

Iran doubts Israel's truce compliance; warns of response: *Top general*

National Desk

Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces said on Sunday that Tehran has doubts about Israel's commitment to a US-proposed unilateral cease-fire that ended their 12-day conflict, warning that the country's Armed Forces are ready to respond forcefully to any new aggression by the regime. Major General Abdolrahim Mousavi said in a phone call with his Saudi Defense Minister Prince Khalid bin Salman that Iran did not start the war but responded with full might. The most serious escalation

to date between the two sides erupted on June 13, when Israel launched a bombing campaign in Iran that killed more than 600 people including civilians, top military commanders and nuclear scientists.

The fighting derailed nuclear talks between Iran and the United States, a staunch ally of Israel's.

"We did not start the war, but we have responded to the aggressor with all our power," Mousavi said, six days into the cease-fire unilaterally announced by US President Donald Trump.

The United States joined the Is-

rael aggression by carrying out strikes on the three Iranian nuclear facilities of Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan.

According to Iran's Health Ministry, at least 627 civilians were killed and 4,900 injured during the 12-day Israel's onslaught against Iran.

In response, Iranian Armed Forces targeted Israel's military sites with a barrage of advanced missiles, which pierced through Israel's once-vaunted multilayered defense system. Retaliatory attacks by Iran on Israel killed 28 people, according to Israeli authorities.

The regime and the US invad-

ed Iranian territory despite the restraint shown by the Islamic Republic, while indirect negotiations with the United States were underway, Mousavi said.

"These two regimes have shown that they do not adhere to any international rules and norms, and this was proven to the world in the imposed 12-day war," he noted.

Meanwhile, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps' Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters in a statement said that Iran's Armed Forces are monitoring the enemy's movements and are fully prepared to confront any aggression.



Abdolrahim Mousavi
IRNA

Hossein Hassani Sa'di said that the country's Armed Forces will not hesitate for a moment to defend Iran's territorial integrity. The Iranian nation proved to

the enemy that in the face of any bullying and aggression it becomes more united and disappoints its enemies, he said in the statement.

Deputy FM refutes Trump's claim of planned resumption of talks

International Desk

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Majid Takht-Ravanchi on Sunday rejected as "incorrect" US president's claim that a time has been fixed for resumption of nuclear negotiations between Tehran and Washington.

"No agreement has been made on the issues that are being raised," Takht-Ravanchi said, adding that,

"What the Americans are saying is not true."

US President Donald Trump claimed on Wednesday that US and Iranian officials will talk next week on Iran's nuclear program. "We may sign an agreement, I don't know," Trump said.

A day later, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said that the Trump administration does not have any meetings scheduled with Iran.

"We don't have anything scheduled as of now,"

Leavitt told reporters during Thursday's press briefing, adding that she spoke with Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff on Thursday morning and the administration continues to be in "close communication" with the Iranians and intermediaries such as the Qataris.

"We are in touch, and if there is a meeting, we will let you know, as we always do," Leavitt said.

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi also said on

Thursday that Iran currently has no plan to meet with the United States.

The Iranian foreign minister said Tehran was assessing whether talks with the US were in its interest. Since April 12, Iran and the US held five rounds of talks to resolve a decades-long dispute over Iran's nuclear program. However, Israel's 12-day aggression against Iran, which began on June 13, derailed the nuclear talks.

Judiciary: Israeli strike on Evin prison claimed 71 lives, including civilians



International Desk

Iran's Judiciary's spokesman Asghar Jahangir said on Sunday that last week's Israeli strike on Tehran's Evin prison during the 12-day aggression on Iran killed at least 71 people.

"In the attack on Evin prison, 71 people were martyred including administrative staff, youth doing their military service, detain-

Jahangir also noted that a number of people were injured in the Israeli strike, some of whom were treated on site and others were taken to hospital.

The strike on June 23 destroyed part of the administrative building at Evin.

Images shared by the Judiciary showed destroyed walls, collapsed ceilings, scattered debris, and broken surfaces across waiting areas at the facility.

The judiciary said that Evin's medical center and visiting rooms had been targeted.

On Tuesday, a day after the strike, the Judiciary said that the Iranian prison authority had transferred inmates out of Evin prison.

From the first day of its unprovoked aggression against Iran, the Israeli regime repeatedly targeted civilian infrastructures.

The regime's attacks killed more than 600 people, including women and children, nuclear scientist and top military commanders.

Iran calls on UNSC to identify Israel, US as 'initiators' of 12-day war

International Desk

Iran called on the UN Security Council to identify the Israeli regime and the United States as the "initiators" of a recent act of aggression against the Islamic Republic and hold them to account for the damage inflicted on Iran.

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi in a letter to the secretary-general and the president of the UN Security Council reminded the council of its primary responsibility in maintaining international peace and security.

Since the beginning of Israel's aggression against Iran on June 13 in a clear violation of the UN Charter, many residential areas, civilians, and civilian infrastructure have been deliberately targeted, constituting a blatant breach of international law, he said.

Several hospitals and relief centers were also attacked, amounting to a grave violation of international humanitarian law, the Iranian foreign minister said, adding that energy facilities were also targeted with the apparent aim of disrupting the daily lives of people.

Araghchi also referred to the attacks by Israel and the US on Iran's nuclear facilities which are under the supervision of the In-



ternational Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the cities of Qom, Arak, Natanz, and Isfahan, calling them "a flagrant violation of the UN Charter, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), IAEA safeguards agreements, and its relevant resolutions."

Israel's unprovoked aggression against Iran claimed the lives of more than 600 people and wounded 4,900 others. The United States also joined the Israel aggression by carrying out strikes on the three Iranian nuclear facilities of Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan.

The conflict came to a halt under a US-declared cease-fire that took effect on June 24. The UN Security Council must hold the perpetrators of the aggression accountable and take action to prevent the recurrence of such crimes to fulfil its duty of maintaining international peace and security, the Iranian foreign minister underlined.

Wartime diplomacy part ...

It served not only as an act of defiance but also as a form of deterrence during wartime, and it is expected to contribute to future deterrence strategies.

Through a combination of military valor and decisive pre-emptive measures, alongside the resilience of its indigenous nuclear capabilities, the Islamic Republic of Iran has proven that efforts by Israel and the United States to destroy its nuclear and missile programs are entirely unrealistic—more suited to Hollywood fiction than to practical reality.

Moreover, in this conflict, as in the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s, nearly all nations either directly or indirectly supported Israel. Iran was not fighting back Israel alone. Nonetheless, Iran's

defense might pushed these adversaries back and asserted its position on the global stage. This demonstration of military power will have lasting effects on future deterrence and has affirmed Iran's enduring presence in the international arena.

In the aftermath of active hostilities, the Islamic Republic must take urgent steps to enhance its national air defense capabilities and establish a new intelligence framework to take out internal espionage networks.

In the meantime, Iranian diplomacy remained active throughout the conflict. A prime example was the participation in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation meeting in Istanbul, which resulted in a resolution condemning the United States and Israel for violating Iran's territorial integri-

ty—a resolution that drew reactions from US officials. Even during the clashes, the Iranian Foreign Ministry remained engaged in dialogue with the officials of three European nations and the European Union, despite the fact that the US attack on nuclear facilities brought those talks to a halt. It is crucial, therefore, to recognize that diplomacy, even during wartime, constitutes an essential component of a nation's defense apparatus. In critical moments, it can safeguard national interests and compel adversaries to respect them via military power. The outbreak of war does not signify the end of diplomacy; rather, it marks the beginning of its true test. At such times, diplomacy itself becomes a strategic tool for deterrence and the protection of national interests.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

