

# IRGC: Reprisal strikes on US base in Jordan kill several troops

Iran targets US military radar, communications facilities in West Asia

## International Desk

Iran's Armed Forces conducted new retaliatory attacks on US military bases in region, with the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) saying that several US forces were killed after it targeted a military compound in Jordan.

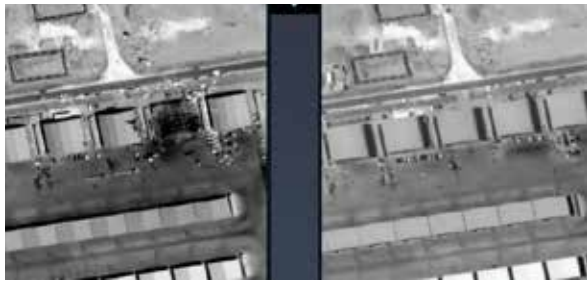
The IRGC said on Tuesday its Aerospace Force struck a compound housing US forces in the al-Rukban region in Jordan, killing a number of them. The statement added that the US defense secretary reported a casualty figure that was far below the actual number.

The Pentagon said on Monday that nearly 100 US service members have been wounded since war resumed on July 7, most with minor concussion.

However, the New York Times reported that the Pentagon has withheld information about dozens of injuries suffered by American troops after Iran launched a barrage of ballistic missile strikes on US military bases in Jordan and other sites across the region last week.

"Those attacks injured dozens of US service members and damaged several helicopters," the report said, citing US officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

It added that Iran carried out three additional strikes



Satellite images released on July 21, 2026 show a before-and-after view of a military facility housing US troops in Jordan's King Faisal Air Base following an Iranian attack. [defapress.ir](#)

against US forces in Jordan during the same week. However, the Pentagon did not disclose these earlier attacks or the resulting casualties and damage.

A US military official claimed that US Central Command (CENTCOM) is not required to publicly release information about injured service members. Another official argued that doing so could allow Iran to more accurately target US forces in the region with ballistic missiles and drones.

According to US officials, at least 17 US forces have been killed in Iran's attacks.

The IRGC also said it has destroyed multiple US military radar and communications facilities in the region, while the Iranian Army reported drone strikes on three US bases in Kuwait.

## Attacks on US radar systems

The IRGC said its forces targeted infrastructure supporting US military air de-

fense operations in Kuwait. The elite force said the latest phase was staged "to clear the way by eliminating obstacles to large-scale air and missile operations" against American targets in the region.

According to the statement, missiles and drones struck and destroyed a long-range radar site, a communications center, satellite reception systems, and a missile defense radar belonging to the US military stationed in Kuwait. The IRGC also said an MQ-9 drone hangar at Ali al-Salem Airbase was hit in the country, adding that several drones were either destroyed or severely damaged as a result.

It also carried out another strike against US air defense assets at Ahmad al-Jaber Airbase in Kuwait. The statement said an early warning radar, a missile defense radar system, an FPS-117 radar, a Patriot air defense system, and a satellite communications system supporting air

defense operations were destroyed.

"Following this radar suppression operation, the enemy should prepare for more decisive and heavier waves of drone and missile attacks." Later, the IRGC announced another strike that "destroyed a missile-defense radar system at a US base in Jordan and destroyed an F-15 fighter aircraft inside its shelter."

Separately, the Army said it targeted three US military bases in Kuwait, using loitering attack drones.

According to the statement, the operation targeted the administrative buildings and direction-finding antennas at Camp Arifjan, the helicopter parking area at Al-Udairi Camp, and the troop accommodation building at Ahmad al-Jaber Airbase.

Two "non-compliant oil tankers" attempting to transit the Strait of Hormuz were also stopped by Iranian armed forces. The waterway has been closed by Iran to avenge the US-Israeli aggression that began on February 28.

# Pakistan PM calls for restraint from warring sides in region

**Momeni:** Tehran focused on expanding cross-border trade with Islamabad



Iranian Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni (2nd R), leading a delegation, holds talks with his Pakistani counterpart Mohsin Raza Naqvi (2nd L) in Pakistan, Islamabad on July 21, 2026. [IRNA](#)

## International Desk

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif called for restraint from all warring sides during a meeting with Iran's Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni on Tuesday as the United States' violations of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding by attacking Iran has further complicated the situation in the region.

Sharif "urged all sides to exercise restraint and refrain from actions that could further destabilize the region," a statement from the premier's office said, adding that he told Iran's Eskandar Momeni that Pakistan would continue to act as a mediator.

The latest hostilities have placed an interim US-Iran ceasefire agreement brokered by Islamabad under severe strain, threatening commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz and reviving fears of a prolonged conflict with consequences for global energy supplies and regional economies.

The 14-point Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding, signed by Iran and the United States on June 18, called for an immediate end to military operations, the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz to commercial traffic and negotiations on a final settlement covering sanctions, Iran's nuclear program and other disputes. It committed the two sides to seeking a final deal within a maximum of 60 days.

"While emphasizing that Pakistan would continue to play its role as an honest and sincere mediator and facilitator, the Prime Minister reiterated Pakistan's strong commitment to regional peace and stability," the statement said.

The US violations of the agreement and its new strikes on Iran have led to new war between the two countries, which has also dragged regional countries into the conflict.

Visiting Iranian minister also held separate talks with his Pakistani counterpart Mohsin Naqvi and Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir.

During a meeting of the two countries' high-level delegations, chaired by Momeni and Naqvi, the Pakistani official praised Iran's constructive approach toward the welfare and development of both nations, saying Pakistan and Iran are working side by side to promote

prosperity for their people and peace across the region.

## Economic ties

Momeni outlined three priorities during the talks; facilitating the movement of commercial trucks between Iran and different parts of Pakistan, increasing bilateral trade to \$10 billion, and encouraging Pakistan to modernize its railway infrastructure along the shared border to support expanding commercial activity.

He also said Tehran was particularly focused on increasing trade through border crossings, especially the Rimdan-Gabd crossing, and called on Pakistan to take the necessary measures to expand cross-border commercial activity there.

Naqvi said both governments remained determined to tackle terrorism and would not allow terrorists or their supporters to achieve their objectives by undermining peace and stability along the shared border.

He also highlighted human trafficking as a shared challenge and stressed the need for closer bilateral cooperation, including efforts to prevent maritime routes from being used for trafficking networks. Iranian officials attending the meeting called for the establishment of banking links to facilitate bilateral trade and proposed expanding cooperation in agriculture and regional transport connectivity, including through the North-South Corridor.

The Iranian delegation said Tehran and Islamabad shared the political will to sign a free trade agreement, adding that Iran was ready to work closely with Pakistan if revisions to the draft text were required to move the process forward. Naqvi also said Pakistan was determined to operationalize the maritime route linking Iran's Chabahar port with Pakistan's Gwadar port, describing the initiative as another step toward expanding bilateral trade.

On Afghanistan, Naqvi referred to Islamabad's concerns over terrorism originating from Afghanistan territory and called for greater coordination with Iran to address the challenge.

"Our position on Afghanistan is clear, and we are also ready for negotiations," he said.

# Tehran raps US attack on nuclear plant as 'flagrant violation of int'l law'

**Eslami:** Iran could fulfill own goals even after 1,000 bombings

## International Desk

Iran condemned a recent missile strike by the United States on the Darkhovin Nuclear Power Plant as a "flagrant violation of international law" and called on the United Nations Security Council to unequivocally condemn the attack. In an official letter addressed to the President of the Security Council and the Secretary-General on Monday, Iran's permanent representative to the UN, Amir Saeid Iravani, denounced the assault as a "flagrant violation of international law" and urged the Security Council to take immediate action.

The attack occurred at approximately 3:39 a.m. local time on Sunday, when the United States launched several missiles against the Darkhovin Nuclear Power Plant site.

The facility, which is still under construction, has been under the full scope of IAEA safeguards pursuant to Iran's Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement with the agency.

Iravani emphasized that all activities at



The photo shows the under-construction Darkhovin Nuclear Power Plant site along the Karun River in southwestern Iran. [IRNA](#)

the site are "exclusively peaceful, fully transparent, and entirely consistent with Iran's rights and obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)."

The letter, which also referenced previous US attacks on Iran's civil infrastructure, argued that the deliberate targeting of a safeguarded nuclear facility "constitutes a flagrant violation of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the Statute of the IAEA, and General Conference resolutions of the IAEA."

Iravani further noted that this is the 18<sup>th</sup> such attack on Iran's peaceful nu-

clear sites since June 2025, when the US and Israel jointly launched aggression against the country.

"Such an attack ... gravely endangers nuclear safety and security, and seriously undermines the integrity, credibility, and effectiveness of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime," the letter stated.

Iranian nuclear chief Mohammad Eslami said on Tuesday that Iran could achieve its nuclear objectives even if it were bombed 1,000 times.

"Even if they bomb us a thousand times, we can achieve our objectives. We have fulfilled what we promised, and we will certainly fulfill our promises more forcefully," he said, calling the country's nuclear program a legacy of martyred Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

# Iran-US ceasefire deal ...

This multilateralism could help. At the very least, it would give Iran greater room for maneuver in future developments in the region.

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**If the proposal fails, how far could the fighting continue, and how likely is it to turn into an all-out war?**

It is impossible to say with certainty. The United States has a window of opportunity until November to secure certain gains, whether military or political, and close the file. Given that the prospects for a Republican victory in the midterm elections are considerably weaker than those of the Democrats, this several-month window will be valuable to them if they

have a broader military plan they want to carry out.

If they want to try to deploy boots on the ground or seize Iranian islands, they will certainly do so before November. If they can achieve a victory, they will have an upper hand in the midterm elections. If they fail to secure any impressive gains, however, then following a possible defeat in the November elections, they will no longer be able to do much, because Congress and the Senate will be controlled by the Democrats, and a vote to limit the president's authority to wage wars would likely pass with a substantial majority. Iran needs to play its trump cards. If it can manage Bab al-Mandab or secure concessions through a sharp increase in oil prices

and other means, it should do so.

Otherwise, if the situation moves toward the period from September to late October, it will be very dangerous for Iran. The weakening of Iran's air defenses in the south, the erosion of its missile strike capabilities because of the current limited clashes, and the region becoming more favorable for a ground invasion from September to late October are threats that Iran must take seriously.

But could the United States risk the deaths of thousands of marines to take over Iran's southern islands? Yes. A one-term president and the US deep state might be willing to take such a risk to prevent damage to the country's hegemonic power.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi  
Cartoonist

## CARTOON

