

Iran vows to target any ship approaching Strait of Hormuz

IRGC sets new control zone for waterway



International Desk

Iran's military warned on Monday it will target any foreign forces approaching or entering the Strait of Hormuz after the United States said it would help guide ships through the strategic waterway.

Commander of Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters Major General Ali Abdollahi in a statement said the security of the Strait of Hormuz is solely under the authority of Iran, emphasizing that all safe passage through the waterway must be coordinated with Iranian military forces.

He called on all commercial vessels and tankers to refrain from any attempt to transit without prior coordination with the Iranian armed forces stationed in

the strait, warning that failure to do so would endanger their safety.

On Sunday, US President Donald Trump said that the new maritime operation was a "humanitarian" gesture for crews aboard the many ships stuck in the Persian Gulf who may be running low on supplies. He said the US would help ships from countries not involved in the US-Israeli war with Iran that broke out in late February.

Once out, "they will not be returning until the area becomes safe for navigation," Trump said in a post on Truth Social.

The United States Central Command, CENTCOM, said it would use guided-missile destroyers, over 100 land and sea-based aircraft, multi-domain unmanned platforms and 15,000 ser-

vice members in the operation.

As of April 29, more than 900 commercial vessels were located in the Persian Gulf, according to maritime intelligence firm AXSMarine.

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) also announced a new maritime control zone in the strait.

The zone stretches between two defined maritime lines: one running from the western tip of Iran's Qeshm Island to Umm Al-Quwain in the United Arab Emirates, and another extending from Kuh-e Mobarak in Iran to the area south of Fujairah in the UAE.

Shortly after Iran's warning, Fars News Agency reported that a US frigate in the strait "was targeted by a missile attack after ignoring a warning from the Iranian navy", adding that it was hit and

forced to turn back.

However, CENTCOM denied the report, saying that no US frigate was struck by the Iranian forces.

Navy's warning

The Navy of Iran's Army also in a statement warned that any attempt by the US warships to enter the strait is considered as the violation of a ceasefire in place since April 8 and will be met with a decisive response from the Iranian forces.

It came after Iran's Navy warned several US destroyers the Sea of Oman about the consequences of the breach of the ceasefire after they switched off their radars to enter the Strait of Hormuz which is a major transport route for oil, gas and fertilizer.



Vessels stranded in the Strait of Hormuz are seen on May 1, 2026 following the closure of the waterway by Iran in response to US-Israeli aggression.

● REUTERS

"Following the Zionist American destroyers' disregard for the initial warning, the Navy issued a warning shot by firing cruise missiles, rockets, and combat drones around the aggressor enemy vessels", the statement added. Iran shut down the chokepoint to enemies and their allies following the unprovoked aggression.

It began exercising far stricter controls last month after Trump announced a blockade of Iranian vessels and ports in violation of the terms of the ceasefire agreement.

Iran says reviewing US response to proposal

Nuclear issue not on agenda of talks: Araghchi



Esmail Baqaei
● TASNIM

International Desk

The Foreign Ministry on Monday confirmed receiving Washington's response to

Tehran's 14-point proposal regarding negotiations to end war against the Islamic Republic, saying that reviewing the US response is not easy

due to its pattern of "excessive demands and unreasonable requests".

Speaking at his weekly press conference, Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei said Tehran has received the response through Pakistan but did not discuss specific details of the reply, IRNA reported.

"The United States' habitual greed and unlimited demands never end. We are facing a party that constantly changes its views which will complicate any diplomatic process," Baqaei added.

He rejected media speculation about nuclear issues based on matters discussed in previous negotiations which exclusively focused on the nuclear issue. "Therefore, topics about en-

richment and uranium are speculation. At this stage, we are not talking about anything other than a complete halt to the war," the spokesman said.

No nuclear negotiations

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi in a meeting with the members of the Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Committee on Monday confirmed the issue, saying that there are currently no nuclear negotiations on the agenda.

On Thursday, Iran delivered a new proposal for peace talks with the US via mediator Pakistan, with negotiations between the two sides frozen despite a weeks-long ceasefire. Iran's latest 14-point proposal

to the United States reportedly calls for issues between the two countries to be resolved within 30 days and aims to end the war rather than extend the ceasefire.

Issues such as guarantees of non-aggression, withdrawal of US military forces from the areas surrounding Iran, lifting the naval blockade, release of Iran's frozen assets, payment of compensation to Tehran for war damage, removal of sanctions, and ending the war on all fronts, including Lebanon, as well as a new mechanism for the Strait of Hormuz, are also among the topics included in the Iran's proposal, as per a report by Tasnim.

The war, launched by the US and Israel with a vast wave

of surprise strikes on February 28 has been on hold since April 8, but only one round of direct talks has taken place between Iranian and US representatives.

Since the failure of the first round of the negotiations in Pakistan, regional countries have been trying to get the US and Iran to the second round of negotiations.

But Iran refused to participate in the second round due to the US violation of a Pakistan-brokered ceasefire by imposing a blockade on Iran's ports.

Iranian officials have also blamed the US side for putting forward excessive demands and shifting its position at the negotiating table for the failure of the first negotiations.

Crew members of US-seized Iranian vessel arrive home



● IRIB NEWS

International Desk

The crew of an Iranian commercial vessel that had been seized by the United States in the Gulf of Oman, were repatriated to the country on Monday through a border crossing in southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan.

The 15 Iranian crew members of Touska vessel had earlier been trans-

ferred to Pakistan.

"As a confidence-building measure by the United States of America, twenty-two crew members held aboard the seized Iranian container ship, 'MV Touska', have been evacuated to Pakistan," Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement on Monday. The individuals had been flown to Pakistan on Sunday night, the statement read.

"The Iranian ship will also be back-loaded to Pakistani territorial waters for return to its original owners after necessary repairs," Islamabad said, adding that the returns are being coordinated with the support of both the Iranian and US sides.

Family members of the vessel's crew had previously returned to Iran.

US forces attacked and seized Touska in the Gulf of Oman on April 19, detaining its 28 crew and claiming the ship had violated the so-called naval blockade.

Six crew members of the ship were previously released. Seven others are still in Pakistan.

The small container ship, which was part of the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL) group that has been hit with US sanctions, was boarded off the coast of Iran's Chabahar port in the Gulf of Oman.



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