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As war widens, Trump says US has yet to launch largest strikes on Iran

On third day, Tehran increases attacks on region; US president doesn't rule out ground troops; IDF targets Iran's air defense, leadership, ballistic missiles

By [Emanuel Fabian](#), [Jacob Magid](#), [Lazar Berman](#)
and [Agencies Today](#), 11:01 pm Updated at 11:44 pm



An F/A-18E Super Hornet preparing to make an arrested landing the USS Abraham Lincoln in support of Operation Epic Fury on March 2, 2026. (US Central Command/US Navy via AP)

The **US-Israeli war with Iran widened on its third day, as Gulf states were drawn deeper into the conflict and Hezbollah took heavy Israeli fire after launching rockets at Israel.**

The joint campaign against the Iranian regime began on Saturday, killing the country's supreme leader, Ali Khamenei, and hitting scores of targets. US President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu have said the operation aims to

give Iranians the space to topple their regime.

On Monday, Trump laid out more specific goals for the operation — targeting Iran's ballistic missiles, nuclear program, navy, and support for proxy groups — and said that the largest wave of strikes was still to come. He declined to rule out using ground troops and said that the campaign could last about four weeks.

"We haven't even started hitting them hard. The big wave hasn't even happened. The big one is coming soon," Trump told CNN.

US and Israeli officials lauded the success of the campaign, even as six American troops were killed and three US planes shot down by friendly fire from Kuwait, though nobody was killed in those incidents. The US said air superiority was achieved over Iran, and the Israel Defense Forces said it had destroyed some 600 Iranian targets so far.

In response, Iran escalated its attacks on the region, continuing to target Israel with barrages of missiles and claiming to target Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office in Jerusalem — a claim the PMO denied. It also continued to fire at Gulf states, which have threatened to retaliate. The United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia have all been drawn deeper into the conflict, warning of a further escalation in the fighting.



A poster of the late supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who was killed during the ongoing joint US-Israeli military campaign, and the late Islamic Revolution founder Ayatollah Khomeini, right, lies on a motorcycle, amid debris left by a strike in Tehran, Iran, March 2, 2026. (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

Hezbollah, the Iran-backed terror group in Lebanon, joined the fray early on Monday, firing rockets at Israel for the first time in over a year. In response, Israel struck a range of Hezbollah targets, including in Beirut, and said it killed the group's intelligence chief. IDF Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir said Israel had decided to "go on the offense" against the terror group, which the IDF had damaged heavily in a 2023-2024 war. He later said that the military

would not end its new offensive against the group until "the threat is removed."

Defense Minister Israel Katz said that Israel would target Hezbollah's leader, Naim Qassem.

The Lebanese government, which has been working to disarm Hezbollah, said it was banning the terror group's military activities. Hezbollah responded with Mohammed Raad, head of its parliamentary bloc, condemning Beirut's "swaggering decisions," and saying that "the Lebanese were expecting a decision rejecting the [Israeli] aggression."

Iran: Enemy 'will no longer be safe anywhere'

Iran fired volleys of missiles at Israel during the day, with one salvo fired at Beersheba injuring 19.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards also said they targeted the office of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the headquarters of the Israeli air force commander.

"The office of the criminal prime minister of the Zionist regime and the headquarters of the regime's air force commander were targeted," the Guards said in a statement carried by Fars news agency. It said Kheibar missiles were used in the attack.

Netanyahu's office denied the claim as "fake."



This handout photo shows Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visiting the site of a deadly Iranian missile attack in Beit Shemesh, March 2, 2026. (GPO/ Avi Ohayon)

The IRGC also warned that the United States "will no longer be safe."

"The enemy should know that their happy days are over and they will no longer be safe anywhere in the world, not even in their own homes," the IRGC's Quds Force, which oversees IRGC foreign operations, said in a statement carried by state TV.

Saudis threaten Iran's oil industry; Qatar downs Iranian fighters

On Monday, an Iranian drone hit the main Saudi Ras Tanura refinery, causing a fire and forcing some

operations to be shut down. Subsequently, a source close to the Saudi government said that a concerted attack by Iran on Saudi oil infrastructure could trigger a military response from the kingdom.

Saudi Arabia would target "Iranian oil facilities if Iran mounts a concerted attack on Aramco," the source told AFP, referring to the state oil giant.



This handout satellite image courtesy of Vantor, taken and released on March 2, 2026, shows damage at the Saudi Aramco's Ras Tanura refinery. (Satellite image ©2026 Vantor / AFP)

Meanwhile, Qatar, which hosts a US military base that Iran targeted last year, said that its air force shot down two Iranian Russian-made Sukhoi Su-24 bombers.

Qatar's Defense Ministry also said that its air force and navy intercepted seven ballistic missiles and five drones from Iran on Monday.

And the Emirati Defense Ministry said the country's air defenses intercepted nine ballistic missiles, six cruise missiles, and 148 drones on Monday. According to the ministry, Iran has fired 174 ballistic missiles at the

UAE since Saturday, the vast majority of which were intercepted.

IDF says it hit 600 regime sites

Since the start of the operation against Iran, the IDF said on Monday, it has destroyed some 600 Iranian regime sites in airstrikes.

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They include 20 sites belonging to Iran's security leadership, 150 ballistic missiles and launchers, and 200 air defense systems, according to the military. Israeli Air Force aircraft have dropped over 2,500 bombs, the IDF said.

The military said the Air Force struck and killed Iranian soldiers as they were attempting to operate an air defense system against Israeli aircraft.

"The IDF will not allow the Iranian terror regime to operate air defense systems to harm Israeli Air Force

aircraft and will continue to strike attempts to arm missile launchers,” the military said.

Trump: ‘I don’t have the yips’ about using ground troops

Speaking to US media on Monday, Trump acknowledged that the “biggest surprise” of the conflict thus far was Iran’s strikes on Arab countries, and that he expected those nations to strike back.

“We told [the Arab states hit], ‘We’ve got this,’ and now they want to fight. And they’re aggressively fighting. They were going to be very little involved and now they insist on being involved,” Trump said.

In Kuwait, the US saw three planes accidentally shot down by friendly fire by Kuwaiti forces, though no casualties were reported. A total of six US military personnel have been killed since the start of the war, US Central Command said, raising the death toll from four.

“US forces recently recovered the remains of two previously unaccounted for service members from a facility that was struck during Iran’s initial attacks in the region,” CENTCOM said in a post on X.



Smoke plumes billow following Israeli bombardment on Beirut’s southern suburbs on March 2, 2026 (IBRAHIM AMRO / AFP)

Polls show that the war is unpopular in the US, but Trump said the fighting would likely extend for weeks, and did not rule out using ground troops.

“I don’t have the yips with respect to boots on the ground — like every president says, ‘There will be no boots on the ground.’ I don’t say it,” he told The New York Post.

Asked for a timeline for the operation, Trump told CNN, “I don’t want to see it go on too long. I always thought it would be four weeks. And we’re a little ahead of schedule.”

Trump added that the US is taking steps outside the military realm on behalf of the Iranian people, without elaborating.



US President Donald Trump arrives for a Medal of Honor ceremony in the East Room of the White House on March 2, 2026, in Washington, DC. (Saul Loeb/AFP)

In prepared remarks at a White House event, Trump said the campaign was the “last best chance” to strike Iran and “eliminate the intolerable threats posed by this sick and sinister regime.”

He also listed four goals for the operation: destroying Iran’s missile capabilities; seeking to “annihilate” Iran’s navy; ensuring Iran can never obtain a nuclear weapon; and halting its support for proxy terror groups in the region.

He did not mention regime change, though he has urged Iranians in previous speeches to seize the opportunity provided by the strikes to “take over” their government.

Trump claimed the US is “substantially ahead of our time projections” for the operation. “We projected four to five weeks, but we have the capability to go far longer than that.”

“We also projected four weeks to terminate the military leadership, and, as you know, that was done in about an hour,” Trump claimed.

Hegseth: Campaign not ‘endless’

At his own press conference on Monday, US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth declined to specify a timeline for the operation, but pushed back on the notion that the administration is entering another entrenched Mideast conflict.

“This is not a so-called regime change war, but the regime sure did change, and the world is better off for it,” Hegseth said, presumably referring to the killing of Khamenei and other regime top brass.



“Our ambitions are not utopian. They are realistic,” Hegseth continued. In a reference to the Iraq War, which lasted more than eight years and was widely viewed in the US as a quagmire, he said, “This is not Iraq. This is not endless... Our generation knows better, and so does this president.”

US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth looks on during a press conference on US military action in Iran, at the Pentagon in Washington, DC, on March 2, 2026. (Brendan Smialowski/AFP)

Hegseth listed actions by the Iranian regime that had killed Americans, and pushed back on Iran’s claim that it is not pursuing nuclear weapons, saying that it has been trying to hide that aim. He acknowledged that there will be more casualties, lamenting the loss of the US troops who have been killed.

“No stupid rules of engagement, no nation-building quagmire, no democracy-building exercise, no politically correct wars,” he said. “We fight to win, and we don’t waste time or lives.”

Speaking alongside Hegseth, US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Dan Caine praised the first day of US-Israeli fighting. He said 100 US aircraft began striking Iran in a single wave, and 1,000 targets were hit in the first 24 hours, while Israel launched hundreds of its own strikes.



(L/R) US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Dan Caine take questions during a press conference on US military action in Iran, at the Pentagon in Washington, DC, on March 2, 2026. (Brendan Smialowski/AFP)

Caine also said that US forces had achieved air superiority over Iran.

Strikes by American forces “resulted in the establishment of local air superiority. This air superiority will not only enhance the protection of our forces, but also allow them to continue the work over Iran,” Caine said.

He added that the goals of the war would take time to achieve.

“This is not a single overnight operation. The military objectives that CENTCOM and the Joint Force have been tasked with will take some time to achieve, and in some cases will be difficult and gritty work,” Caine said. He added that the US is still sending additional troops to the Middle East, even after the massive military buildup that preceded the outbreak of conflict.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/as-war-widens-trump-says-us-has-yet-to-launch-largest-strikes-on-iran/>

'We knew Tehran like Jerusalem': inside the operation that eliminated Khamenei

New details reveal how the operation to eliminate Khamenei unfolded, with Israel jamming cellular antennas, the US providing its own intelligence and Iran caught off guard for a second time

ynet|16:20

The British newspaper The Financial Times reported that Israel hacked into nearly all traffic cameras in Tehran, encrypting their footage and transmitting it to servers in Tel Aviv and southern Israel. As the security guards and skilled, loyal drivers of senior Iranian officials arrived for work near Pasteur Street in Tehran — the site where Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was eliminated Saturday in an Israeli airstrike — Israeli operatives were already watching them.

According to one source who spoke to the newspaper, one camera provided an angle that proved especially useful, allowing analysts to determine where the men preferred to park their private cars. That gave Israel insight into work patterns in the routine section of the heavily secured compound. Complex algorithms, the report said, added details to the personal files of security team members, including their home addresses, duty hours, commuting routes and, most importantly, whom they were typically assigned to protect and drive. In this way, what intelligence officers call a “pattern of life” was built for each of them.

A rally of mourning was held in Tehran

Members of the Iranian community in Virginia celebrate (Photo: Elijah Nouvelage / AFP)



These capabilities were part of a yearslong intelligence campaign that helped pave the way for Khamenei's killing, the newspaper reported. But **the real-time data stream was only one of hundreds of intelligence** flows. It was not the only way Israel and the CIA determined the precise hour the 86-year-old Khamenei would be in his office Saturday morning and who would join him.

The newspaper reported that **Israel also managed to disrupt specific components in about 12 cellular antennas near Pasteur Street, causing phones to appear "busy"**

when dialed. In this way, **Khamenei's security team was unable to receive warnings about the impending strike.**

Long before bombs fell on Khamenei, "we knew Tehran the way we know Jerusalem," an Israeli intelligence officer told the newspaper. "And when you know a place like the street you grew up on, you notice every small thing that is out of place."

'When war breaks out, it will be more difficult'

According to the report, the dense "intelligence picture" of the capital of Israel's archenemy was the result of **painstaking data collection enabled by Israel's sophisticated technological intelligence** Unit 8200, human assets recruited by the Mossad spy agency, and vast amounts of data processed by the Military Intelligence Directorate into daily briefings. According to a source familiar with the details, Israel used a mathematical method known as "network analysis" to sift through billions of data points, uncover unexpected decision-making hubs and identify new targets for surveillance and assassination. All of this fed what the report described as a "production line" with a single product: targets.

"In Israeli intelligence culture, **target intelligence is the essential tactical issue that enables strategy,**" retired Brig. Gen. Itai Shapira, who served for 25 years in the Military Intelligence Directorate, told the newspaper. "If the decision-maker decides someone must be eliminated, in Israeli culture the answer is: 'We will provide the precise intelligence.'"

Opponents of the regime in Iran celebrate the killing of Khamenei

The newspaper noted that an example of Israel's capabilities was evident at the outset of the 12-day war in June, which opened with an unprecedented neutralization of Iran's air defenses through a combination of cyberattacks, drones and precision-guided munitions that destroyed the radar systems of Russian-made missile launchers. "We took away their eyes first," an intelligence officer said.

The report said that both in the June war and now, Israeli pilots used a specific missile known as "Sparrow," capable of striking a small target such as a dining table from a distance of more than 1,000 kilometers — far from Iran and outside the range of its air defenses.

"Not all details of the latest operation are known," the newspaper said. "Some may never be published to protect sources and methods still used to track other targets. But the killing of Khamenei was a political decision, not only a technological achievement," more than half a dozen current and former Israeli intelligence officers interviewed for the article said.

According to the newspaper, when the CIA and Israel determined that Khamenei would hold a Saturday morning meeting in his offices near Pasteur Street, the opportunity to kill him alongside much of Iran's senior leadership was "particularly suitable." Intelligence agencies assessed that tracking them once war began would be far more difficult, as the Iranians would quickly implement preplanned evasion methods, including moving into underground bunkers resistant to Israeli bombs.

No longer a Sisyphean task

According to the report, unlike his ally Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, Khamenei did not live in hiding. Nasrallah spent years in underground bunkers, evading several Israeli eliminations attempts until September 2024, when Israeli fighter jets dropped about 80 bombs on his hideout in Beirut, killing him. Instead, Khamenei publicly reflected on the possibility of being killed, dismissing his own life as insignificant compared with the fate of the Islamic Republic. In fact, several Iran experts said he expected to become a martyr. Still, in wartime, one

interviewee said, he took some precautions.

“It was unusual for him not to be in his bunker. He had two — and if he had been there, Israel would not have been able to reach him with the bombs it had,” a source told the newspaper.

Even in June 2025, at the height of full-scale war, Israel made no known attempts to bomb Khamenei. Instead, it focused primarily on the leadership of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, missile launchers and stockpiles, and Iran’s nuclear facilities and scientists.

A person briefed on the operation said the attack on Iran had been planned for months, but officials coordinated it after U.S. and Israeli intelligence confirmed that Khamenei and his senior officials would meet at his compound in Tehran on Saturday morning.

Tracking individual targets was once a Sisyphean task requiring visual verification and the filtering of false reports, the newspaper said, but Israel’s algorithm-based data collection has automated the process in recent years. And for a high-value target such as Khamenei, failure was not an option.

IDF doctrine requires that two separate senior officers, operating independently, confirm with high certainty that a target is at the designated strike location and identify who is accompanying him. In this case, according to two sources familiar with the matter, Israeli intelligence had signals intelligence, including hacked traffic cameras and infiltrated cellular networks. One source said the information showed that the meeting with Khamenei was proceeding on schedule, with senior officials making their way to the site.

But the Americans, two sources familiar with the details said, had something even more tangible — a human source. That allowed Israeli aircraft, which had flown for hours to reach the correct location at the right time, to launch about 30 precision-guided munitions.

The IDF said the daytime strike had an advantage. “The decision to strike in the morning rather than at night enabled Israel to achieve tactical surprise for the second time, despite Iran’s high level of readiness,” it said.

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/hjayhkqk11e#autoplay>

9 victims of Iranian missile strike on Beit Shemesh named, including 3 teen siblings

Fatalities are teens Yaakov, Avigail, and Sara Biton; Ronit Elimelech and her mother, Sara; mother and son Bruria and Yosef Cohen; Gavriel Baruch Ravach and Oren Katz

By [Tol Staff](#) and [Charlie Summers](#)

Today, 1:01 am Updated at 10:52 pm



Clockwise from top left: Sara Elimelech, Ronit Elimelech, Gavriel Baruch Ravach, Bruria Cohen, Yosef Cohen, Oren Katz, and siblings Sara, Yaakov, and Avigail Biton, who were killed in an Iranian missile attack in Beit Shemesh on March 1, 2026. (Courtesy/United Hatzalah/Social media; used in accordance with Clause 27a of the Copyright Law)

The nine people killed when a ballistic missile fired from Iran slammed into a residential neighborhood in Beit Shemesh were named by authorities on Sunday and Monday.

Nine people were killed and more than 40 were injured when the missile destroyed a synagogue and caused extensive damage to a public bomb shelter beneath it, as well as surrounding homes.

The victims were three teenage siblings, a mother and her adult daughter, and a mother and her adult son, a 16-year-old boy, and a man.

It was the deadliest missile strike in Israel during the current conflict with Iran — Philippine national [Mary Anne Velasquez de Vera](#), 32, was killed in a missile strike in Tel Aviv on Saturday.

The IDF said that the failure to intercept the missile that hit Beit Shemesh was under investigation by the Israeli Air Force.

Air defense systems were activated in the area, but the interceptors failed to shoot down the missile for as-yet unclear reasons, resulting in the direct hit by the estimated 500-kilogram warhead.

Even as they were buried, mourners at some of the funerals were forced to take cover as Iran fired further missiles at Israel.



People take cover as a sirens sound during the funeral of Sara and Ronit Elimelech, the day after a missile attack on Bet Shemesh killed several people on March 2, 2026 (Ilia YEFIMOVICH / AFP)

Mother and daughter Ronit and Sara Elimelech

Ronit Elimelech, 45, volunteered with the United Hatzalah emergency service, and paramedics called to the scene found her medical kit and vest amid the rubble.

She was killed alongside her mother, Sara.

Elimelech and her three children had been at her parents' home in Beit Shemesh and entered the public shelter underneath the synagogue once they heard sirens go off, United Hatzalah said in

a statement.

First responders rescued two of Elimelech's children from the rubble and took them to Jerusalem's Hadassah Ein Kerem Medical Center after they sustained light to moderate injuries in the strike.

The third child was apparently unharmed and Sara's husband was also found safe.

"Ronit joined United Hatzalah after her young son asked her to volunteer as his birthday gift. I met them personally, and they hold a very special place in our hearts," Eli Beer, United Hatzalah's president, wrote on X, before Elimelech's death was announced.

He posted a story on social media, explaining how Ronit came to volunteer as a result of the request of her son Itamar, who is autistic, on his 11th birthday.

"Itamar was so proud of his mother," Beer wrote.

Siblings Yaakov, Avigail and Sara Biton

Siblings Yaakov Biton, 16, Avigail Biton, 15, and Sara Biton, 13, were named as three victims of the Iranian attack.

Hundreds attended their funeral on Monday night, where their father recalled the moment of the missile's impact, which he called a "tremendous explosion," according to Hebrew media reports. He said his instinct was to protect his youngest daughter.

He likened the loss of the three children to Abraham's binding of Isaac in the Torah.

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"Our patriarch Abraham bound one son, I bound three," he said. "I bound my son Yaakov, my daughter Avigail and my daughter Sara. God wanted to take these holy souls."

The children's grandmother, Lilian, recalled them as "pure children who only knew how to do good. They grew up in a home of only good and happiness and love of country."

During the funeral, according to the Arutz Sheva outlet, she cried out, "Creator of worlds, these holy children have come to you. Bring redemption."

Oren Katz

Oren Katz was the third victim of the missile attack to be identified by the Beit Shemesh municipality.

He is survived by his wife, children, and a brother, a local news site reports.

He was laid to rest on Monday and eulogized by his son.

“You were always a special person who cared for everyone, not only yourself,” said Yosef Katz.

“Yesterday you came home in the middle of the workday so we’d have something to eat for lunch. I’m glad I had the privilege to eat your food for the last time,” he said. “You told us we were your reason for living.”

Gavriel Baruch Ravach

16-year-old Gavriel Baruch Ravach was the fourth victim of the missile strike to be identified by the Beit Shemesh municipality.

According to a local news outlet, Baruch’s father had previously donated funds to and been involved in the building of the synagogue destroyed in the same missile strike in which his son was killed.

Mother and son Bruria and Yosef Cohen

Bruria Cohen was killed alongside her adult son Yosef.

According to a local news website in Beit Shemesh, Yosef was known locally for his dedication to his mother. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/four-of-the-9-victims-of-iranian-missile-strike-on-beit-shemesh-named-by-authorities/>

19 injured, one moderately, as Iranian missile hits Beersheba amid multiple barrages PM’s office denies Revolutionary Guard’s ‘fake’ claim it came under attack; salvos send millions to shelters, including MKs at Knesset and mourners at funeral

By [Emanuel Fabian](#), [Sam Sokol](#)
and [Tol Staff](#) 2 March 2026, 4:52 pm



The site of an Iranian ballistic missile impact in a residential area of Beersheba, March 2, 2026. (Tsafrir Abayov/Flash90)

At least 19 people were injured Monday when an Iranian ballistic missile hit the southern city of Beersheba, amid several barrages fired throughout the day.

All 19 were taken to Soroka Medical Center after the missile slammed into a residential area, damaging surrounding apartment buildings, medics said.

The Magen David Adom emergency service said it treated a 35-

year-old man in moderate condition. The other 18 were lightly injured.

Resident Amit, who lives in a building near where the missile hit, told the Kan public broadcaster that after a missile alert was issued, many people gathered in the building’s shelter.

Amit said he, along with some others, sat close to the shelter door. Moments before the missile hit, someone opened the door, and the shockwave from the explosion rushed into the room.

“There was such a loud boom, we were sure it had landed on our building. There was a shockwave, the whole shelter filled with dust, and we suddenly started suffocating,” he said. “We just wanted to get out.”



The site of an Iranian ballistic missile impact in a residential area of Beersheba, March 2, 2026. (Tsafrir Abayov/Flash90)

Amit said that when people left the shelter, they found that their building was “completely smashed. Everything was turned over on the floor.”

Iran has repeatedly fired missiles at Israel since the start of a US-Israel bombing campaign over the weekend. Most of the missiles have been intercepted by air defense systems, but some have hit their mark, killing 11 people and injuring several dozen so far.



Rescue forces inspect a crater at the scene of an Iranian missile strike in Beersheba on March 2, 2026. (Maya Levin/AFP)

Monday's barrages set off air raid sirens across the country, including in the capital Jerusalem, sending millions to bomb shelters. Sirens also sounded in the nearby city of Beit Shemesh, during the funeral of several victims of Sunday's Iranian missile impact, which [killed nine](#) and injured dozens.

Videos taken from the funeral showed mourners taking cover as multiple booms could be heard in the city.

IRGC says it targeted Netanyahu; PMO: Fake news

Meanwhile, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards

Corps, which controls the country's missile arsenal, said one of the projectiles targeted the office of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem and the headquarters of the Israeli Air Force at the Kirya military base in Tel Aviv.

"The office of the criminal prime minister of the Zionist regime and the headquarters of the regime's air force commander were targeted," the Guards said in a statement carried by Fars news agency. It said Kheibar missiles were used in the attack.

The Prime Minister's Office quickly dismissed the claim as "fake news," and there were no reports of any

missile impacts in Jerusalem.

The Iranian regime has been known to oversell its military achievements for propaganda purposes.

Ultra-Orthodox men pray outside the closed Western Wall in the Old city of Jerusalem on March 2, 2026, amid periodic Iranian missile fire. (JOHN WESSELS / AFP)



A missile alert in Jerusalem did, however, cause several members of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee to take shelter, interrupting a special closed session in which they were receiving an operational intelligence review of the war, as well as holding a vote approving the declaration of a "special situation" on the Home Front.

Lawmakers take a selfie while sheltering during an Iranian missile attack at the Knesset on March 2, 2026 (Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee)



During the alert, members of the committee from both the coalition and opposition took shelter in the chambers of the Diaspora Affairs Committee, which is reinforced as a bomb shelter. The lawmakers snapped a selfie together in a show of wartime unity, then posted it to social media.

IDF sees Iran trying for larger barrages

The Israeli military assesses that Iran is now attempting to launch larger and more coordinated ballistic missile barrages at Israel, resulting in longer lulls between

attacks, The Times of Israel learned Monday.

The first day of fighting on Saturday saw small salvos of 2-3 projectiles each, with short breaks between them, keeping Israelis rushing in and out of shelters. Sunday then saw a smaller number of barrages consisting of 9-30 missiles at a time, with long breaks between each launch, according to the IDF Home Front Command. Iran did not launch any missiles at Israel overnight.

The IDF believes Iran is struggling to coordinate the larger attacks, of dozens of missiles at a time, as the Israeli Air Force hunts down its missile launchers.

The Home Front Command also confirmed that Iran had fired a ballistic missile with a cluster bomb warhead at central Israel on Saturday night.

As of Monday, 11 people had been killed as a result of Iranian ballistic missile attacks on Israel since the full-scale conflict began Saturday.

In addition to the nine killed in the strike on Beit Shemesh on Sunday, a 32-year-old woman was [killed](#) Saturday in a direct strike in Tel Aviv, and a 102-year-old man died from wounds sustained in a fall while rushing to a shelter amid missile sirens in Ramat Gan. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/19-injured-one-moderately-as-iranian-missile-hits-beersheba-amid-multiple-barrages/>

IDF strike kills Hezbollah intel chief; Lebanon to ban terror group's military activity **Beirut demands group hands over weapons and tells army to prevent it from attacking Israel; Israeli strikes across Lebanon kill senior PIJ commander, hit Hezbollah-linked banks**

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)
and [Agencies](#) Today, 4:35 pm

Footage shows IDF strikes in Beirut's southern suburbs following Israeli warnings, March 2, 2026. (Kamal Mehanna / AFPTV / AFP)

Israel said Monday that the head of Hezbollah's intelligence arm was killed in an overnight strike and Beirut said it would ban the terror group's military activities, hours after the Iran-backed organization fired rockets and drones at Israel, leading to major retaliatory strikes overnight and throughout Monday.

The Israel Defense Forces confirmed that the overnight strike in the Lebanese capital killed Hussein Makled, whom it called "the head of Hezbollah's intelligence headquarters."

The military said Makled was responsible for "forming the intelligence picture using various intelligence collection tools to provide the Hezbollah terror organization with intelligence assessments regarding IDF troops and the State of Israel."

"He also closely cooperated with senior commanders in Hezbollah who planned and advanced terror attacks against Israel and its citizens," the IDF added.

The terror group's overnight attacks — which it said were in retaliation for the killing of Iranian supreme leader Ali Khamenei in the opening minutes of the joint Israeli-US assault on Iran on Saturday — led to waves of Israeli airstrikes across Lebanon, including in the capital.

One overnight strike in southern Beirut killed a senior commander in Palestinian Islamic Jihad's al-Quds Brigades. The terror group identified him as Adham al-Othman, 41, and described as "commander of al-Quds Brigades in the Lebanese arena."



Smoke plumes billow following Israeli bombardment on Beirut's southern suburbs on March 2, 2026. (IBRAHIM AMRO / AFP)

Later Monday, the IDF carried out a wide wave of airstrikes across southern Lebanon, after it issued evacuation warnings to Lebanese civilians. According to the military, it struck some 70 Hezbollah weapon depots and rocket launching sites.

The military also carried out a major wave of strikes against branches of the Al-Qard al-Hasan association, which the IDF said is used by Hezbollah to store money, manage salaries for its operatives, transfer funds from Iran, and purchase weapons.

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"Hezbollah's attempts at economic rehabilitation and the activity at the branches of the Al-Qard al-Hasan association constitute a threat to the citizens of the State of Israel," the IDF added.

Lebanon bans Hezbollah's military activities

In a statement after a cabinet meeting Monday, Prime Minister Nawaf Salam said Lebanon rejected any military actions launched from its territory "outside the framework of its legitimate institutions and affirmed that the decision of war and peace is exclusively in its hands." *People look at a building damaged in an Israeli airstrike in response to a Hezbollah attack on Israel, in the southern suburb of Haret Hreik of Beirut on March 2, 2026 (AFP)*

This “necessitates the immediate prohibition of all Hezbollah’s security and military activities as being outside the law, and obliging it to hand over its weapons to the Lebanese state,” he said.

Salam ordered the military and security agencies to take “immediate measures” to implement the cabinet decision and prevent “any military operation or the launching of missiles or drones from Lebanese territory.”

Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam speaking at the end of the ministerial council at the Presidential Palace of Baabda, east of Beirut March 2, 2026 (Handout / Lebanese Government Press Office / AFP)

It was the latest effort by Lebanon’s leadership to assert its authority over Hezbollah, which it has been seeking to disarm ever since the start of its ceasefire with Israel in November 2024.

Responding to the Lebanese government’s decision to ban its military activities, a top Hezbollah parliamentary official condemned Beirut’s “swaggering decisions,” saying that “the Lebanese were expecting a decision rejecting the (Israeli) aggression.”

On Saturday, upon the beginning of Israeli and American operations in Iran and the subsequent retaliatory fire from Tehran, Salam had warned that Lebanon refused to be dragged into war.

And after Hezbollah on Sunday promised to take action against Israel and the US, President Joseph Aoun reiterated that “the decision of war and peace rests solely with the Lebanese state,” in a plea for the terror group to remain on the sidelines, as it had done during the previous 12-day war between Israel and Iran in June 2025.



A fire is seen in a damaged building after an Israeli airstrike in response to Hezbollah rocket and drone fire in Beirut’s southern suburb neighborhood of Haret Hreik on March 2, 2026 (AFP)

But the request fell on deaf ears as Hezbollah moved ahead with its attack, the first time that the Iranian proxy had fired at Israel since the US-brokered ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon came into effect.

In the wake of the attack, Defense Minister Israel Katz said on X that Hezbollah’s chief Naim Qassem was now “a marked target for elimination.”

Katz warned that Israel would send Qassem to “the depths of hell” like Iran’s Khamenei.

“We will strike Hezbollah hard, and Naim Qassem, chairman of the Hezbollah terrorist organization, will discover that whoever follows Khamenei’s path ends up like Khamenei — in the depths of hell,” Katz said during a visit to the Israeli Air Force’s underground command center at the military’s headquarters in Tel Aviv.



Supporters watch a televised speech by Hezbollah chief Naim Qassem during a rally to show their solidarity with Iran, in the southern suburb of Beirut on January 26, 2026. (Anwar AMRO / AFP)

IDF chief says campaign against Hezbollah to continue until ‘threat from Lebanon removed’

Speaking to officers on the northern border on Monday, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir said the military “insists” that Hezbollah be disarmed, and Israel would not end its new offensive against the terror group in Lebanon until “the threat is removed.”

“Our main effort is Iran. We are operating with force and striking the terror regime, in unprecedented cooperation with the United States military. After Hezbollah opened fire, I instructed that we act forcefully against Hezbollah as well. The IDF planned and is prepared to operate in multiple arenas simultaneously,” Zamir said during an assessment on the border, according to remarks provided by the IDF.

“The Lebanese government and the Lebanese army have recently been warned many times to disarm Hezbollah — they did not act. We will end the campaign not only with Iran harmed, but with Hezbollah also sustaining a very severe blow,” he said.

Zamir said the IDF “will continue to insist that Hezbollah be disarmed. This is a demand we will not give up on.”

“The IDF will not end the campaign before the threat from Lebanon is removed,” he continued.



IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir (right) and Northern Command chief Maj. Gen. Rafi Milo are seen on the northern border, March 2, 2026. (Israel Defense Forces)

Zamir added that the IDF’s offensive plans against Hezbollah “have been ready for a long time, and we will seize the opportunity.”

The IDF said that Zamir briefed Northern Command chief Maj. Gen. Rafi Milo and the commanders of the IDF’s divisions deployed to the area during the visit.

Meanwhile, IDF Spokesman Brig. Gen. Effie Defrin said, “All options are on the table,” when asked about a potential ground offensive against Hezbollah in Lebanon.

“The chief of staff was on the northern border, met with division commanders and the commanding officer of the Northern Command, briefed them, and approved plans,” he said in response to a question at a press conference Monday night. “The bottom line is that all options are on the table. We will work to disarm Hezbollah from its weapons and remove threats to Israeli citizens.”

At an earlier press conference, Defrin threatened the terror group. “Hezbollah opened fire. It chose to start a campaign. It will pay a heavy price,” he said.



A family rides in the back of a lorry as motorists flee villages in southern Lebanon along the coastal road through the city of Sidon on March 2, 2026. (Mahmoud ZAYYAT / AFP)

In addition to Hezbollah’s rocket and drone fire on Israel in the pre-dawn hours of Monday, Senior Cypriot officials said that an overnight attack on a British airbase on the Mediterranean Island was likely carried out by the Lebanese terror group.

The officials said that an Iran-made Shahed drone hit the RAF’s Akrotiri base, causing limited damage and no casualties.

The UK said the strike damaged the runway.

Later Monday, two more drones were detected heading toward Akrotiri, triggering sirens and a scramble of aircraft, though they were intercepted, a Cypriot spokesperson said.

Also in Israel on Monday afternoon, the IDF said that a drone launched from Lebanon was intercepted by

the Israeli Air Force over northern Israel. Sirens had sounded in several communities in the Upper Galilee during the incident.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility by Hezbollah.

A fighter jet takes off from RAF Akrotiri base following two reported drone attacks near Limassol on March 2, 2026. (AFP)

Amid the renewed conflict, Lebanese authorities announced the opening of displacement shelters in dozens of schools in Beirut, the south, and Mount Lebanon.

During the last war, the government’s shelter network was wildly inadequate for the scale of the



displacement.

In the coastal city of Sidon, the gateway to south Lebanon, hundreds of northbound cars piled with mattresses, blankets, and children's schoolbags crammed both sides of the two-way highway. Motorists block the highway as they flee their villages in southern Lebanon along the coastal road through the city of Sidon on March 2, 2026 (Mahmoud ZAYYAT / AFP)



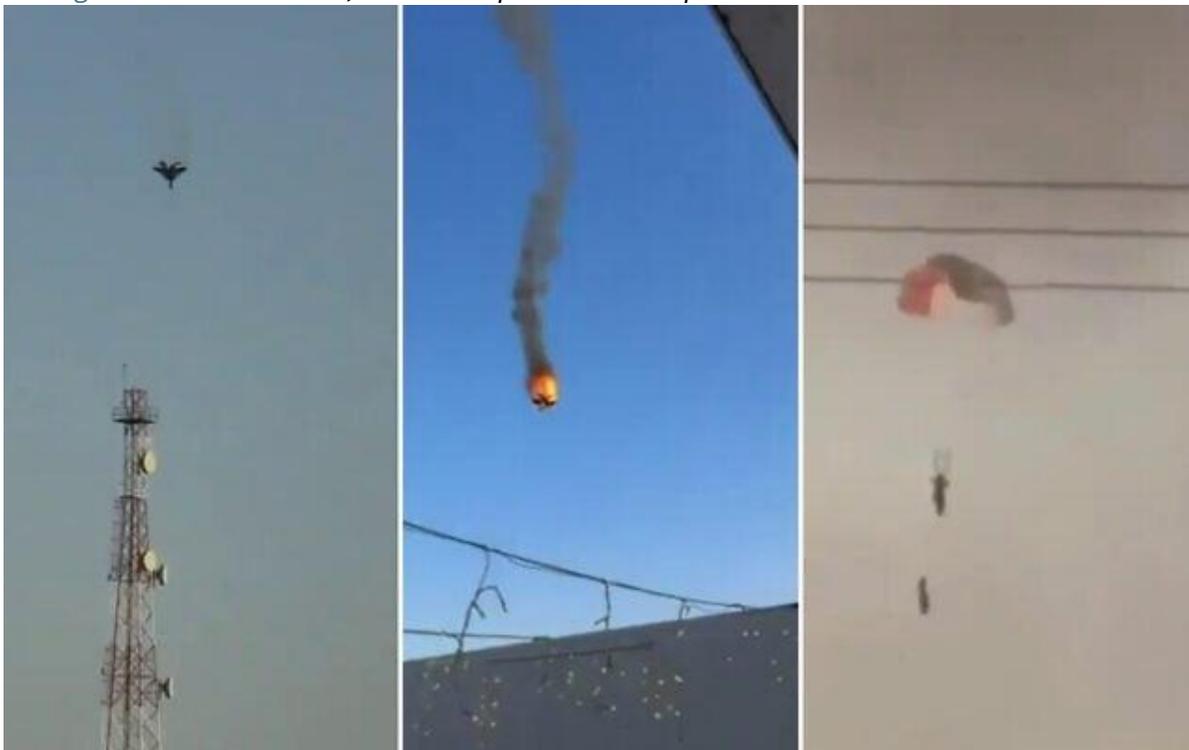
Lebanon's health ministry said at least 31 people were killed in the Israeli strikes since the early hours of Monday, without differentiating between civilians and members of Hezbollah. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-strike-kills-hezbollah-intel-chief-lebanon-to-ban-terror-groups-military-activity/>

3 US F-15 fighter jets shot down by Kuwait in 'friendly fire' incident; crews survive

CENTCOM says planes mistakenly downed by Kuwaiti air defenses during Iranian attack; US embassy in Kuwait City closed as black smoke rises from compound

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)

and [Agencies](#) 2 March 2026, 11:40 am Updated at 1:25 pm



Screen captures from videos of US F-15 fighter jets shut down over Kuwait, March, 2, 2026. (X, used in accordance with Clause 27a of the Copyright Law)

Three US F-15 fighter jets crashed over Kuwait on Monday after they were mistakenly shot down by Kuwaiti air defenses in a so-called friendly fire incident, the American military confirmed.

"Three US F-15E Strike Eagles flying in support of Operation Epic Fury went down over Kuwait due to an apparent friendly fire incident," the US Central Command said in a statement, referring to the ongoing Israeli-American operation against Iran.

CENTCOM said that during "active combat — that included attacks from Iranian aircraft, ballistic missiles, and drones — the US Air Force fighter jets were mistakenly shot down by Kuwaiti air defenses."

Keep Watching

"All six aircrew ejected safely, have been safely recovered, and are in stable condition," CENTCOM said.

"Kuwait has acknowledged this incident, and we are grateful for the efforts of the Kuwaiti defense forces and their support in this ongoing operation," the statement continued, adding that the incident was under further investigation.

In videos, a jet was seen spiraling to the ground in a flat spin.

Kuwait's defense ministry had earlier announced that several planes had crashed and that the crews had been recovered.

"Several US warplanes crashed this morning. Confirming that all crew members survived," a Kuwaiti defense ministry spokesman said in a statement, adding that the cause was under investigation.

"Authorities immediately initiated search and rescue operations, evacuating the crews and transporting them to a hospital for medical evaluation and treatment. Their condition is stable," the statement added.

Black smoke at US embassy in Kuwait City

Meanwhile Monday morning, black smoke was seen rising from the US embassy in Kuwait, and the diplomatic mission told people not to come to the premises as Iran pressed on with a third day of attacks on the Gulf and Israel.

Sirens earlier sounded over Kuwait City following the latest volley of Iranian attacks in retaliation for US and Israeli strikes.

The embassy did not announce it had been hit, but issued a security alert urging people to stay away.

"There is a continuing threat of missile and UAV attacks over Kuwait. Do not come to the embassy," the statement said. "US Embassy personnel are sheltering in place."



Smoke rises from a reported Iranian strike in the area where the US Embassy is located in Kuwait City on March 2, 2026 (AFP)

Kuwait's interior ministry said it intercepted an unspecified number of drones targeting the country at dawn.

Like some other US embassies in the Middle East, the outpost in Kuwait is a large, walled compound consisting of multiple buildings and recreational facilities.

It is located near other embassies and residential areas to the south of central Kuwait City, and the ruling emir's Bayan Palace is not far away.

In December 1983, a truck packed with explosives heavily damaged parts of the US Embassy in Kuwait when

it drove through a gate and detonated. The bombing was part of a series of attacks later blamed on Iranian-backed terror groups.

Iranian attacks have so far killed five people in the Gulf, according to authorities, including one person in Kuwait.

Earlier on Monday, loud explosions were heard across the Gulf cities of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Doha, Manama, and Kuwait.

Iran's continued and unprecedented bombardment of the Gulf has hit military bases but also civilian infrastructure, including residential buildings, hotels, airports, and seaports, rattling a region long seen as a haven of peace and security in the turbulent Middle East. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/kuwait-says-several-us-warplanes-crashed-in-the-country-all-crew-survived/>

Energy prices soar as Iran strikes Gulf, disrupts Strait of Hormuz

Missile and drone attacks against oil and gas facilities, closures in key maritime passage cause oil prices to jump nearly 10%, natural gas more than 40%



By [David McHugh](#) 2 March 2026, 6:51 pm

A black plume of smoke rises from a warehouse at the industrial area of Sharjah City in the United Arab Emirates following reports of Iranian strikes in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, March 1, 2026. (AP Photo/Altaf Qadri)

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — Energy prices rose sharply Monday as disruptions to oil tanker traffic through the Strait of Hormuz chokepoint, as well as Qatar's announced shutdown of its natural gas production, raised uncertainty about how US and Israeli attacks on Iran would affect supply to the world economy.

US oil traded 7.6 percent higher at \$72.12 per barrel, while international standard Brent was up 8.6% at \$79.11 per barrel. Natural gas futures in Europe jumped more than 40% after Qatar, a major supplier, halted production due to the conflict. Higher oil prices raise the prospect of costlier gasoline for US drivers as well as increased prices for other goods at a time when people in many countries have been stung by inflation.

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A key focus was the strait at the southern end of the Persian Gulf, through which 20% of the world's oil supply passes. Tanker traffic dropped sharply amid disruption of satellite navigation systems, data and analytics firm Kpler said on X, while the UK Maritime Trade Operations Centre reported attacks on several vessels in the area on either side of the strait and warned of elevated electronic interference to systems that show where ships are. A bomb-carrying drone boat struck a Marshall Islands-flagged oil tanker in the Gulf of Oman, killing one mariner, Oman said.

Iran has been threatening vessels approaching the Strait of Hormuz and is believed to have launched multiple attacks.



A navy vessel is seen sailing in the Strait of Hormuz, a vital waterway through which much of the world's oil and gas passes on March 1, 2026. (Sahar AL ATTAR / AFP)

Saudi authorities reported they intercepted Iranian drones that attacked the Ras Tanura oil refinery near Dammam and the refinery was shut down as a precaution, Saudi state television reported. Market attention has focused on whether the conflict would widen to other oil-producing countries in the region.

For much Mideast oil, there's no way around the strait

There are pipelines that circumvent the strait, but they don't have enough capacity to move all the oil that passes through the

waterway. Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates all depend on tankers to get the bulk of their oil to global markets.

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Analysts say completely blocking the strait would hurt Iran too since all of its 1.6 million barrels per day passes through the strait, most of which goes to China, where refineries are less concerned about US sanctions that prevent Iran from selling its oil elsewhere

The strait is also a key route for liquefied natural gas. European futures contract for April delivery shot up to 45.46 euros (\$53.26) on the ICE commodities exchange. The jump came after QatarEnergy said Monday it would stop its production of liquefied natural gas as the US-Israeli military campaign on Iran rages. The state-owned firm blamed the war for the decision.



This photo shows QatarEnergy's operating facilities in Ras Laffan Industrial City on March 2, 2026, after Qatar suspended liquefied natural gas production as Iranian strikes hit Gulf energy facilities. (AFP)

Qatar is a major gas supplier for Europe, which relies on shipments of liquefied gas, or LNG, to replace supplies of Russian pipeline gas lost due to the invasion of Ukraine.

Oil price shock comes as US gas prices were already rising. The price of crude is the single largest factor in how much US motorists pay for fuel at the pump — a highly political issue ahead of midterm Congressional elections. And higher oil prices are usually felt at the pump within a couple of weeks at most.

Gas prices are already rising ahead of the summer driving season as people travel more. The national average for a gallon (conversion) of regular went up by more than 5 cents last week to \$2.98, according to motoring club AAA.

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Crude price increases are substantially reflected in pump prices in 20 days and a \$10 increase typically results in around a 25-cent rise per gallon, according to 2019 research by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

The price of crude has less impact in Europe, where taxes make up most of the price of fuel. But higher energy costs can affect prices across the economy. A sustained rise of \$15 per barrel could add 0.5 percentage points to consumer prices in Europe, according to Holger Schmieding, chief economist at Berenberg Bank.



Gas prizes are displayed at a gas station with the European Central Bank in background in Frankfurt, Germany, March 2, 2026. (AP Photo/Michael Probst)

Temporary price spike?

Monday's price increase was within the \$5-\$10 per barrel range expected by analysts based simply on the fear factor associated with the outbreak of war. And some war concerns were already reflected in the price before the conflict started.

However, long-term disruption to ship traffic in the strait could send prices even higher, and so could damage to oil infrastructure in other Gulf countries. Meanwhile, a shorter conflict in which disruptions are easily reversible could mean the current price spike won't last.

"The key question for the global economy is obvious: Will the Strait of Hormuz be effectively closed for oil and gas exports for more than a few weeks?" Schmieding said. "If so, it would hurt global growth and raise global inflation noticeably. But I would expect Trump to go to great lengths to prevent a lasting surge in energy prices that could hurt him at home ahead of the US midterm elections in November."

He forecast oil prices would return to \$65-\$70 per barrel after a near-term spike.

Prices could go higher for longer if the war spreads

Iran's attack on the Ras Tanura refinery represents a major escalation, a Middle East analyst said, with Iran demonstrating that key Gulf energy infrastructure is within its reach, and investor sentiment likely to worsen.

Torbjorn Soltvedt, principal Middle East analyst at risk intelligence company Verisk Maplecroft, said Iran's goal is to raise the economic costs of the conflict for Gulf states like Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, hoping that these countries will pressure the US and Israel to de-escalate.

He said that the coming days and weeks will be marked by uncertainty and volatility in global markets, with oil prices likely to push past \$80 per barrel.

"If we start to see additional direct attacks against energy infrastructure, not just in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, but in other countries in the region, then that's when the market will start to think about a push toward \$90 and perhaps even beyond." <https://www.timesofisrael.com/energy-prices-soar-as-iran-strikes-gulf-disrupts-strait-of-hormuz/>

Trump: 'Big wave' in war against Iranian regime still yet to come

Additionally, Trump said that the 2020 strike that killed former IRGC chief Qassem Soleimani "was a big move," and that "If that didn't happen, then you might not have Israel today."



By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) **MARCH 2, 2026 22:45** *Updated: MARCH 2, 2026 23:56*

US President Donald Trump pumps his fist after disembarking Air Force One at Palm Beach International Airport in West Palm Beach, Florida, US, February 27, 2026 (photo credit: REUTERS/ELIZABETH FRANTZ)

US President Donald Trump said that the "big wave" in the war against the Islamic regime in Tehran was yet to come during an interview with CNN's Jake Tapper on Monday.

"We're knocking the crap out of them," Trump said. "I think it's going very well. It's very powerful. We've got the greatest military in the world, and we're using it."

Additionally, Trump said that the 2020 strike that killed former IRGC chief [Qassem Soleimani](#) "was a big move," and that "If that didn't happen, then you might not have Israel today. Israel might not exist."

Iranian Revolutionary Guard Commander Qassem Soleimani (left) stands on the frontlines during an offensive operation against Islamic State in the town of Tal Ksaiba, in Iraq, in 2015 (credit: STRINGER/ REUTERS)



The president noted that he didn't want to see the war drag on for too long, saying, "I always thought it would be four weeks. And we're a little ahead of schedule."

While Trump said the strikes were meant to help the Iranian people retake their country, he warned against them taking action during the strikes. "Right now we want everyone staying inside," he said, "It's not safe out there."

Iran's attacks on Gulf states and Khamenei's assassination

In the interview, Trump said he was surprised at [Iran's attacks against the Gulf states](#), noting that Iran "shot into a hotel, they shot into an apartment house. It just made them [the Gulf states] angry. They love us, but they were watching. There was no reason for them to be involved."

Pivoting to address the [death of Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei](#), Trump admitted he did not know who the next leader would be. "We don't know who the leadership is," said Trump. "We don't know who they'll pick. Maybe they'll get lucky and get someone who knows what they're doing," noting that the Iranians had lost "a lot in terms of leadership" in the opening hours of the war. <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-888587>

US anti-Israel groups urge supporters to mobilize, resist 'Zionist' oppression of Iran Samidoun condemned the joint US-Israeli attack on Iran, while SJP called on chapters to mobilize to "defend Iran's sovereignty, and break the Zionist war machine."

By [MATHILDA HELLER](#) MARCH 2, 2026 15:58



A woman looks on during a rally held by American Muslims for Palestine calling for a ceasefire in Gaza in Washington, US, October 21, 2023(photo credit: REUTERS/BONNIE CASH)

Radical US-based anti-Israel groups have called on supporters to mobilize to resist the 'Zionist' oppression of Iran. Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network condemned the joint US-Israeli attack on the Islamic Republic of Iran and called for "the broadest mobilizations everywhere to not only protest but to shut down the war machine with action."

"We urge all to mobilize emergency demonstrations in cities, communities, and campuses around the world, especially in the imperial core; to take direct actions; and to shut down the business-as-usual of the imperialist/Zionist war machine," wrote Samidoun in a public statement. "This is the time for action, awareness, and confrontation."

Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) logo (credit: REFORMATION32/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS)



STUDENTS FOR JUSTICE IN PALESTINE

On Saturday night, National [Students for Justice in Palestine](#) called on chapters to mobilize to "defend Iran's sovereignty and break the Zionist war machine."

"We understand that this is a time where our responsibility as the leading anti-imperialist force on campus is being tested," it said in a statement.

"We have a duty to halt the war machine and defend the sovereignty of a country which US Zionist forces seek to dismantle in the interest of subduing our cause."

SJP celebrates Iranian strike on US naval base

SJP's Chicago chapter also drew condemnation after it celebrated an Iranian missile hitting a [US Navy base in Bahrain](#).

A coalition of "black and brown-led NYC community organizations" then published a joint statement expressing solidarity with the IRGC and the "resistance axis," adding that they are "inspired by their immediate and intense strikes against Zionist forces and settlers, American soldiers and their bases in the region, and the treacherous Arab reactionary regimes that have aligned themselves with the Epstein Empire."

The coalition, which includes Bronx Anti-War Coalition and Crown Heights Bites Back, also urged "people of conscience to mobilize in solidarity with the Islamic Republic, to rise above symbolic solidarity, and disrupt the war machine by any means necessary."

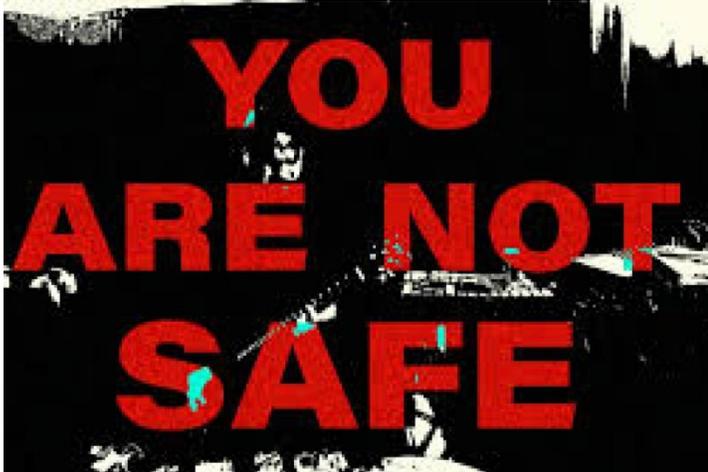
The Aryan Freedom Network/White Power organization called for "all White Nationalists in America to start preparing and organizing."

"The Jews have destroyed the America First agenda, and MAGA has been controlled by Jewish Satanic pedophiles," AFN said, calling on its followers to "resist this Zionist system!"

<https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-888544>

IRGC - Americans Will No Longer Be Safe; Not Even in their own homes

Hal Turner World March 02, 2026 Hits: 22672



Iran's Revolutionary Guards warn the US will 'no longer be safe.'

Iran's Revolutionary Guards warned on Monday that the United States "will no longer be safe", on the third day of joint US-Israeli attacks against the Islamic republic.

"The enemy should know that their happy days are over and they will no longer be safe anywhere in the world, **not even in their own homes**," the Guards' Quds force, which oversees its foreign operations, said in a statement carried by state TV.

To the US and Israel, the IRGC is publicly saying: *"Do not sleep tonight. Tonight, you will become familiar*

with the newest weapons. Even shelters are no longer safe."

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' Quds Force, which oversees Iran's overseas military operations, said on Monday that "enemies" who killed Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei will not "have security anywhere in the world, even inside their own homes."

"We declare to the Islamic nation and the freedom-seekers of the world that we will not cease fighting until the destruction of global arrogance and international Zionism, and we will take revenge for the oppressed of the world and the great martyrs from the oppressors and the arrogant," the force added in a statement carried by state media. <https://haltturnerradioshow.com/index.php/component/content/article/irgc-americans-will-no-longer-be-safe-not-even-in-their-own-homes?catid=17&Itemid=101>

OP ED

Iran Has Been at War With Us for 47 Years

Sun, 1 Mar 2026 9:33 AM PST by Daniel Greenfield



"America can't do a damn thing against us," Ayatollah Khomeini bragged while holding our hostages.

The Carter administration had undermined the Shah's government in favor of the Islamists who seized power and then prevented the embassy's Marine guards from defending the facility and the people inside against the Muslim 'student' groups who claimed to be coming in peace.

The "peaceful" student activists took over our embassy and held our people hostage.

Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei taunted President Trump with the same slogan after being asked to give up Iran's nuclear weapons program. "Our response to the US nonsense is clear: they cannot do a damn thing in this matter," he echoed his regime's founder.

Carter's failure to defend Americans had turned Khomeini's taunt into a confident slogan.

America couldn't stop its diplomats and soldiers from being taken hostage and paraded through the streets. In subsequent decades, future administrations couldn't stop other Americans from being taken hostage again, tortured and executed. By the end of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Iranian IEDs alone had accounted for as many as 1,000 American victims.

Qassem Soleimani, Iran's IRGC terror mastermind, [had thought](#) that America couldn't do a damn thing. In

January 2020, President Trump taught him otherwise with a Reaper drone.

It was the first time in a long time that America had done a “damn thing” about Iran.

In 1983, Iranian backed terrorists set off truck bombs in Beirut that killed 220 US Marines and 21 other servicemembers. Mohsen Rafiqdoost, Khomeini’s bodyguard who helped found Iran’s IRGC terror force, boasted that, “both the TNT and the ideology, which in one blast sent to hell 400 officers, NCOs, and soldiers at the Marines headquarters, were provided by Iran.”



Beyond a few airstrikes, America didn’t do a “damn thing” because the intelligence proving Iran was behind the attack was suppressed so that it never reached Reagan. Eventually we placed multimillion dollar rewards on the heads of Hezbollah’s Ibrahim Aqil and Fuad Shukr who continued to live without a care in the world until Israel took them out after Oct 7.

The Biden administration assured the media that it [had](#)



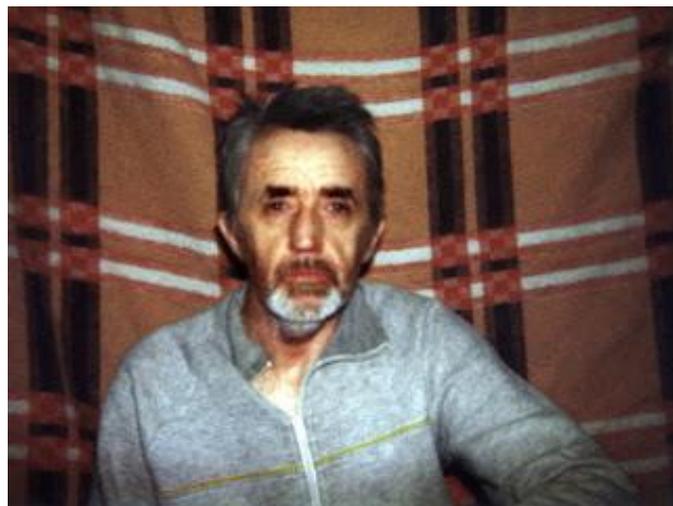
[nothing to do with the Israeli strikes.](#)

Over the decade, Iran’s Hezbollah proxies took dozens of American hostages. Some were released after months or years in exchange for concessions, while others were killed.

In 1984, Hezbollah kidnapped, tortured and killed CIA Station Chief William Francis Buckley whose identity they learned from classified documents seized from the embassy in Tehran. Buckley was [transferred to Iran](#) and tortured there, before being returned to Lebanon. Videos distributed by Iran’s Jihadists [showed him](#) in agony. “Buckley was close to a gibbering wretch. His words were often incoherent; he slobbered and drooled and, most unnerving of all, he would suddenly scream in terror, his eyes rolling helplessly and his body shaking.”

America once again did not do a “damn thing”.

In 1985, Hezbollah hijacked TWA Flight 847. One of the terrorists was Imad Mughniyeh who had also interrogated Buckley. Navy diver Robert Stethem was beaten and kicked to death before his body was dumped on the tarmac.



“They were jumping in the air and landing full force on his body. He must have had all his ribs broken,” Uli Derickson, the stewardess, described. “I was sitting only 15 feet away. I couldn’t listen to it. I put my fingers in my ears. I will never forget. I could still hear. They put the mike up to his face so his screams could be heard by the outside world.”

Instead of sending a message and holding Iran and its terrorists accountable, the United States made a deal to have Israel free hundreds of Jihadists.



In 1988, Hezbollah kidnapped Colonel William R. Higgins and [tortured him for months](#). An autopsy found that he had been starved, the skin on his face had been partially removed along with his tongue and he had also been castrated. Finally his body was dumped near a mosque.

“I am one of a small handful of Americans who knows the exact manner of Rich’s death. If I were to describe it to you now – which I will not – I can guarantee that a significant number of people in this room would become physically ill,” a friend of Higgins stated.

Finally, decades later, in the last days of the Bush administration, the CIA teamed up with Israel to take out Mughniyah with a car bomb. America had finally done a “damn thing”.

But Iran continues to hold American hostages today like former FBI agent Robert Levinson.

In 1996, Shiite terrorists backed by Iran bombed the Khobar Towers killing 19 American servicemembers, but Iran was also pursuing other options including a new Sunni terror group.

Al Qaeda built a relationship with Iran. The 9/11 Commission [noted](#), “Iran facilitated the transit of al Qaeda members into and out of

Afghanistan before 9/11” (with the aid of Soleimani, later taken out by Trump) and “Al Qaeda members received advice and training from Hezbollah.”

After 9/11, some Taliban leaders [relocated to Iran](#) to fight America. By 2010, Iran was [paying \\$1,000 for each American soldier](#) killed and Iranian IEDs were claiming American lives.

After losing in Afghanistan, Al Qaeda relocated much of its operations to Iran.

Abdullah Ahmed Abdullah, Al Qaeda’s second-in-command, responsible for the bombings of American embassies across Africa, was taken out in Tehran in a joint Israeli-American operation during the first term of the Trump administration.

Saif al-Adel, the current leader of Al Qaeda, lives in Tehran and has been there for two decades. Even while supposedly in Iranian custody, he ordered the 2003 bombings in Saudi Arabia that killed 9 Americans.

As recently as last year, Iran and its terrorist proxies continued murdering American soldiers and contractors including Scott Patrick Dubis in 2023 and Sgt. William Rivers, Specialist Kennedy Sanders, and Specialist Breonna Moffett in 2024.



No matter how much politicians and social media influencers may insist that we’re not at war with Iran, the Islamic terrorist state has been at war with us for 47 years. And is still fighting us.

It only takes one side to have a war. Fighting back isn’t what makes the war endless.

Refusing to fight back or to fight back effectively is what makes wars endless.

The Carter, Reagan, Bush, Clinton and Bush administrations for the most part failed to act. The Obama and Biden administrations took it one step further by aiding Iran. President Trump first stood up to Iran and showed the Islamic

terrorist state that there would be consequences.

“America can’t do a damn thing against us,” the ayatollahs mocked us as they killed our people. For the first time in two generations, the smirks have been wiped off their murderous faces.

Those complaining that President Trump is too tough on Iran aren't upset because the president isn't keeping his campaign promises, but because he is, they're not upset because he changed his foreign policy, but because they want the old Carter and Obama appeasement of Iran back.

America is not contemplating bombing some "random middle eastern country." After 47 years of kidnapping, terrorism, torture and murder, we're fighting back against Iran's war on us.

Daniel Greenfield is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's Front Page Magazine.

<https://bkdvk-zgpvh.campaign-view.com/ua/viewinbrowser 1>



BS"D

STEP BY STEP

STEP BY STEP: Good news is that many friends and supporters of Lev U'Neshama (Heart and Soul) donated towards the Education Fund project to provide basic school supplies for actually 350 children within our Lev U'Neshama families.

We are grateful that the school supply part of our effort has been successful.

According to the Israel Population and Statistics office, Tzfat's population is about 40,000, and one third live at the poverty level. We do what we can so at least the children within our struggling LUN families can get the things they need.

Every week we are providing new sport shoes and eye exams/eyeglasses to the children on our request list. However, previous donations are rapidly dwindling. I am reaching out now before the fund has been emptied and we will have to say "no" to additional requests.

We work with two local shoe merchants who give Lev U'Neshama a discount but they advised us the cost of the shoes has increased. Also, we work with an accredited optician in town who also gives us a discount but his cost is stable.

Lev U'Neshama is an Israeli registered non-profit charity organization, volunteer run, no business expenses whatsoever and every \$ goes into our programs.

Shoes: \$45 per pair regular and \$60 for First Steps, baby shoes.

Eye Exam/Eyeglasses: \$60 per child.

Your support is urgently requested.

Or use the Zelle US to US bank transfer system (contact me at mortsmo@aol.com for bank information).

US Donors may also send checks made payable to

Simcha Smolensky, my son, who is also a volunteer. Send to:

Rabbi Simcha Smolensky, 6739 N Mozart St Chicago IL 60645

Your support will be appreciated.

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