional military targets of the Iranian regime in the Isfahan area,” the IDF said Saturday morning.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-hits-isfahan-nuclear-site-for-2nd-time-iran-fires-5-missiles-in-overnight-barrage/>

### **Denying reports, IDF indicates that it's not running low on missile interceptors**

Times of Israel, June 21, 2025

Israel is not running low on air defence interceptors amid its conflict with Iran, the military indicated June 20, 2025, denying reporting that the IDF's stockpile of interceptor missiles is being depleted. The Israel Defence Forces said it was "prepared and ready to handle any scenario," but officially declined to comment on specific munitions matters. Military officials have told The Times of Israel that the operation in Iran was planned months in advance, and the planning took into account Iran's stock of ballistic missiles and drones that it could fire at Israel. Taking Iran's stockpile into account means the IDF prepared ahead of time with enough interceptors to handle the threat. IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir said Friday evening that "we launched the campaign when Iran possessed around 2,500 surface-to-surface missiles," while warning Israelis to brace for a "prolonged" conflict. Additionally, the IDF is actually running through fewer interceptors than it anticipated at this point in the operation. The IDF estimated that Iran would fire several hundred ballistic missiles at Israel in its initial response. In reality, it mustered just 100. In all, some 470 ballistic missiles have been fired from Iran at Israel in the past week, below the IDF's "reference scenario" for the operation.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/denying-reports-idf-indicates-that-its-not-running-low-on-missile-interceptors/>

### **Iran's Khamenei said to pick three potential successors as he hides in bunker**

Times of Israel, June 21, 2025

Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei has nominated three clerics as potential successors as he hides in a bunker while facing threats of assassination by Israel in the ongoing war, The New York Times reported Saturday. Khamenei, Iran's supreme leader since 1989, has also named an "array of replacements down his chain of military command" in case Israel eliminates more top officers, according to the report, which cited three Iranian officials familiar with the plans. According to the officials and diplomats in Iran, the Islamic Republic's chain of command is still functioning despite the blows it sustained, and the political ranks have shown "no obvious signs of dissent," The Times said.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/khamenei-said-to-pick-three-potential-successors-as-he-hides-in-bunker/>

### **Israel, U.S. simulated Iran nuclear strike in joint exercise a year ago, Israeli official reveals**

i24 News, June 22, 2025

An Israeli official has confirmed that the United States and Israel conducted a joint military exercise roughly one year ago simulating a strike on Iranian nuclear facilities. The drill, which took place under the Biden administration, included scenarios explicitly focused on neutralizing Iran's nuclear infrastructure. Speaking to

ABC News on June 21, 2025 evening, the Israeli official described the exercise as unprecedented in scope, noting that it marked the first time the two allies had rehearsed a coordinated offensive operation of this nature. "We didn't think a year ago that this would happen now," the official said, referencing the real-life U.S. strikes carried out just hours earlier. On June 21, 2025 night, President Donald Trump confirmed that the U.S. had carried out a major attack on Iran's nuclear program, targeting three sites: Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan. In a nationally televised address, he described the operation as a "spectacular military success," asserting that "Iran's main nuclear enrichment facilities have been completely and totally obliterated."

[https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/artc-israel-u-s-simulated-iran-nuclear-strike-in-joint-exercise-a-year-ago-israeli-official-reveals#google\\_vignette](https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/artc-israel-u-s-simulated-iran-nuclear-strike-in-joint-exercise-a-year-ago-israeli-official-reveals#google_vignette)

### **How the attacks on Iran are part of a much bigger global struggle**

Thomas L. Feiwman

The New York Times, June 22, 2025

There are so many things to say in the wake of the U.S. bombing of three key Iranian nuclear facilities that it is easy to get lost in the gripping details. So for now, let me try to step back and explore the global, regional and local forces shaping this story. What's really going on here? It is a very, very big drama, and it is not confined to the Middle East. To my mind, Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, with the sole aim of wiping its democracy off the map

and absorbing it into Russia, and the attacks on Israel in 2023 by Hamas and Iran's proxies in Lebanon, Yemen and Iraq, were manifestations of a global struggle between the forces of inclusion and the forces of resistance. That is a struggle between countries and leaders who see the world and their nations benefiting from more trade, more cooperation against global threats and more decent, if not democratic, governance — versus regimes whose leaders thrive on resisting those trends because conflict enables them to keep their people down, their armies strong and their thieving of their treasuries easy.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/22/opinion/iran-israel-attack-global-struggle.html>

### **US joins Israel's war in Iran, bombs fortified Fordo site and other nuclear facilities**

Times of Israel, June 22, 2025

US President Donald Trump speaks from the White House in Washington, June 21, 2025, after the US military struck three Iranian nuclear and military sites, directly joining Israel's effort to decapitate the country's nuclear program, as Vice President JD Vance, Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth listen. US President Donald Trump announced early Sunday that the US had carried out a "successful attack" on the Fordo, Natanz and Isfahan nuclear sites in Iran, hours after he appeared to suggest that the matter of US involvement in Israel's campaign against Iran's nuclear program was as yet undecided. The decision to directly involve the US in the war came



after more than a week of strikes by Israel that damaged Iran's nuclear facilities, eradicated the country's air defences, and took out many of its military brass and top nuclear scientists. Iran, in retaliation, has launched dozens of ballistic missile barrages at Israel. "A full payload of BOMBS was dropped on the primary site, Fordo," Trump wrote on Truth Social, referring to the difficult-to-destroy underground site, which has been characterised as the most integral part of the Islamic Republic's nuclear program.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-strikes-irans-elusive-fordo-facility-joining-israels-fight-against-nuclear-program/>

### **Its missile stock is depleted, but Iran's arsenal may still be a threat**

Stav Levaton

Times of Israel, June 24, 2025

With the Iran-Israel conflict possibly brought to a halt by a US-brokered ceasefire on June 24, 2025, questions remain over the true condition of Iran's missile arsenal after nearly two weeks of punishing exchanges. Iran's missile salvos proved the destructive power of its long-range missiles, turning buildings into rubble and killing dozens, even as Israel has claimed to take out much of its stockpile and the means to launch. The ceasefire, confirmed by both the Prime Minister's Office and Iranian state media, was announced by US President Donald Trump early Tuesday, though exchanges of fire continued for hours afterward. In the hour

before the ceasefire was set to take effect, Iran fired six separate salvos at Israel, totaling some 20 missiles. The use of successive small barrages aimed at different parts of the country, which had also been employed a day earlier, marked a stark shift from the early days of the war, when Iran would seek to overwhelm Israel's missile defenses with large-scale volleys of up to 60 missiles at a time.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/its-missile-stock-is-depleted-but-irans-arsenal-may-still-be-a-threat/>

### **Cost of damages from Iran war forecast at double October 7 and ensuing attacks**

Zev Stub

Times of Israel, June 24, 2025

The cost of property damages from Iranian missile and drone attacks on Israel over the past 12 days is estimated to be around double the sum of claims stemming from the October 7 attack and all 615 days since, the head of the Tax Authority's compensation department said. The likely NIS 5 billion (\$1.47 billion) price tag calculated by Amir Dahan underlined the destructive power of the few Iranian missiles to make it through Israel's air defence shield, carrying massive warheads that reduced whole apartment buildings to rubble and sent out blast waves that shattered windows and caused other damage over a wide area.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/cost-of-damages-from-iran-war-forecast-at-double-october-7-and-ensuing-attacks/>

## **IDF assesses Iran's nuclear program set back years, but 'too early' to know for sure**

Emanuel Fabian

Times of Israel, June 25, 2025

Israel's military thinks the recent war with Iran has set the Islamic Republic's nuclear program back by years, but the assessment is preliminary, and it is too early to know for sure, Israel Defence Forces spokesman Brig. Gen. Effi Defrin said June 25, 2025. "We met all the objectives of the operation as defined for us, and even did so better than we had optimally expected," Defrin said, but he cautioned: "I say this with humility, because it's still too early to determine." "We are investigating and reviewing the results of our strikes on every part of this puzzle, as I've previously called it, the various components of the nuclear program and more," he said.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-assesses-irans-nuclear-program-set-back-years-but-too-early-to-know-for-sure/>

## **Military briefing: Israel and Iran size up war damage**

Charles Clover, Aditi Bhandari, Alan Smith and Steven Bernard

Financial Times, June 26, 2025

Major General Esmail Ghaani, a senior commander in Iran's Revolutionary Guards, was last week reported to have died in a devastating series of Israeli strikes. But this week Ghaani appeared alive and well, taking part in a rally in central Tehran to celebrate what Iran called its "victory" in

repelling Israeli attacks. Ghaani's resurrection is one sign of the still-shifting picture as Iran and Israel assess the damage to themselves and each other from almost two weeks of fierce missile and drone conflict. It is clear that for Iran, the costs have been immense. Its air defences were left in ruins, many of the top ranks of its military killed, and its nuclear programme at the very least damaged by attacks, including US strikes. But the extent of that damage is already hotly contested, while any military cost to Israel from the war has been unclear, partly thanks to rigorous censorship of military information within the country. Iran claimed to have struck the headquarters of Israel's Mossad intelligence agency in Gilot, the Israel Defence Forces headquarters in Tel Aviv and other high-value intelligence and energy targets.

<https://www.ft.com/content/f2cbde66-9715-4084-bc86-e40c1f71d8ea>

## **IDF releases details of damage to Iran's nuclear, missile production sites**

The Jerusalem Post, June 27, 2025

IDF Spokesperson Brig.-Gen. Effie Defrin spoke about the details behind the war with Iran, revealing the scale of damage to Iran's nuclear and missile programs. Defrin began by saying that Israel had tried to prevent the expansion and development of Iran's nuclear and missile capabilities "behind the scenes," but said they had been "left no choice" but to proceed with the strikes. The IDF believed that Iran had sufficient nuclear material to assemble several nuclear bombs within a short period of time

and that Iran had begun ramping up missile production, aiming to increase its arsenal from 2,500 to 8,000 within two years.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-859236>

### **‘The stars aligned’: Why Israel set out for a war against Iran, and what it achieved**

Emanuel Fabian

Times of Israel, June 27, 2025

Over the past decades, Israel has come up with numerous different plans to attack Iran’s nuclear program. None of them were activated, nor were they considered ready. Until this month. In the early hours of June 13, the Israel Defence Forces launched what it dubbed a “preemptive” operation against not just the Iranian nuclear program, but the wider threat of Iran’s ballistic missiles and its overarching plans to destroy Israel. The war began with surprise strikes carried out by the Israeli Air Force in Tehran and other areas of Iran, some 1,500 kilometers from Israel. The sudden assault was multifaceted. In what is now known as Operation Red Wedding, some 30 top Iranian military commanders — including the three most senior generals — were eliminated in near-simultaneous strikes in Tehran, which, according to the IDF, disrupted Iran’s command and control and prevented it from responding to Israel for nearly a full day.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/the-stars-aligned-why-israel-set-out-for-a-war-against-iran-and-what-it-achieved/>

### **The 12-day gamble: How the Israel-Iran war unfolded**

Seth J. Feantzman

The Jerusalem Post, June 28, 2025

Israelis were awoken in the early hours of June 13 to news that Israel had carried out strikes on Iran. The goal of the strikes was to confront Iran’s nuclear program. For most Israelis, this was something they had been awaiting for more than 20 years. Most did not know if it would happen, or when, but they knew that Iran was marching slowly toward a nuclear weapon. Strikes on Iran had been discussed in the Jewish state for two decades. However, many factors had prevented Israel from going forward. When Israelis were awoken at around 3 a.m., the Israeli aircraft were already in the air. Tehran is more than 1,600 km from Israel. However, Iran is a vast country. Parts of the country are more than 2,400 km away. That represented a challenge for Israel’s various types of aircraft, such as the F-16, F-15, and F-35s.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-859081>

### **Iran was stockpiling missile arsenal that could reach Europe, FM spox. says**

The Jerusalem Post, June 29, 2025

Iran was moving ballistic missile production into an industrial scale, and was about to become the top missile producer in the world, with intercontinental missiles able to reach European cities, including London, Israel Foreign Ministry spokesperson Oren Marmorstein said during an interview

with The Times on June 29, 2025. Describing Israel's reasoning for conducting airstrikes on Iran, Marmorstein told The Times that "We actually acted because of two existential threats. One was nuclear, and we acted when we did because Iran was at the 11th hour of being able to build a bomb. But the other was the ballistic threat." The US estimated Iran possessed approximately 3,000 ballistic missiles before Operation Rising Lion began, but was undergoing attempts to increase production to 20,000, Marmorstein stated, with missiles capable of carrying two-ton payloads, The Times noted.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-859392>

### **Iran attack could be the death knell for nuclear non-proliferation**

Ankit Panda

Financial Times, June 29, 2025

The United States' decision to entangle itself in Israel's war against Iran comes at a fateful moment for the global nuclear order. Contrary to US President Donald Trump's celebration of a "spectacular military success," the prospects of an indefinitely non-nuclear Iran have diminished significantly — with dire implications for halting the spread of nuclear weapons. As tactically impressive as the US-Israeli campaign may be, Iran's nuclear ambitions have not, as US officials suggested, been "obliterated". The fate of Iran's stockpile of highly enriched uranium, its most valuable asset should it decide to weaponise, and components of advanced centrifuges remain unaccounted for. Despite Israeli

assassinations of key scientists, Iran continues to possess a significant knowledge base that could aid its weaponisation. The world is experiencing an era of nuclear flux; since 2020, we've seen Russia invade non-nuclear Ukraine backed by nuclear threat-making, China embark on a major build-up of its nuclear forces, India and Pakistan engage in the most significant violence below the nuclear threshold in decades, while discomfited US allies — from Warsaw to Seoul — are increasingly considering their own nuclear options. This new era has thrust nuclear weapons back to the centre of global statecraft. While military action against nuclear facilities has a long history, there is no precise precedent for this month's events. Israel — which is the only country in the Middle East to have nuclear weapons, but does not declare its programme and is not a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) — took it upon itself to bomb several nuclear facilities under international safeguards on the territory of an NPT party and successfully recruited the US to strike the targets it couldn't take out itself. Israel has long alleged that Iran was undertaking weaponisation activities, but US intelligence has not supported this conclusion.

<https://www.ft.com/content/be6fd9c0-090b-4da9-9353-3387c7fe9495>

### **IAEA: Iran nuke sites damaged but enrichment possible in months**

Matthias Inbar, Ariel Oseran

i24 News, June 29, 2025

The head of the UN's nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, said

that Iran's nuclear facilities have been significantly destroyed in the 12-day conflict earlier this month, but this may not stop the regime from continuing uranium enrichment "within months – or less." IAEA chief Rafael Grossi told CBC's "Face the Nation" that "The capacities they have are there. They could have, in a matter of months—or even less—a few cascades of centrifuges spinning and producing enriched uranium."

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel-at-war/artc-iaea-chief-says-iranian-nuclear-sites-significantly-destroyed-but-can-continue-enriching-within-months-or-even-less-live-blog>

### **Israel in 'advanced talks' for deal to end hostilities with Syria, says senior official**

Lazar Berman

Times of Israel, June 30, 2025

Israel and Syria are holding "advanced talks" on a bilateral agreement halting hostilities between the countries, a senior Israeli official told The Times of Israel. The contacts are focused on coordination around security matters, said the official, who would not speculate on when a full peace deal between the two enemy states could turn into reality. "Could it develop into something beyond [security arrangements]?" the official asked. "We will wait and see. For now, there isn't anything concrete." "There is absolutely an aspiration to expand the Abraham Accords, and it's no secret that we want to see Syria in this," the official continued.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-in-advanced-talks-for-deal-to-end-hostilities-with-syria-says-senior-official/>

### **Israel's leadership, allies must now make case for continued American support - opinion**

Seffi Jonas

The Jerusalem Post, June 30, 2025

Even if America had decided to destroy the Iranian regime's nuclear facilities by itself, it's very likely that the regime's response would have been far more severe if not for Israel practically knocking out the Iranian military before America entered the fighting. America seemingly acted because it was a cakewalk with minimal risk and an obvious necessity to denuclearise the Islamic regime. In other words, America would have been facing either a nuclear threat from a crazed Islamic regime or another prolonged, painful and undesired war in the Middle East, if not for Israel carrying the bulk of the operational load. Americans realize that this was a great week and that the isolationist hope of never fighting is unsustainable and suicidal, even though Americans also have little patience for wars abroad.

<https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-859507>

### **After Iran-Israel clash, there's more reason to fear a nuclear bomb**

Ishaan Tharoor

The Washing Post, June 30, 2025

It's not clear how much of Iran's nuclear program is destroyed or inoperable. But the "total obliteration" declared by President Donald Trump after U.S. warplanes joined an Israeli campaign against the Islamic Republic does not seem accurate. An initial

U.S. intelligence report assessed that airstrikes on three key Iranian nuclear facilities have set Tehran's program back by months, but not wholly eliminated it. On June 29, 2025, my colleagues also reported on intercepted communications between senior Iranian officials who seemed to believe the attacks were less devastating than feared. Rafael Mariano Grossi, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog, told CBS's "Face the Nation" over the weekend that Iran probably still had the ability to resume uranium enrichment activities. "The capacities they have are there. They can have ... in a matter of months, I would say, a few cascades of centrifuges spinning and producing enriched uranium, or less than that," Grossi said, casting doubt on the confidence of Trump and his allies that Iran would never be able to build an atomic weapon and stressing the need for more diplomacy. "Frankly speaking, one cannot claim that everything has disappeared and there is nothing there."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2025/06/30/nuclear-bomb-iran-israel-world-proliferation/>

## Jordan

### France, Jordan urge de-escalation in Middle East, call for revival of Iran nuclear talks

Necva Tastan Sevinc

Anadolu Agency, June 19, 2025

French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot met with his Jordanian counterpart Ayman Safadi in Paris to discuss escalating tensions in the Middle East, emphasizing

the need for regional stability, a ceasefire in Gaza, and a diplomatic resolution to the Iranian nuclear issue. "In the face of the current military escalation in the Middle East, I reaffirmed France's commitment to the security and stability of the region, including Jordan," Barrot said, adding that Paris is ready to "strengthen our partnership in this area." On Iran, both ministers stressed the importance of returning to diplomacy, according to a joint statement, released by the French Foreign Ministry. "The only sustainable solution to the Iranian nuclear crisis is diplomatic," they agreed. Barrot reiterated France's "commitment to contribute to a negotiated solution to Iran's nuclear program, in coordination with our partners."

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/france-jordan-urge-de-escalation-in-middle-east-call-for-revival-of-iran-nuclear-talks/3604932>

### Are Jordan and Saudi Arabia defending Israel?

Kersten Knipp

Deutsche Welle, June 21, 2025

The 21 Arab and Muslim-majority countries made it clear where they stood in the Iran-Israel conflict. In a statement published earlier this week, they expressed their "categorical rejection and condemnation of Israel's recent attacks on the Islamic Republic of Iran," which started on June 13. The countries spoke of the need to halt "Israeli hostilities against Iran" and expressed "great concern regarding this dangerous escalation, which threatens to have serious consequences on the peace and stability of the entire region." The



signatories included both Jordan and Saudi Arabia. But their stated opposition to Israel's attacks on Iran has not prevented them from intervening in the conflict, at least indirectly. Jordan, for example, has shot down missiles flying from Iran towards Israel. The Jordanian military confirmed they had done this in a statement, explaining that missiles and drones could have fallen onto Jordan, "including in populated areas, causing casualties."

<https://www.dw.com/en/saudi-arabia-jordan-israel-iran-war-united-states/a-72977996>

### **Jordanian king, Omani sultan discuss Iran-Israel conflict, call for peaceful dialogue**

Arab News, June 23, 2025

Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of Oman and King Abdullah II of Jordan discussed the Iran-Israel conflict and the serious repercussions of the escalation of tensions in the region. During a call, they stressed the need to intensify coordination to extinguish the fires of conflict in the Gaza Strip and the ongoing tensions resulting from Israeli actions against Iran, the Oman News Agency reported. They also called for peaceful dialogue and negotiation to find political solutions to regional issues that align with international law, ensuring security and stability, the ONA added. King Abdullah emphasized that peace in the region cannot be achieved without a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue based on a two-state solution, the Petra news agency reported.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2605524/middle-east>

## **Kuwait**

### **Kuwait Army hosts high-level meeting to assess nuclear reactor risks**

Times Kuwait, June 17, 2025

The General Staff of the Army announced the convening of a critical meeting focused on the "National Initiative to Assess the Risks and Damage of Nuclear Reactors to the Country." The meeting was held in the Hall of Decorations and brought together representatives from both military and key civilian entities. The discussions covered several vital topics aimed at strengthening national preparedness and resilience in the face of potential nuclear-related threats, reports Al-Jarida daily. The meeting focused on assessment of national capabilities and potential across essential sectors such as energy, water, and health; review of the preparedness and responsiveness of vital infrastructure and sectors to confront emergency and disaster scenarios.

<https://timeskuwait.com/kuwait-army-hosts-high-level-meeting-to-assess-nuclear-reactor-risks/>

### **GCC confirms no abnormal radiation levels detected across member states**

Kuwait News Agency, June 22, 2025

The General Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) announced that no abnormal radiation levels have been detected in any of the member states, according to data from the GCC Emergency Management Center. In a statement, the Secretariat confirmed that environmental and radiological indicators remain within

safe and technically permissible levels. It further noted that, in coordination with relevant authorities in member states, monitoring of the situation and its developments will continue through established surveillance and early warning systems, and reports will be issued regularly. (end) kns.dss

<https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=3237476&Language=en>

## Lebanon

### Why Hezbollah might sit out the Israel-Iran conflict

Breaking Defense, June 18, 2025

As Israel and Iran approach one week of trading airstrikes, and some outsiders, like the Yemeni Houthis have gotten involved, there's one group notably absent from the conversation: Hezbollah. Once considered Iran's most powerful proxy, the armed Lebanese group has been hobbled by Israel in recent months and is not likely to directly intervene in Tehran's fight against Jerusalem, according to experts and former senior Lebanese military officials — at least for now. "I doubt that Hezbollah will make a move [to attack Israel] because the game is over in the Middle East as a whole," retired Lebanese armed forces Gen. Wehbe Katicha told Breaking Defense, going as far as to say the Iranian "project" in the region "and its empire ... are behind us now."

<https://breakingdefense.com/2025/06/why-hezbollah-might-sit-out-the-israel-iran-conflict/>

### Lebanese president warns of escalating tensions after US strikes on Iranian nuclear sites

Ikrame Imane Kouachi

Anadolu Agency, June 22, 2025

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun warned that US strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities raises the risk of widening regional tensions and threatens security and stability across the region. Lebanon is "more aware than ever of the heavy price it has paid due to wars on its soil and in the region," Aoun said in a statement. He stressed that Lebanon "is unwilling to pay more" and that there is "no national interest" in further involvement. The Lebanese leader called for restraint and the launch of "constructive and serious negotiations to restore stability to regional countries and avoid further killing and destruction." US President Donald Trump said early Sunday that his forces bombed three Iranian nuclear sites in Fordo, Natanz and Isfahan.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/lebanese-president-warns-of-escalating-tensions-after-us-strikes-on-iranian-nuclear-sites/3607981>

### Israeli drone strike kills 3 people in southern Lebanon despite ceasefire

Omar Alothmani and Betul Yilmaz

Anadolu Agency, June 24, 2025

Three people were killed in an Israeli drone strike in southern Lebanon, in the latest violation of a ceasefire agreement, the Lebanese Health Ministry said. The

ministry's Public Health Emergency Operations Center said the fatalities occurred in a strike targeting a vehicle in the Kafr Dajjal town of Nabatieh district. According to Lebanon's state news agency NNA, Israeli drones have been flying over Nabatieh since Tuesday morning. Two Israeli strikes killed three people in southern Lebanon. A fragile ceasefire has been in place in Lebanon since November, which ended months of cross-border warfare between Israel and the Lebanese group Hezbollah, which escalated into a full-scale conflict in September. Lebanese authorities have reported nearly 3,000 Israeli violations of the truce, including the deaths of at least 217 victims and injuries to more than 500.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/israeli-drone-strike-kills-3-people-in-southern-lebanon-despite-ceasefire/3611039>

## Oman

### **Sultan of Oman, Iranian president discuss Israeli strikes, diplomatic solutions**

Arab News, June 17, 2025

Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of Oman held a phone call with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian to offer condolences for the Iranian victims of Israeli airstrikes and discuss the latest developments. Sultan Haitham condemned the damage caused by Israeli strikes to infrastructure and facilities, wishing a speedy recovery to the injured Iranian citizens. He stressed the need for de-escalation from both sides and called for negotiations and dialogue to prevent the ongoing conflict from

deteriorating, the Oman News Agency reported. He reaffirmed the Omani government's commitment to activate diplomatic efforts to resolve the crisis, prevent its escalation, and establish fair and just settlements that restore normalcy.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2604689/middle-east>

### **Russia, Oman discuss de-escalation efforts in wake of Israel-Iran conflict**

Alperen Aktas

Anadolu Agency, June 18, 2025

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov held a phone call with his Omani counterpart, Badr bin Hamad al-Busaidi, to discuss the rising tensions in the Middle East following Israel's large-scale military operation against Iran, the Russian Foreign Ministry said. According to the statement, both sides stressed the urgency of ending hostilities and warned against the further geographical expansion of the conflict, which they said could have dire consequences for the broader region. Lavrov thanked Oman for its mediation efforts, especially regarding contentious issues linked to Iran's nuclear program.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/russia-oman-discuss-de-escalation-efforts-in-wake-of-israel-iran-conflict/3603391>

### **Oman intensifies diplomatic efforts to de-escalate Iran-Israel conflict**

Muscat Daily, June 19, 2025

The Sultanate of Oman continues its steadfast diplomatic efforts to defuse the

escalating conflict between Iran and Israel, following a wave of unprecedented regional tension triggered by Israel's recent military actions against Iranian targets. Reaffirming its principled stance, Oman has reiterated its firm rejection of military escalation and violations of national sovereignty. The Sultanate has stressed that dialogue and diplomacy remain the only viable path toward resolving the crisis and averting catastrophic consequences that could destabilize the entire region and reverberate globally. As part of its outreach, Oman's Foreign Minister, H E Sayyid Badr bin Hamad al Busaidi, held separate phone calls with his counterparts from Russia and China. These calls form part of a broader series of communications with brotherly and friendly nations aimed at restoring calm and encouraging a return to negotiations. The discussions focused on the urgent need for an immediate cessation of hostilities. Sayyid Badr emphasized Oman's view that Israel's actions constitute aggression, contravene the United Nations Charter, and undermine recent diplomatic progress, including U.S.-Iranian talks aimed at curbing nuclear proliferation.

<https://www.muscatdaily.com/2025/06/19/oman-intensifies-diplomatic-efforts-to-de-escalate-iran-israel-conflict/>

## **Qatar**

### **Qatar calls for negotiations to reach diplomatic resolution to Iranian nuclear program-related Issues**

Qatar News Agency, June 17, 2025

The State of Qatar has called for calm, de-escalation, exercising maximum self-

restraint, and carrying on with negotiations to reach a diplomatic solution to the issues pertaining to the Iranian nuclear program. The State of Qatar added that facts have shown that there is no alternative to dialogue and diplomacy to ensure peace and stability and to spare the region and the world further catastrophes. This came in a statement delivered by HE Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations and international organizations in Vienna Jassim bin Yacoub Al Hammadi at the emergency meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Board of Governors in Vienna. His Excellency urged the Director General of the IAEA to engage with the Iranian side to facilitate technical discussions and diplomatic solutions to the nuclear issues concerning Iran.

<https://qna.org.qa/en/news/news-details?id=qatar-calls-for-negotiations-to-reach-diplomatic-resolution-to-iranian-nuclear-program-related-issues&date=17/06/2025>

### **Al Udeid Air Base Qatar: Why US is removing its troops from this base in Middle East amid Iran-Israel war**

The Economic Times, June 21, 2025

The United States has reportedly removed nearly 40 military aircraft from Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar between June 5 and June 19, according to satellite imagery, as the Iran-Israel conflict escalates. This is among the most significant drawdowns at the base, which is the largest American military installation in the Middle East. The U.S. Embassy in Qatar confirmed that access to Al Udeid had been limited "out of an

abundance of caution and in light of ongoing regional hostilities." Personnel have been advised to remain alert due to the deteriorating security environment. "Al Udeid would be extremely vulnerable due to its close proximity to Iran," said Mark Schwartz, a former U.S. Army lieutenant general and defense analyst at the RAND Corporation. "You want to reduce risk to U.S. forces, both personnel and equipment." On June 5, satellite photos from Planet Labs PBC showed about 40 aircraft at the base, including C-130 Hercules transport planes and reconnaissance jets. By June 19, only three aircraft remained.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/al-udeid-air-base-qatar-why-us-is-removing-its-troops-from-this-base-in-middle-east-amid-iran-israel-war/articleshow/121989658.cms?from=mdr>

### **Iran fires missiles at US base in Qatar, Trump calls for peace**

Andrew Mills, Parisa Hafezi and Alexander Cornwell

Reuters, June 24, 2025

Iran launched a missile attack on an American air base in Qatar that caused no injuries, and President Donald Trump dismissed it as a "weak response" to U.S. attacks while urging Iran and Israel to make peace as the conflict entered its 12th day. The attack on Al Udeid Air Base in neighbouring Qatar threatened to widen a conflict that began on June 13 with an Israeli strike on Iran targeting its nuclear programme and ballistic missiles. Iran had threatened to retaliate against the United

States after U.S. bombers dropped 30,000-pound bunker-busters on Iranian underground nuclear facilities at the weekend, joining Israel's air war against Iran, and Trump had raised the possibility of the Iranian government being toppled. "We did not assault anyone, and we will never accept being assaulted by anyone," Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said in a statement. "We will not submit to anyone's aggression – this is the logic of the Iranian nation."

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-weighs-retaliation-against-us-strikes-nuclear-sites-2025-06-23/>

### **A look at Al Udeid Air Base, US military site in Qatar that Iran attacked**

Business Standard, June 24, 2025

Iran retaliated for the US attacks on its nuclear sites by targeting Al Udeid Air Base, a sprawling desert facility in Qatar that serves as a main regional military hub for American forces. A US defence official says no casualties have been reported. As of this month, the US military had about 40,000 service members in the Middle East, according to a US official. Many of them are on ships at sea as part of a bolstering of forces as the conflict escalated between Israel and Iran, according to the Washington-based Council on Foreign Relations research and policy centre. Iran targets US military bases in Qatar; India issues advisory to citizens. Bases in the Middle East have been on heightened alert and taking additional security precautions in anticipation of potential strikes from Iran, while the Pentagon has shifted military aircraft and warships into and

around the region during the conflict. The US has military sites spread across the region, including in Qatar, Bahrain, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Syria and the United Arab Emirates.

[https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/a-look-at-al-udeid-air-base-us-military-site-in-qatar-that-iran-attacked-125062400030\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/a-look-at-al-udeid-air-base-us-military-site-in-qatar-that-iran-attacked-125062400030_1.html)

## Saudi Arabia

### Saudi Arabian Military Industries announces participation in Paris Air Show 2025

Zawya, June 16, 2025

Saudi Arabian Military Industries (SAMI), the national defense and security champion, a PIF Company, has announced its participation in Paris Air Show 2025, taking place from June 16 to 22. As a key player in the industry SAMI's presence at the event underscores its role as a global leader in the defense and aerospace sector. Paris Air Show is the aerospace sector's largest and most influential exhibition. The 2025 edition is expected to host over 2,500 exhibitors from 48 countries, providing a strategic platform to discover the latest innovations, witness in-flight demonstrations, and forge meaningful industry connections. The show serves as a premier global platform that brings together leading players from the aviation and aerospace sectors worldwide. Through its participation, SAMI aims to strengthen its network of international partnerships in the Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) sector, where SAMI, through its

subsidiaries and business units, acts as a strategic partner in the maintenance and repair of both private and military aircraft, as well as landing gear systems.

<https://www.zawya.com/en/press-release/companies-news/saudi-arabian-military-industries-announces-participation-in-paris-air-show-2025-clawvrjf>

### Aramco acquires C-27J Multi-Mission Aircraft to respond to firefighting and multi-mission requirements in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Leonardo, June 17, 2025

The global presence of the Leonardo C-27J multi-mission tactical transport aircraft, with more than 270,000 flight hours worldwide, is set to grow with a new addition to the number of leading operators that have chosen and are using the aircraft to meet their demanding requirements. Leonardo will supply two C-27J multi-mission and firefighter aircraft to Aramco for cargo transport, firefighting, oil spill response, and medical evacuation operations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Mukamalah Aviation Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Aramco, operating under the brand name "Aloula Aviation," will operate the C-27Js and also act as service center for the type. Deliveries are expected starting from 2027.

<https://www.leonardo.com/en/press-release-detail/-/detail/17-05-2025-aramco-acquires-c-27j-multi-mission-aircraft-to-respond-to-firefighting-and-multi-mission-operational-requirements-in-the-kingdom-of-saudi>



### **Saudi Arabia steps up diplomacy to contain escalating Iran-Israel conflict**

Faisal bin Ahmed

Alarabiya, June 18, 2025

As the Iran-Israel conflict enters its sixth day, Saudi Arabia has been ramping up its multilateral diplomatic efforts to push for regional stability – underscoring Riyadh’s active political role in trying to prevent a wider conflict. The flare-up, marked by Israel’s surprise “Rising Lion” operation against Iran, has derailed ongoing diplomatic efforts and disrupted attempts to de-escalate the situation. Saudi researcher in international relations, Dr. Salem Al-Yami, explains that the Kingdom and other Gulf states are acting with restraint and foresight, seeking to contain the tensions ignited by Israel’s actions. He exclusively told Al Arabiya that Gulf countries, led by Saudi Arabia, are engaging regional and international players to calm tensions and mitigate the fallout from the ongoing hostilities between Iran and Israel.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/saudi-arabia/2025/06/18/saudi-arabia-steps-up-diplomacy-to-contain-escalating-iranisrael-conflict>

### **Saudi nuclear authority confirms no radiation risk from regional conflict**

Saudi Gazette, June 20, 2025

Saudi Arabia’s Nuclear and Radiological Regulatory Commission (NRRC) has confirmed the safety of the Kingdom’s environment amid rising regional tensions, stating that there have been no radiation leaks affecting the country. In a statement

posted Thursday on its official X account, the NRRC said that radiation levels across the Kingdom remain normal and the environment is safe, despite the ongoing military escalation between Iran and Israel. In a follow-up post, the commission clarified that the military strike on Iran’s Arak research reactor has had no radiological consequences, as the facility is currently free of nuclear fuel. The NRRC reiterated that it has been monitoring developments around the clock, and that its emergency operations center is actively evaluating any potential nuclear fallout risks. It also emphasized that preventive measures are in place to protect the public and the environment from potential radiological impacts.

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/652846/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-confirms-no-radiation-risk-amid-Israel-Iran-conflict-Arak-reactor-strike>

### **IAEA launches management system advisory service to support the Introduction of Nuclear Power, conducts first mission to Saudi Arabia**

IAEA, June 24, 2025

The IAEA conducted its first-ever management systems advisory service in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 19 to 22 May 2025. The IAEA Management Systems Advisory Service (IMSAS) was established to support newcomer countries in developing robust and effective nuclear infrastructure, in response to findings from the Agency’s Integrated Nuclear Infrastructure Review (INIR) missions that highlighted inconsistencies in the implementation of management systems

among countries embarking on new nuclear power programmes. As part of the IAEA's broader commitment to support countries in introducing nuclear power in their energy mix, IMSAS helps nuclear organizations develop and maintain management systems appropriate to the current phase of the nuclear power programme. A management system is a set of interrelated or interacting elements — including organizational structure, responsibilities, resources, and processes — established to achieve organizational objectives in an efficient and effective manner.

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/iae-a-launches-management-system-advisory-service-to-support-the-introduction-of-nuclear-power-conducts-first-mission-to-saudi-arabia>

## Syria

### As Other Arab States Condemn Israeli Attacks on Iran, Syria Is Notably Silent

Christina Goldbaum

The New York Times, June 17, 2025

In the hours after Israel launched its most brazen attacks yet on Iran, Arab countries — many of which are no real friends of the Islamic republic — quickly condemned the Israeli aggression. Arab leaders denounced the Israeli strikes as “heinous attacks” and “violations of international law.” But amid the chorus of criticism, one key player in the region has remained notably silent. The decision by Syria's new government, led by President Ahmed al-Shara, to remain silent is a sign of just how much the geopolitical sands have shifted in the country since

rebels toppled the Assad regime in December, analysts say.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/17/world/middleeast/syria-israel-iran.html>

### What's behind Syria's silence on the Israel-Iran War?

Rizik Alabi

The Jerusalem Post, June 19, 2025

While tensions between Iran and Israel have erupted into open warfare, Syria has so far remained officially silent. The conflict, which began with a series of strikes and counterstrikes, has rapidly escalated into a full-scale confrontation marked by long-range missile exchanges. With missiles from both countries regularly traversing Syrian airspace near Damascus, Syria's silence has prompted speculation over its political and military calculus. President Ahmed al-Sharaa's government has not issued any formal statement. Syrian state media have remained vague, offering only brief remarks about “the importance of Syrian sovereignty” without clarifying the government's stance on the conflict. Some analysts suggest Syria's silence stems from necessity rather than a calculated policy. “Syria's fragile economy and its deteriorated military capacity after more than a decade of civil war do not allow it to engage in any new political or military adventure, regardless of pressure from allies,” said political analyst Samir Abdullah, a professor of international relations at Damascus University.

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-858397>

## Türkiye

### Radar in Turkey gives US early access to Iranian missile launches. Israel may benefit

Turkish Minute, June 17, 2025

Protesters hold banners reading "We don't want a missile shield in Kürecik" during a demonstration against the deployment of a NATO early warning radar system in eastern Turkey. The rally, organized by civil servant, student, and journalist unions, took place in Ankara on October 8, 2011. As missiles fly between Israel and Iran in their most dangerous confrontation to date, attention is turning to a high-tech radar system located in eastern Turkey. The US-operated AN/TPY-2 radar installation in Kürecik, Malatya province, is capable of detecting missile launches from deep inside Iranian territory, and experts say it could play a critical role in warning against Iranian attacks. The radar, operational since 2012, is part of NATO's ballistic missile defense architecture. It was deployed to provide early warning of potential threats from Iran aimed at Europe. But its strategic positioning—roughly 500 kilometers from Iran's western border with Turkey—also makes it highly valuable to any system trying to intercept Iranian missiles midflight.

<https://www.turkishminute.com/2025/06/17/radar-in-turkey-gives-us-early-access-to-iranian-missile-launches-israel-may-benefit/>

### Turkish Aerospace eyes full development of local KAAN fighter jet engine by 2032

Tim Martin

Breaking Defence, June 18, 2025

Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI) is building momentum on development of a domestically produced engine for the KAAN fifth-generation fighter jet, with a target integration date of 2032, the head of the company tells Breaking Defense. "We [have] already started working on" the new TF35000 turbofan engine, Mehmet Demiroğlu, general manager at TAI, told Breaking Defense at Le Bourget, adding that work is being done jointly by Tusas Engine Industries (TEI) and TRMotor. As part of the system's preliminary design phase, a "conceptual design is almost done," he added, "and then it will go to initial prototyping maybe by the end of the year." Additionally, Demiroğlu said that "some early testing" of the powerplant is planned in 2026 and integration on KAAN could be a reality starting in 2032.

<https://breakingdefense.com/2025/06/turkish-aerospace-eyes-full-development-of-local-kaan-fighter-jet-engine-by-2032/>

### Türkiye's Steel Dome gains more capabilities to provide 'absolute security umbrella' in skies

Abdulkadir Gunyol and Emir Yildirim

Anadolu Agency, June 20, 2025

Türkiye's integrated air defense system, known as the Steel Dome, continues to

expand its capabilities, reinforcing the country's aerial security with a multi-layered, domestically developed architecture. Described as the country's "security umbrella" in the skies, the Steel Dome provides phased and integrated protection against low, medium and high-altitude threats through systems developed by Turkish defense firms. One of these is Turkish defense firm Aselsan's anti-aircraft gun Korkut, which meets the low-altitude defense needs of the Turkish Armed Forces as an effective, mobile, and quick system against threats. The Hisar-A+ and Hisar-0+, developed by Aselsan and Roketsan, are domestically-made low and medium-altitude systems that provide effective protection against aircraft, cruise missiles, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and helicopters.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkiye-s-steel-dome-gains-more-capabilities-to-provide-absolute-security-umbrella-in-skies/3604959>

### **S-400s not enough to meet Turkey's air defence needs**

Tasnim News Agency, June, 26, 2025

The Russian-made S-400 surface-to-air missile systems alone are not sufficient to meet Turkey's comprehensive air defense needs, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told his pool reporters upon returning from The Hague, which hosted the NATO summit. "Air defense cannot rely solely on the S-400s. Our people have also come to understand this more clearly in recent days (given the ongoing regional conflicts)," Erdogan said, as quoted by Anadolu

Agency. "We need to establish a multi-layered air defense system. It is crucial to have missile systems capable of operating at different altitudes and to ensure they function together in coordination," he added, TASS reported. Erdogan noted that while Turkey has made notable advancements in missile technology, further development is needed. "We are working on a joint system called the Steel Dome. We are integrating multi-altitude air defense systems, sensors, and electronic warfare systems that have been developed domestically," he stated.

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2025/06/26/3343006/s-400s-not-enough-to-meet-turkey-s-air-defense-needs-erdogan>

### **United Arab Emirates**

#### **UAE follows with deep concern the military confrontation in the region, and calls for wisdom and dialogue**

United Arab Emirates Ministry of Foreign Affairs, June 22, 2025

The United Arab Emirates has expressed its profound concern over the continued tensions in the region and the targeting of Iranian nuclear facilities. The UAE stressed the need for immediate de-escalation to avoid serious repercussions and spare the region from being pulled into deeper levels of instability. In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) stressed the importance of prioritizing diplomacy and dialogue to resolve disputes, through comprehensive approaches that promote stability, prosperity, and justice. The UAE reiterated its call on the international community to intensify efforts toward a

comprehensive resolution of these sensitive and dangerous developments, to safeguard the region and its peoples from the devastating consequences of conflict. Furthermore, the Ministry urged the United Nations and the UN Security Council to uphold their responsibilities through serious efforts to address the region's long-standing issues, which now stand at a critical juncture and pose an increasing threat to regional and international peace and security.

<https://www.mofa.gov.ae/en/mediahub/news/2025/6/22/22-6-2025-uae-uae>

### **UAE urges immediate de-escalation after US strikes on Iranian nuclear sites amid Israel conflict**

Gulf News, June 22, 2025

The UAE has voiced deep concern over escalating tensions in the region, particularly following the targeting of Iranian nuclear facilities, urging an immediate halt to any further escalation to prevent the situation from spiraling into deeper instability. In a statement released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UAE emphasized the urgent need to resolve disputes through diplomacy and dialogue. The UAE stressed the importance of pursuing comprehensive frameworks that promote stability, prosperity, and justice across the region. The UAE also renewed its call for the international community to intensify efforts toward a broad and sustainable resolution to what it described as “sensitive and dangerous developments,” warning that continued unrest poses grave risks to both the region

and its people. The ministry urged the United Nations and the UN Security Council to shoulder their responsibilities and take necessary steps to address long-standing crises, now at a critical juncture and increasingly threatening regional and global stability.

<https://gulfnews.com/world/mena/uae-urges-immediate-de-escalation-after-us-strikes-on-iranian-nuclear-sites-amid-israel-conflict-1.500172535>

## **Yemen**

### **Yemen's Houthis claim responsibility for missile attacks towards Israel in past 24 hours**

The Statesman, June 16, 2025

Yemen's Houthis, in a statement on Sunday, claimed responsibility for launching missile attacks towards Israel in the past 24 hours. “In support of the Palestinian and Iranian peoples, and in response to the crime of starvation and thirst perpetrated by the Zionist enemy against our brothers in the Gaza Strip, the Yemeni Armed Forces' missile force (Houthi missile force) carried out a military operation targeting sensitive Israeli enemy targets in the occupied Tel Aviv area, using many hypersonic ballistic missiles at various times over the past 24 hours,” Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Sarea said in a televised statement, aired by Houthi-run al-Masirah TV, Xinhua reported. “This operation was coordinated with the operations carried out by the Iranian army and the Iranian Revolutionary Guard against the criminal Israeli enemy,” Sarea said. The Houthi military

spokesperson vowed that his group would continue to launch missile attacks against Israel until “the war and blockade on Gaza end”, Xinhua said.

<https://www.thestatesman.com/world/yemens-houthis-claim-responsibility-for-missile-attacks-towards-israel-in-past-24-hours-1503445859.html>

### **Yemen launches missile attack on Israel**

Mehr News Agency, June 28, 2025

Local media in occupied territories reported a missile attack from Yemen against Israel. Israeli media have reported that a missile was launched from Yemen toward occupied Palestine. According to the internal front command of the Israeli military, alerts are expected to be issued in the coming minutes in multiple regions, including southern Negev, western Negev, central Negev, Judea, the Dead Sea, Lachish, and Arabah. There were no immediate statements from the Yemeni side.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/233730/Yemen-launches-missile-attack-on-Israel>



# NUCLEAR AND ARMS CONTROL CENTRE

*Sylloge on West Asia is compiled by Ms. Bhawna*

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