

Iranian Army shoots down invading high-tech Hermes drones

IRGC targets with missiles US destroyer in Indian Ocean

International Desk

The Iranian Army reported on Wednesday that its air defense systems successfully destroyed six advanced enemy drones over the last 24 hours as they were flying over the Iranian territory.



The screenshot shows missiles being fired from an unknown location in Iran toward Israel on March 4, 2026. sepaahnews.ir

The Army stated in a communique that the drones were intercepted and shot down by the integrated systems of the Khatam al-Anbiya Air Defense Base. It further specified that six advanced "Hermes" drones were targeted and destroyed across various regions, including Isfahan, Qasr-e Shirin, Tabriz, Khuzestan Province, and the greater Tehran area.

Since the beginning of the war on Saturday, a total of 35 advanced hostile drones have been intercepted and downed, the Army reported.

These operations were executed by ground-based air defense units, fighter jets from the Air Force, and units of the Is-

lamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), all operating under the country's integrated air defense network.

The Ground Force of the IRGC also announced to have responded to the Israeli-US aggression against Iran with 3 major operations.

Iranian destroyer was targeted and hit by Qadr-380 and Talayieh missiles while refueling in the Indian Ocean.

"The naval operation of the IRGC against a strategic US target more than 600 kilometers into the Indian Ocean was carried out with a powerful strike," the IRGC said in a statement on Wednesday.

"As part of this operation's series of actions, an American destroyer was hit by IRGC Navy's Qadr-380 and Talayieh missiles, while refueling from an American fuel ship in the Indian Ocean, 650 kilometers off the coast of Iran," it said.

According to the statement, intelligence reports show that a severe fire broke out on the deck of both ships and its smoke darkened the sky over the ocean.

The US and Israeli armed forces began their aggression against Iran on Saturday by attacking 30 targets across the capital Tehran, killing several senior Iranian officials.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei was also martyred in the Saturday attack.

Since then, Iranian Armed Forces have swiftly and decisively retaliated against these strikes by launching barrages of missile and drones against the Israeli-occupied territories as well as US bases in region.

According to the IRGC, Iran's retaliatory strikes left more than 680 casualties for American troops in various US bases in the first two days of the war.

Iranian officials have stressed that targeting US military bases in the region constitutes "legitimate self-defense."

Referring to Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, they say that Iran has the legal right to defend itself against "acts of aggression" by the US or the Israeli regime.

Declaring another phase of Operation True Promise 4 on Wednesday, IRGC's Public Relations stated that immediately after the joint Israeli-US aggression against Iran, its ground forces launched more than 230 assault drones towards targets in the Occupied Lands and US bases in the region.

"Firing dozens of drones in several waves towards the US military bases in Erbil, and Kuwait, and destroying several terrorist groups' headquarters in northern Iraq, were the first actions of brave soldiers of the IRGC against child-killing aggressors," said the announcement.

The IRGC also announced that an Amer-

World outraged by Israeli-US aggression against Iran

US senator: Americans 'right to be worried' as Trump has 'no plan in Iran'

International Desk

Even though several days have already passed since Israel and the United States launched their unprovoked, illegal assault on Iran — an assault that has martyred the country's Leader, senior military commanders, and swathes of innocent civilians including school girls — high-ranking politicians and members of international organizations continue to lend their voices in condemnation of the attacks, especially since classified intelligence have proven Iran's case.

thought," adding that Trump administration has started an illegal war "based on lies" and now has no plan in Iran.

French President Emmanuel Macron was one of many heads of states who has maintained that the Israeli-US attacks on Iran were conducted outside the framework of international law, emphasizing on Tuesday that Paris cannot endorse them. Stéphane Dujarric, the spokesperson for the United Nations secretary-general, has called for accountability for attacks on civilians and schools.

She maintained that she's at a loss for

will be affected.

Spain's foreign minister asserted on Tuesday that the attack by the US and Israel on Iran has created a "new cycle of violence, conflict, and instability" in the Middle East with unpredictable consequences.

He added that we must not allow war to become the natural way to balance power in the Middle East.

In a phone call with his Iranian counterpart, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov emphasized that these actions of US and Israel have undermined fundamental norms of international law and pose dire threats to regional stability.

Both ministers underscored the urgent priority of ensuring the safety of civilians and infrastructure across the war-affected nations of the region.

Lou Qinqian, spokesperson for China's 14th National People's Congress, stated that his government is closely monitoring developments concerning Iran and called for a halt to the attacks against the country and the respect for its national sovereignty, security, and territorial integrity. Qinqian stressed that China, as a responsible major power, will continue to play its role in de-escalating tensions and helping to maintain stability and peace in the region.

Anouar El Anouni, spokesperson of the European Commission for Foreign Affairs, promised the European Union will also continue "all diplomatic efforts" to reduce tensions in West Asia and help stabilize the region.

Belgian foreign minister also acknowledged that the manner in which the Israeli-American operations against Iran were conducted does not conform to the standards of international law.

Mark Carney, prime minister of Canada, said that the attack on Iran is inconsistent with international law and called for de-escalation in the Middle East.

He considers the current situation another failure in the world order and stressed that the US and Israel acted without the United Nations and their allies.



The photo shows the ruin that a US-Israeli air strike left in its wake in a residential area of Tehran, Iran, on March 3, 2026. YJC

Hakeem Jeffries, the Democratic minority leader in the US House of Representatives, along with numerous senators and House representatives who were just briefed ex post facto by US officials on the attack on Iran, strongly criticized the administration of Donald Trump, asserting that admittedly, there was no "imminent threat" from Tehran to Washington.

He deemed the Trump administration's action against Iran illegal, stating that Congress did not authorize the strike and that the US Constitution is not something to be disregarded.

Senior Senator Elizabeth Warren immediately took to social media after the classified briefing to say to the American people, "It is so much worse than you words "strong enough" to condemn the loss of children's lives, referencing the brutal air strikes on a primary school for girls in Minab, Hormozgan Province, Iran, that has killed over 160 innocent souls. Tom Fletcher, under-secretary-general for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (OCHA), warned that US and Israel's unrelenting violence limits the United Nations' ability to respond to civilians suffering from unlawful airstrikes on homes, hospitals, and schools. He further noted that if energy routes or maritime passages, like the Strait of Hormuz, continue to be disrupted, food prices will increase, health systems will be strained, and the supply of essential goods in import-dependent countries

Trump betrayed diplomacy, American voters: *Araghchi*

UN urged to probe school bombing in Minab

International Desk

Iran strongly denounced the American betrayal of diplomacy, with Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi saying the recent US attacks amid nuclear talks have targeted the negotiation table.

On his X account on Wednesday, Araghchi slammed US President Donald Trump's approach to nuclear negotiations, saying that treating complex talks like a 'real transaction' and relying on 'big lies' can only lead to failure.

The US and Israel attacked Iran on Saturday amid ongoing nuclear talks between Tehran and Washington.

In the attack by the US-Israeli forces in Tehran, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and several top Iranian military commanders were martyred.

Iran responded with widespread missile and drone attacks against Israel and US bases in the region.

On his account, Araghchi wrote, "When complex nuclear negotiations are treated like a real transaction, and when big lies cloud realities, unrealistic expectations can never be met. The outcome? Bombing the negotiation table out of spite."

"Mr. Trump betrayed diplomacy and Americans who elected him," he concluded.

Don't stand on wrong side of history

Also, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei has called on Europeans not to stand on the wrong side of the history.

"The EU/E3 once played a pivotal role in int'l diplomacy, helping to forge the 2015 JCPOA — a landmark achievement of European foreign policy that was torpedoed by this U.S. administration," Baghaei wrote on X.

"Today, under pressure from the German Chancellor (Friedrich Mertz), some EU members risk being placed on the

wrong side of history by appearing complicit in U.S./Israel acts of aggression & war crimes against the Iranian nation, one of the world's oldest and the most enduring civilizational Nation-States."

"The Union must oppose any move reminiscent of historical NAZI mindsets and instead uphold its commitment to international law and justice."

Letter to UN

Iran's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva has sent a letter to UN chief's special envoy regarding the investigation into the US-Israeli crimes committed in Minab school.

destroyed across the country.

UNESCO urged to take action

Meanwhile, Iranian Culture Minister Reza Salehi Amiri, in a letter to the UNESCO chief, Khaled Ahmed El-Enany Ali Ezz, has urged the international body to take action against the US-Israeli attack on its cultural heritage, the Golestan Palace, which is on the World Heritage List.

In the letter, Salehi Amiri referred to "the serious damage inflicted upon the cultural property of outstanding universal value in the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran," calling the UNESCO to "condemn the actions



In Israel's terrorist attack on a girls' elementary school in Minab on Saturday morning, 168 children were killed and 95 were wounded.

In the letter penned to UN Chief's Special Envoy for Violence against Children Nijat Mala Majid late on Tuesday, Ali Bahreini urged the world body to investigate into the heinous crimes committed by terrorist US government and criminal Israeli regime in girls' elementary school in the southern city of Minab, Hormozgan Province.

Bahreini emphasized that US-Israeli aggression against Iranian land and territory is a gross violation of the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Since the beginning of attacks against the country on Saturday, approximately 185 students and teachers have been killed, and nearly 20 schools and educational facilities

of the United States of America and the occupying regime of Palestine, which constitute a flagrant violation of UNSC Resolution S/RES/2347 (2017), the 1972 UNESCO Convention, and the 1954 Hague Convention.

He also called on the cultural organization to "urge both parties to immediately cease their attacks on Iran's historical cultural heritage and respect their international obligations in this regard." The Islamic Republic of Iran respectfully requests "the immediate dispatch of an independent UNESCO expert mission to assess the extent and nature of the damage, a part of the letter said.

The Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates its full readiness to cooperate closely with UNESCO and its Advisory Bodies in addressing this urgent matter and ensuring the safeguarding of this irreplaceable heritage, the letter concluded.

Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

