

# Qalibaf says Iran will not negotiate under 'shadow of threats'

## Tehran poised to reveal 'new cards' on battlefield

### International Desk

No decision has been made so far for the second round of talks between Iran and the United States in Pakistan as Iran underlines that it will not negotiate under the shadow of threats.

Despite the US claims in recent days that Tehran has accepted to take part in the second round of talks, Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf said that Iran will not accept negotiations with Washington under the shadow of threats. In a post on his X handle early on Tuesday, Qalibaf denounced US President Donald Trump for acting on a delusion.

His remarks came in response to continued US ceasefire violations of the ceasefire deal reached two weeks ago, including a naval blockade and an attack on an Iranian merchant vessel in the Sea of Oman on Sunday. "Trump, by imposing a blockade and violating the ceasefire, wants – in his own delusion – to turn the negotiating table into a table of surrender or to justify renewed warmongering," the top lawmaker and lead negotiator said.

Qalibaf made it clear that pressure tactics will not yield results at the negotiating ta-

ble.

"We do not accept negotiations under the shadow of threats," he said. "Over the past two weeks, we have prepared ourselves to reveal new cards on the battlefield."

### US ceasefire violations

The remarks came as the next round of talks between Tehran and Washington were shrouded in uncertainty following renewed American aggression at sea, after the US Navy violated the ceasefire by targeting an Iranian merchant vessel in the Sea of Oman.

The Iranian military described the incident as a breach of maritime conduct and reiterated that its response posture remains active, while stressing confidence in national capabilities.

Earlier on Monday, President Masoud Pezeshkian rejected US threats as pressure tactics, saying Iran will not submit to coercion, even as Washington continued to float military and diplomatic ultimatums.

According to reports in US media, the American delegation was scheduled to fly to Islamabad on Tuesday for the next round of talks with the Iranian delega-

tion.

"We're offering a very fair and reasonable deal, and I hope they take it because, if they don't, the United States is going to knock out every single power plant, and every single bridge, in Iran," Trump wrote on his social media pages.

### Trump's threats

The US president reiterated its threats against Iran on Tuesday, saying that the US military has used the ceasefire period to restock on equipment and is ready to resume attacks against Iran if he orders them.

"We're loaded up," Trump told CNBC. "We have so much ammo, so much of everything. ... We've used this to restock, and they probably have done a little bit of restocking."

"We're ready to go. The military is raring to go."

He added that he does not want to extend the ceasefire, which is due to expire on Wednesday.

"We don't have that much time," he said. "Iran can get themselves on very good footing if they make a deal," he said, claiming that Iranian officials have "no choice" but to negotiate.



Security personnel stand guard at a checkpoint near the Serena Hotel at the Red Zone area in Islamabad on April 21, 2026, amid heightened security measures ahead of anticipated US-Iran peace talks. AFP

The war of aggression by the US and Israel was launched on February 28 with the assassination of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, top military commanders, and ordinary civilians, including nearly 170 schoolchildren in southern Iran's Minab city. After 40 days of aggression, the US agreed

to Iran's ten-point proposal, which paved the way for talks between Iran and the US under Pakistani mediation in Islamabad. The first round of talks in Islamabad failed to produce an agreement, with Iranian officials blaming the US side for putting forward excessive demands and shifting its position at the negotiating table.

## Iranian oil tanker enters national waters in disregard of US blockade



IRNA

### International Desk

The Iranian oil tanker Sili City entered Iran's territorial waters on Monday night after crossing the Arabian Sea, with operational support from Iran's Navy, the Army announced.

"Despite multiple warnings and threats from the naval group of the US Army, the Iranian tanker crossed the Arabian Sea under full security and with operational support from the Iranian Navy, entered Iranian territorial waters last night," the

Public Relations of Iran's Army said in a statement on Tuesday.

It added that the tanker has been anchored for several hours at one of the southern ports of Iran.

The development comes as the US has imposed a so-called "blockade" on Iranian ports since last week in breach of the two-week ceasefire which began on April 8.

On Monday, the US military seized an Iranian container ship in the waters of the Sea of Oman. The US military deployed its forces onto the ship's deck and dis-

abled its navigation systems.

According to Iran's military, the Armed Forces were ready to deal decisively with the American aggressor forces.

However, due to the presence of several family members of the ship's crew — whose lives and safety were at constant risk — they faced certain limitations.

The military added that as soon as the safety of the families and crew of the vessel was assured, Iran's powerful armed forces would take the necessary action against the terrorist US Army.

The US Department of Defense also said on Tuesday US forces have boarded an oil tanker previously sanctioned for carrying Iranian crude oil in Asia.

In a social media post, the Pentagon said the US forces "conducted a right-of-visit maritime interdiction" and boarded the M/T Tifani "without incident."

Ship-tracking data showed the Tifani was carrying oil in the Indian Ocean on Tuesday between Sri Lanka and Indonesia. The Pentagon described the Tifani as "stateless" despite it being a Botswana-flagged vessel. The announcement did not say precisely where or what time Tuesday the ship was boarded.

## Armed Forces not to allow Trump to skew battlefield realities: Top military command

### International Desk

Iran's highest operational command unit said the Islamic Republic's Armed Forces enjoy the upper hand in the face of the adversaries, and, therefore, do not let US President Donald Trump misrepresent the conditions governing the battlefield. Major General Ali Abdollahi, commander of Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, which is responsible for coordinating operations between the country's Army and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), made the remarks in a statement on Tuesday, Press TV reported.

"Holding the upper hand, the Armed Forces do not allow the lying and delusional president of the United States to exploit the situation or fabricate false narratives about conditions on the ground, particularly regarding the management and control of the Strait of Hormuz, during periods of silence in military confrontation," he said.

The remarks came after successive claims made by Trump concerning the state of affairs in the strategic waterway following his announcement of a short-term ceasefire.

The claims saw Trump take to his Truth Social platform, alleging that Iran had "agreed to never close the Strait of Hor-



Ali Abdollahi

muz again." He also claimed that the United States' "naval blockade will remain in full force and effect as it pertains to Iran, only, until such time as our transaction with Iran is 100% complete." Trump additionally said that ceasefire negotiations "should go very quickly in that most of the points are already negotiated."

Iranian officials have, however, categorically dismissed all such claims. The Islamic Republic even moved swiftly to close the chokehold to all traffic after Trump announced continuation of the blockade. Tehran has also refused to rejoin negotiations with Washington as long as the latter would not abandon its pressure tactics.

The commander, meanwhile, asserted that the Armed Forces "will duly respond to any breach of commitments" on the part of the adversaries.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

### CARTOON





**First Announcement**

NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY  
AHVAZ-IRAN

## TENDER NO.: 08-21-0440029

The National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) is seeking to procure the specified goods listed in the table below through a Qualitative Evaluation Call for conducting a public tender via the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD). All stages of the tender process including the receipt of tender documents, submission of bidders' proposals, and the opening of bid envelopes, shall be carried out exclusively through the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD) portal at [www.setadiran.ir](http://www.setadiran.ir). Bidders who have not previously registered must complete the registration process on the aforementioned portal and obtain an Electronic Signature certificate to participate in the tender.

Items	Material Description	Quantity
1	CASING (USED AS TUBING), API GRADE L-80, "VAM", "N.VAM", THREAD, RANGE 3, (MAX LENGTH: 40.5 FT), AS PER API 5CT / ISO11960, PSL: 2, MARKING: COLD DIE STAMPED IN ACCORDANCE SIZE (OD), WEIGHT (PPF), AS SPECIFIED NOTE: LEVEL OF INSPECTION: 1 (L.O.I:1) "OCP/MPS DOCUMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO REVIEW & CONFIRM" "ITP DOCUMENTS IS ESSENTIAL FOR TECHNICAL EVALUATION" 4-1/2 IN., 13.5 PPF, DRIFT: 3.795 IN.	30,000LE

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: [www.setadiran.ir](http://www.setadiran.ir), not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded.

The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 99,398/19 EURO or 159,217,603,680 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS CFR, BANDAR IMAM KHOMEINI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.A.D. INCLUDING AN ADVANCE PAYMENT. SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex,  
Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran  
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