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## Missile shrapnel ignites fire, lightly injures 10-year-old in central Israel

Several firefighting crews responded to the fire and determined that it was a warehouse that had been hit by a missile fragment and immediately went up in flames.

By [MAYA ZANGER-NADIS](#) MARCH 5, 2026 23:54 Updated: MARCH 6, 2026 02:23

Firefighters work to put out a fire at a warehouse in central after it erupted in flames when hit by shrapnel from an Iranian missile (CREDIT: ISRAEL FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY). [Go to website for video rdb](#)

**A fire broke out in central Israel after shrapnel from an Iranian missile hit central Israel on Thursday night, following a launch that triggered sirens throughout the country.**

**Eyewitness reports claimed that Iran used cluster munitions, although this was not confirmed by any official governmental or military source.**

Footage of an Iranian cluster missile over the skies of central Israel, March 5, 2026. (credit: EYAL MESED)

[Go to website for video rdb](#)

*Several firefighting crews responded to the fire and determined that it was a warehouse that had been hit by a missile fragment and immediately went up in flames.*

Firefighters worked to stop the fire from spreading to nearby buildings and extinguish the source.

### Child sustains minor injuries, three people treated for acute trauma

[United Hatzalah](#) reported that a 10-year-old boy sustained minor injuries as a result of the shrapnel hit. He received first aid treatment at the scene and was then taken to a nearby hospital. Responders also treated three people suffering from post-traumatic symptoms.

### Sirens triggered in northern Israeli town

Later, in the early hours of Friday morning, sirens were heard several times in several towns in northern [Israel](#) near the Lebanon border. No property damage or injuries were reported.

Additionally, residents of the northern West Bank rushed to protected areas in the early hours of Friday morning following a hostile aircraft intrusion warning. The event resolved with no reported injuries or damage.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-889036>

## Iran fires seven missile salvos at Israel on war's sixth day as IAF jets pound Tehran

UAE, Qatar, Bahrain come under more Iranian attacks, as Iran denies hitting Riyadh, blames Israel for attack on Azerbaijan; strikes said to be targeting Iran's underground missile sites

By [Emanuel Fabian](#), [Lazar Berman](#)

and [Agencies](#) Today, 8:34 pm



Israelis take cover at an underground parking lot in Tel Aviv as a siren sounds warning of incoming ballistic missiles fired from Iran toward Israel, March 5, 2026. (Chaim Goldberg/Flash90)

**Iran launched seven volleys of ballistic missiles at Israel on Thursday, sending millions running to bomb shelters, as the Israel Defense Forces kept up its strikes on Iranian military and regime targets on the sixth day of the war.**

**No one was reported wounded in the Iranian missile salvos, which each consisted of a small number of projectiles. One missile struck an open area in a**

**central town, rescue forces said.**

**Ten people in total have been killed by Iranian missile strikes in Israel over the course of**

## the war, which began on Saturday.

Iran has launched over 500 ballistic and cruise missiles and over 2,000 drones since the start of the war, a military source told the Iranian Fars news agency on Thursday. The report claimed that 40 percent of the Iranian attacks targeted Israel and the other 60% targeted American sites in the region, despite Iranian attacks hitting civilian sites in Gulf nations.



Those regional strikes have met condemnation from countries in the Middle East as well as European governments, some of which have sent defensive forces to the region.

The Iranian missile fire came as the IDF said it had destroyed more than 300 missile launchers in nonstop sorties over the Islamic Republic, and as the US-Israeli attacks are reportedly moving to strike Iranian sites underground.

*Medics at the site of an Iranian ballistic missile impact in a town in central Israel, March 5, 2026. (Magen David Adom)*

Amid the repeated volleys of missiles targeting Israel, Tehran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) claimed it had launched missiles with one-

ton explosive warheads aimed at "the heart of Tel Aviv, Ben Gurion Airport, and the 27th Squadron base of the Israeli Air Force at this airport."

Those claims appeared to be false, as there is no 27th Squadron in the Israeli Air Force. The claim was likely referring to Airbase 27, or Lod Airbase, which was once part of Ben Gurion Airport but was closed for good in 2010.

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Iran also claimed to have hit "targets in Tel Aviv as well as Meron radar base" with drones. There were no reports of any drone impacts in Israel. The military has reported shooting down more than 100 drones since the start of the war.

Two sources familiar with Israel's military campaign told Reuters that the war was now entering a second phase that will see the targeting of ballistic missile sites buried deep underground.

Many such strikes would likely be carried out by the US, with its heavy bombers capable of carrying bunker-busting bombs that can reach the sites.

Meanwhile, satellite images published Thursday by Vantor, a defense intelligence firm, showed damage to a building at a missile base in Garmdarreh and destruction caused to a building and tunnel entrances at the Khorramabad missile complex, as a result of strikes carried out so far.

### Strikes in Tehran target IRGC, Basij, internal security forces

The Israeli Air Force on Thursday carried out a wave of airstrikes against Iranian military sites in western and central Iran, destroying ballistic missile launchers and air defense systems. That attack marked its 113th such sortie in those regions, alongside 13 over the capital city.

In two waves of airstrikes in the Tehran area, the IDF struck the headquarters of the Islamic Republic's special forces, bases of the Basij paramilitary force, and other regime sites.

The IDF said that the "headquarters of the special units of the Iranian terror regime" in the Alborz province, just west of the city, "commands all of the regime's special units in the province and serves to direct the regime's armed forces."

Some 90 IAF fighter jets participated in the strikes on Iran's capital and its surroundings, hitting some 40 targets with around 200 bombs, according to the military.

*Plumes of smoke rise as strikes hit the city during the US-Israeli military campaign in Tehran, Iran, on March 5, 2026. (AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)*

Elsewhere in Tehran, the IDF said, it



struck targets of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, Basij bases, the headquarters of the internal security forces, and dozens of other command centers and weapon storage sites.

Mohammad-Sadegh Motamedian, Tehran's governor, urged citizens to avoid stockpiling necessities in order to keep markets calm.

Across the capital, metro stations were less crowded than before the war, as trains continued running.



Authorities said they were equipping dozens of subway stations to serve as bomb shelters, as they did during the 12-day war last June.

Funerals for dead Iranian security officers were held around the country, including in Kerman, Isfahan and Tabriz. Hard-liners also gathered Wednesday night in town squares and intersections to mourn and express support for the theocracy while religious songs blared from their cars.

*Mourners reach out to coffins during a funeral for people killed during the ongoing US-Israeli military campaign in Qom, Iran, on March 5, 2026. (Seyyed Mehdi Alavi/ISNA via AP)*

Iran's state-run Foundation of Martyrs and Veterans Affairs said the death toll from US and Israeli strikes on the country had risen to 1,230. The toll has not been independently verified, and does not distinguish between civilians and combatants.

The World Health Organization said it has verified 13 attacks on health infrastructure in Iran amid the war, and that it was checking reports that four medics were killed and 25 others injured. Both the US and Israel say they are not targeting civilian sites and infrastructure in Iran.

#### **IDF: More than 550 aerial refuelings since the war's start**

According to the IDF, more than 550 aerial refuelings have been carried out over the skies of the Middle East since the war began, allowing hundreds of IAF fighter jets to operate in Iran, located over 1,500 kilometers (nearly 1,000 miles) from Israel.

The IDF said 5 million pounds of fuel were transferred by the IAF's refuelers during the current conflict, which constitutes more than half the quantity of the total refuelings carried out during June 2025's 12-day war.

The IAF has also relied heavily on the US military's aerial refueling capabilities, as the US military has equipment comprising roughly 10 times Israel's refueling fleet. Dozens of US refueling tankers have been stationed in Israel amid the conflict.

**An IAF Boeing 707 refueling plane refuels a fighter jet over the Middle East, in a handout video issued on March 5, 2026. (Israel Defense Forces) [Go to website for video rdb](#)**

#### **Iran fires seven missiles at UAE, one impacts**

Amid the fighting, Iran has continued its [attacks on neighboring Arab countries](#) – including, but seemingly not limited to, sites of US airbases.

EU and Gulf ministers called on Iran Thursday to immediately end its “indiscriminate” attacks against the Gulf countries, warning the strikes threatened international security.

In recent days, [several EU countries](#), as well as the United Kingdom, have dispatched naval or air defense forces to the region, or expanded the permissions they've given the US to use their bases.

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said the UK is sending four additional Typhoon fighter jets to Qatar “to strengthen our defensive operations in Qatar and across the region.”

The United Arab Emirates said Iran fired seven ballistic missiles at it on Thursday, of which one impacted inside the country.

In total, Iran has fired 196 ballistic missiles at the UAE, of which 181 were intercepted, 13 fell into the sea, and two directly impacted, according to figures released Thursday. Three people have died in the attacks — a Pakistani, a Nepali and a Bangladeshi. Ninety-four people have been injured.

Iran has also fired a total of 131 drones at the UAE, of which only six impacted. The rest were intercepted, said the Emirati Defense Ministry. Falling debris from an intercepted drone injured six people in Abu Dhabi on Thursday.

The World Health Organization's chief said the war had forced it to suspend operations at its emergency logistics hub in Dubai.



*Iran's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Alireza Enayati, speaks during an interview with AFP at the Iranian embassy in Riyadh on March 5, 2026. (Fayez Nureldine / AFP)*

Qatar was also subjected to a missile attack on Thursday. Several blasts were reported across the city, and from the capital city of Doha, a column of black smoke was seen rising on the horizon.

Saudi Arabia accused Iran of attacking the US diplomatic compound in Riyadh with drones. Iran's ambassador to the kingdom denied the attack, telling AFP: "If the operations command in Tehran attacks somewhere, it takes responsibility for it."

Bahrain's Interior Ministry said one of its facilities in the Maameer industrial zone, housing an oil refinery, was attacked.

Iran has also been accused of firing at Turkey. Ankara, meanwhile, condemned a drone attack on Azerbaijan, which Baku blamed on Iran and [vowed to retaliate for](#), and Iran blamed on Israel.

Additionally, Iran's army [said it launched a drone attack](#) on a US site in Iraqi Kurdistan's Erbil.

The announcement came after a flurry of reports that the US may be working with Iranian Kurds to fight the regime on the ground. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-fires-six-missile-barrages-at-israel-on-wars-sixth-day-as-idf-bombers-pound-tehran/>

## **IDF planning for at least 1-2 more weeks of Iran ops; over 5,000 bombs dropped**

***Air force officer says Israeli strikes have killed thousands of Iranian troops; IDF officials describe conflict as first full-scale joint military campaign by Israel and US: 'This is a war in English'***

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)

Today, 5:55 am



*IAF F-16i fighter jets fly to Iran to carry out strikes, in a handout photo published on March 4, 2026. (Israel Defense Forces)*

**The Israeli military is planning for at least one or two more weeks of operations against Iran, during which it aims to hit thousands more Iranian regime targets, The Times of Israel learned on Wednesday.**

**Israel's goal is a systematic degradation of the Iranian regime and its military sites.**

**The plans were announced several days into an extensive bombing campaign against Iran. As of Wednesday, the Israeli Air Force had dropped more than 5,000 bombs during strikes in Iran since the start of the conflict, the military said.**

The military added that IAF fighter jets "continue to deepen air superiority throughout Iran, with an emphasis on the Tehran area."

A senior Israeli air force officer said Israel's strikes have killed thousands of Iranian soldiers.

"In the past two days, we have killed thousands of Iranian forces," said Col. "Aleph," the commander of the Ramat David Airbase — identified only by his first initial in Hebrew — in a video published by the military.

The airbase commander said he had participated in a wave of strikes on a massive Iranian military compound in eastern Tehran.

"Seconds before I dropped the bombs, I looked right and left, and saw dozens of fighter jets beside me. They're flying freely, dropping hundreds of tons of precise munitions and destroying the targets," he added.

A person stands on the roof of a building looking at a plume of smoke rises after a strike on the Iranian capital Tehran, on March 3, 2026. (Atta Kenare/AFP)

Among the airstrikes reported on Wednesday, the IAF said it carried out "large-scale" attacks in Tehran targeting a massive Iranian military compound, which housed headquarters and personnel from across Iran's security apparatus.

More than 100 fighter jets carried out the airstrikes against the compound in eastern Tehran, dropping more than 250 bombs, the IDF said.

At the complex, the IDF said, it hit the headquarters of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, the IRGC Quds Force, intelligence directorate, Basij paramilitary force, Iran’s cyber unit, the special forces unit of Iran’s internal security forces, and a “protest suppression” unit of the internal security forces.

“The headquarters were struck while personnel of the Iranian terror regime responsible for managing the campaign, advancing terror plans against the State of Israel and countries in the region, and suppressing Iranian civilians were operating from them,” the military said.

Additionally, an armed Iranian ballistic missile launcher in the Kermanshah area in western Iran was destroyed by an Israeli F-35I fighter jet, the military said. “The Israeli Air Force continues to strike missile launch sites and missile launchers in order to remove the threat posed to the State of Israel,” the military added.



An “extensive” wave of Israeli airstrikes in central and western Iran destroyed dozens of Iranian ballistic missile launchers and air defense systems. According to the IDF, some of the missile launchers were armed for attacks on Israel, and they were struck while Iranian soldiers were operating them.

The IAF also destroyed Iranian air defense and detection systems at Mehrabad Airport in Tehran.

There have been at least 11 waves of strikes in Tehran since the start of the conflict, including at least two on Wednesday, the IDF said.

*An Israeli Air Force F-15 fighter jet takes off from an airbase in Israel for strikes in Iran, in a handout photo published on March 2, 2026. (Israel Defense Forces)*

### **Division of labor between Israel and US**

The Israeli military also revealed how it was dividing the work with the American military during the campaign — geographically, by target types and by relative advantage.

Geographically, the IAF was operating against Iranian ballistic missile launchers and other military assets in western and central Iran, because Iran fires long-range ballistic missiles at Israel from those areas.

Meanwhile, the American military was operating against Iranian missile launchers in Iran’s south, as it has used those areas to fire shorter-range missiles on US bases in the Gulf.



For target types, Israel and the US have also split their work. The American military, for example, has taken responsibility for targeting the entire Iranian Navy. Israel has meanwhile focused on other targets, based on relative advantage, such as regime sites in Tehran.

*A US sailor stands by as an F/A-18F Super Hornet aircraft lands on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford while operating in support of Operation Epic Fury in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, March 2, 2026. (US Navy)*

Additionally, the IAF has relied heavily on the US military’s aerial refueling capabilities, as the US military has roughly 10 times the IAF’s refueling fleet. Dozens of US refueling tankers have been stationed in Israel amid the conflict.



Israeli military officials described the conflict as the first full-scale joint war between Israel and the US, following extensive joint planning in recent months.

There are “joint coordination cells” in both Israel and the US operating amid the campaign, synchronizing intelligence, targets, and defense, according to the IDF. More than 1,000 American troops are stationed in Israel. “This is a war in English,” a military official said.

IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir has been speaking daily with US CENTCOM chief Adm. Brad Cooper, according to the military.

*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)

Meanwhile, some officials in the IDF believe that Gulf states — which have been attacked by Iran amid the conflict — will join the campaign offensively.

The Gulf states are mainly involved defensively, shooting down Iranian ballistic missiles and drones aimed at their countries.

Also, IAF chief Maj. Gen. Tomer Bar said Wednesday that Israeli special forces have been conducting “extraordinary” operations during the ongoing conflict with Iran.

“The troops of the air force’s special units are currently carrying out extraordinary missions that can spark one’s imagination,” Bar wrote in a missive to IAF soldiers.

Bar did not elaborate further on the nature of the operations or where they were conducted.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-planning-for-at-least-1-2-more-weeks-of-iran-ops-over-5000-bombs-dropped/>

## On Iranian TV, cleric calls for ‘shedding’ of blood from Israelis and Trump

**Tehran continues to threaten Washington and Jerusalem, as FM says US will ‘bitterly regret’ sinking warship and diplomat says if US deploys ground forces it will get ‘many coffins’**

By [AP](#), [Reuters](#) and [Tol Staff](#) Today, 10:48 am

*Houthi supporters hold posters of the late Iranian supreme leader ayatollah Ali Khamenei and Iranian flags during a rally against Israel and the United States in Sanaa, Yemen, Sunday, March 1, 2026. (AP Photo/Osamah Abdulrahman)*

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iranian state television aired a message Thursday from an ayatollah in Iran calling for the “shedding” of blood from Israelis and US President Donald Trump, as the Islamic Republic continued to threaten revenge and repercussions for the war being waged against it by the US and Israel.**



**The message from Ayatollah Abdollah Javadi Amoli represented one of the few clerical statements coming from Iran as it faces a combined airstrike campaign from the two countries.**

**“We are now on the verge of a great test and we must be careful to fully preserve this unity, to fully preserve this alliance,” he said in the statement.**

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**He called for “the shedding of Zionist blood, the shedding of Trump’s blood.”**

“The imam of the time says, ‘Fight the oppressive America, his blood is on my shoulders,’” the ayatollah added.

Meanwhile, Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guards said on Thursday that they had hit a US tanker in the northern part of the Gulf and the vessel was on fire. There was no confirmation from the US. The Guards said in the statement carried by state media that, in time of war, passage through the Strait of Hormuz will be under the control of the Islamic Republic.

Iran’s Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said earlier that Washington “will bitterly regret the precedent it has set” in its [torpedo attack](#) on the Iranian frigate Dena in international waters on Wednesday, which sank the ship and apparently led to the deaths of most of the crew.

Araghchi said the strike occurred without warning and called it “an atrocity.”

Another threat came from Iran’s Ambassador to South Korea Saeed Koozechi, who said at a news conference that “many coffins would return to the United States” if it decided to deploy ground forces, and defended Iranian strikes on Gulf states hosting US military bases as unavoidable. Koozechi demanded that Seoul — a key US ally — be more vocal in demanding a halt to what he called an illegal aggression.

On Wednesday an Iranian military official told the semi-official ISNA news agency the country will target the Israeli nuclear site of Dimona if Israel and the US seek regime change in the Islamic Republic.



**View of the nuclear reactor in Dimona, southern Israel, August 13, 2016. (Moshe Shai/Flash90)**

Washington and Jerusalem have said the aim of the operations is to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear bomb and to destroy the Islamic Republic's long-range ballistic missile program. Israel has also [actively encouraged Iranians](#) to overthrow their regime, while the US has offered mixed messaging but indicated it would welcome such a change.

The Shimon Peres Negev Nuclear Research Center, near the city of Dimona, is believed to be key to Israel's long-suspected atomic weapons program. Israel does not confirm or deny having nuclear weapons. The site, located

in the Negev southern region of the country, is among the most protected locations in the country, with measures believed to include the full range of Israel's air defense systems.

Iran launched a new wave of missile attacks Thursday at Israel and American bases, while Israel said it had begun a new "large-scale" attack on Tehran.

Israel announced multiple incoming Iranian missile attacks overnight and air sirens sounded in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Iranian state television said additional strikes also targeted US bases. The IDF said it launched attacks in Lebanon targeting the Hezbollah terror group and a "large-scale wave of strikes against infrastructure" in Iran's capital. Explosions were heard in multiple locations in Tehran a short time later.

The tempo of American and Israeli strikes on Iran was so intense Wednesday that state television announced the mourning ceremony for supreme leader ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who was killed at the start of the conflict, would be postponed. Millions attended the funeral of his predecessor, ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, in 1989.

**Rocket trails are seen in the sky above central Israel amid a fresh barrage of Iranian missile attacks on March 5, 2026 (JACK GUEZ / AFP)**

US President Donald Trump praised the US military for "doing very well on the war front, to put it mildly." Fellow

Republicans in the US Senate stood with Trump on Iran as they voted down a resolution seeking to halt the war.

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Iran has fired on the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Israel and Cyprus as the conflict has spiraled. Turkey said NATO defenses intercepted a ballistic missile launched from Iran before it entered Turkey's airspace.

The war has killed more than 1,000 people in Iran, more than 70 in Lebanon and around a dozen in Israel, according to officials in those countries. It has disrupted the supply of the world's oil and gas, snarled international shipping and stranded hundreds of thousands of travelers in the Middle East.



Countries around the region braced for potential dangers Thursday, a day after Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard threatened "the complete destruction of the region's military and economic infrastructure."

**Giant screens installed along the highway display the national flags of US and Israel, in Tel Aviv on March 4, 2026 (Jack GUEZ / AFP)**

Qatar's Interior Ministry said authorities were evacuating residents near the US Embassy in Doha as a temporary precaution, without providing further details.

Fighter jets could be heard overhead in the UAE city of Dubai and Saudi Arabia said it destroyed a drone in its province bordering Jordan.

A new attack off the coast of Kuwait appeared to expand the area where commercial shipping was in danger. An explosion rocked the area early Thursday, according to the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations



Center run by the British military. It said a tanker apparently came under attack, but the agency did not offer a cause. Iran in the past has attacked ships by attaching limpet mines to them.

Prior attacks since fighting began Saturday have happened in the Gulf of Oman and the Strait of Hormuz, which connects it to the Persian Gulf and through which about a fifth of the world's oil is shipped.

*A plume of smoke caused by an Iranian strike is seen in the distance as Emirates planes are parked at Dubai International Airport, after its closure in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, March 1, 2026. (AP Photo/Altaf Qadri)*

Brent crude prices are up 15% since the start of the conflict as Iranian attacks have disrupted traffic through the strait, with the current price the highest since July 2024.

The Israeli military is planning for at least one or two more weeks of operations against Iran, during which it aims to hit thousands more Iranian regime targets, The Times of Israel learned on Wednesday.

US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said Wednesday the timeline was not set.

“You can say four weeks, but it could be six. It could be eight. It could be three,” Hegseth said at a press conference. “Ultimately, we set the pace and the tempo. The enemy is off balance, and we’re going to keep them off balance.”

US and Israeli military officials say launches from Iran have declined as their attacks have taken out ballistic missiles, launchers and drones. Israel’s Home Front Command announced it was easing restrictions that closed workplaces nationwide. It said workplaces could reopen Thursday at noon if there is a shelter nearby. Schools remain closed. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/on-iranian-tv-cleric-calls-for-shedding-of-blood-from-israelis-and-trump/>

## Iran’s strikes on Arab states open door to new Gulf approach toward Israel

***As Israel reportedly aids defense of US allies in region, pathways to new alliances could emerge. But shared threat of Iran hasn’t pushed Gulf states into Israel’s arms yet***

By [Nava Freiberg](#)

Today, 8:03 pm



*An intercepted projectile falls into the sea near Dubai’s Palm Jumeirah archipelago on March 1, 2026. (FADEL SENNA / AFP)*

The Gulf states currently find themselves living their worst nightmare.

Decades of diplomatic maneuvering to avoid direct military confrontation with Iran are going up in smoke from Tehran’s ballistic missile and drone attacks on all members of the Gulf Cooperation Council — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE.

Since the US and Israel launched their bombing campaign targeting the Iranian regime over the weekend,

estimates indicate that Iran has fired more ballistic missiles and drones at its Gulf neighbors than at Israel itself, damaging US military assets as well as tourist and energy sites.

According to data released by the Israeli Institute for National Security Studies on Wednesday, Iran fired more than twice as many missiles and about 20 times more drones toward Gulf states than at Israel, with the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait facing nearly 200 ballistic missiles each.

Iran [hopes](#) that by inflicting enough pain on its Arab neighbors — and other countries further afield — it will pressure US President Donald Trump to end the war.

But not only has that strategy not worked so far; it may end up backfiring spectacularly, pushing Gulf states



toward closer security cooperation with Israel — even among those who remain wary of openly aligning with the Jewish state.

Firefighters work as smoke rises outside a damaged warehouse in an industrial area in Al Rayyan, Qatar, following an Iranian strike, March 1, 2026. (AP Photo)

### **Closer to CENTCOM, closer to Israel**

Israel has long argued that the Iranian regime's weapons programs threaten not only Israel, but the whole region and world. That contention is now emphatically reinforced by this week's attacks, strengthening the case for Gulf cooperation with Israel, at least on the security

level. "The fact that Arab countries and Arab allies were targeted just goes to show that the Iranian regime doesn't only pose a threat to Israel," a spokesperson for Israel's Foreign Ministry told The Times of Israel while briefing reporters at the site of an Iranian missile attack in central Tel Aviv on Sunday.

However, the extent to which Israel is providing military or civilian assistance to the Gulf to counter that threat remains difficult to verify.

When asked by The Times of Israel if Jerusalem was sending any assistance to help those Arab countries defend themselves, the spokesperson was careful, saying only, "We are doing everything possible to meet the

objective of this operation, and this operation is working and happening hand in hand with our American friends."

The IDF spokesperson's unit declined to comment on what kind of military assistance, if any, Israel provided to the Gulf states ahead of or after the start of the strikes on Iran, called Operation Roaring Lion.

*IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir meets with the US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Dan Caine, at the Knesset, October 13, 2025. (Israel Defense Forces)*



There have nonetheless been unconfirmed reports of assistance.

According to unverified Hebrew-language media reports, Israel has dispatched a Home Front Command crew to the United Arab Emirates to assist with emergency preparedness.

Such cooperation is politically easier with countries like the UAE and Bahrain, which normalized relations with Israel under the US-brokered Abraham Accords in 2020.

"With Qatar, [assistance] is much more explosive politically," said Ariel Admoni of the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security. Ties between Israel and Qatar grew increasingly strained throughout Israel's war with Hamas in Gaza due to Doha's ties to the terror group and its condemnation of Israel's military conduct in the Strip.

"Neither side can tolerate even rumors of helping the other," Admoni said.

The US bolstered its commitment to Qatar's security through an executive order signed last year, after an Israeli air strike targeting Hamas leaders in Doha.

An anonymous senior Israeli official told the Kan public broadcaster on Tuesday that Israel is holding discussions about possibly providing defense to American assets in the Gulf, to "help in the American defense effort, just as [the Americans] help in our defense effort."

A member of the US Air Force stands near a Patriot missile battery at Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia, February 20, 2020. (Andrew Caballero-Reynolds/Pool via AP, File)

But the extent of security ties with Israel is also being indirectly increased during the campaign as coordination between CENTCOM — the US regional military command that includes all of its Middle East allies, including in the Gulf — and the IDF reaches [an unprecedented level](#).

As a result, Gulf countries' reliance on America's protection could lay the groundwork for an ad-hoc strategic coalition that includes Israel as well, increasing cooperation on civil defense, air defense, and intelligence sharing.

Elements of that cooperation took shape during the CENTCOM-guided defensive effort against two Iranian drone and missile attacks on Israel in 2024. Multiple Arab countries joined the defense against the strikes.

The current conflict "creates a shared strategic foundation between [Israel] and [the Gulf]," said Eran

Lerman, vice president of the JISS and former deputy director of Israel's National Security Council.

The United States has for years played a central role in Gulf security — one that has only grown more visible during the conflict.

Gulf requests for more interceptors would be primarily directed at Washington. Several Gulf states rely heavily on American defense systems, including Patriot missile interceptors. Qatar and the UAE, in particular, depend on these systems to a significant degree, while the US maintains major military bases throughout the region.

The US has also moved to secure regional energy supplies, with Trump promising that US naval forces will protect oil tankers moving through the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi speaks during the 17th edition of the Al-Jazeera Forum in Doha on February 7, 2026. (Karim Jaafar/AFP)

### Static diplomacy

Even though the shared threat of the Iranian strikes may lead to greater security ties with Israel in the short or long term, Gulf states have not fundamentally altered their diplomatic approach toward Tehran — or toward Jerusalem.

Many Gulf governments summoned Iranian ambassadors for explanations, but have not expelled them outright or frozen ties, as they appear to be attempting to coordinate a unified regional response rather than escalating tensions further.

“Broadly speaking, the original dynamic is continuing,” said Admoni. “The fact that the Gulf states and Israel are being attacked from the same source does not suddenly change the divisions in the Gulf — between the UAE and Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Oman — in terms of how each of them views Israel.”

For some countries, Iran's actions were less surprising than for others.

The UAE and Saudi Arabia have maintained cautious engagement with Iran in recent years, maintaining embassies in the country and holding limited trade ties, even amid strategic tensions. The current conflict “has

only reinforced” their long-held perception of the Islamic Republic as an unreliable actor, Admoni said.

*A woman walks past a billboard displayed in Tel Aviv on June 26, 2025 by the Coalition for Regional Security showing Arab leaders surrounding US President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, with a slogan reading “Now is the time for the Abraham Accords.” (Jack GUEZ / AFP)*

Countries such as Qatar and Oman, by contrast, had hoped their diplomatic outreach toward Iran might insulate them from direct confrontation. “There was a real sense that Iran depends on them,” Admoni said.

But regardless of those differences, the Gulf appears to be unified in how it is responding to Tehran, amid damage to economic targets such as tourism



infrastructure and energy facilities — the backbone of the Gulf economies.

Despite some media reports that Riyadh may take a more aggressive tone toward the Islamic Republic, the Saudis, Qataris, and Omanis all appear to still be choosing a dialogue-based approach, albeit one [replete with rebuke](#).

This may be because these countries are experiencing “a real fear that Trump will not go all the way” in the goals laid out in the operation, making them wary of supporting a campaign that antagonized the Iranian regime without gaining much from it, Admoni said.

Nonetheless, Lerman sees the current situation as an “opportunity for us to rebuild what I’ve been calling for years the ‘stability camp’ in the Middle East,” by coordinating what the endgame is in the Iran campaign, and “to significantly tighten security ties with the Gulf states.”

Whether this security coordination could ultimately lead to new or expanded formal or diplomatic ties — especially with countries more reluctant to create ties with Israel, like Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia — remains to be seen.

For both future security cooperation and formal ties, Israel's military performance carries great potential at the moment.

“We’re demonstrating our capabilities to them — this is very important,” Lerman said.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/irans-strikes-on-arab-states-open-door-for-new-gulf-approach-toward-israel/>

## **Air raid sirens sound across central Israel minutes after Iranian missile explodes in open area; Houthi chief says group’s 'hand is on the trigger'**

*authorities are assessing whether some of the missiles carried a dispersing warhead; Israel and the US widen strikes in Iran and Yemen’s Houthi leader warns his forces are ready to act if the conflict escalates*

*Moran Azulay, Lior Ben Ari, Elisha Ben Kimon|Updated: 15:21*

*Related Topics*

*[Operation Roaring Lion](#)*

**Air raid sirens sounded across central Israel minutes after an Iranian missile exploded in an open area. The incoming fire from Iran was limited, similar to previous barrages, and interceptors were launched at the missiles. Israeli authorities are assessing whether some of the**

**missiles carried a dispersing warhead, also known as a cluster munition. No injuries were reported immediately.**

**Since the war began Saturday, Iran has launched about 200 missiles at Israel, far fewer than Israeli officials had expected, according to data compiled during the fighting.**

**Documentation from the latest barrage**

Destruction of a ballistic missile and a ballistic missile stockpile in Iran

(Video: IDF) **[Go to website for video rdb](#)**



accordingly, according to information obtained by Ynet. Instead, Iran has fired about 80% fewer missiles than projected, a gap Israel views as evidence of significant damage inflicted by the Israeli military and the U.S. military in a coordinated strike campaign against Iran’s ballistic missile program.

In addition to missiles fired at Israel, Iran has launched about 300 missiles at other targets across the Middle East, the data show. Israel and the United States have also dropped more than 8,500 munitions in Iran since the war began, including about 2,700 targets struck by the United States alone, according to the figures.

Israel’s chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir, said Thursday that Israeli forces have been striking “the Iranian terror regime without pause” for six days. He said the operation in Iran was planned in secret by thousands of soldiers across the military and in close coordination with the United States, describing the pace of the operation as proceeding according to plan.

Footage: Eliminating Iranian regime soldiers

(Video: IDF) **[Go to website for video rdb](#)**

The Israeli military released footage it said showed Iranian soldiers being eliminated as part of a broad wave of strikes on targets tied to Iran’s leadership in western and central Iran. The Air Force struck about 200 targets in those areas during the day, including dozens of ballistic missile launchers, the military said. An Israel Defense Forces spokesperson said hundreds of launch sites across Iran have been hit since the start of the operation, with an emphasis on western Iran, in an effort to reduce fire toward Israel.

Meanwhile, the leader of Yemen’s Houthi rebels, Abdul-Malik al-Houthi, said in an evening speech that his group could join the fighting. “Regarding escalation and military action, our hands are on the trigger at any moment that developments justify it,” he said. He urged supporters to join the Houthis’ weekly Friday demonstrations in Sanaa and other provinces to back Iran, and warned that, in his view, Israel could launch attacks in other countries.

**Abdul-Malik al-Houthi**

Israeli military analyst Ron Ben-Yishai said assessments indicate the Houthis are coordinating with Iran and may be being held in reserve as a future option. He said Israel's intelligence community is concerned the Houthis may be planning some kind of ground move, possibly alongside Shiite militias in Iraq, and may be trying to lull Israel by refraining from attacks for now. He said the concern has contributed to a significant mobilization of combat divisions to Israel's borders, mainly in the north, and that Military Intelligence views warning of such developments as a central mission.

## **IDF assesses Hezbollah attacks may ramp up, urges evacuation of terror group's Beirut stronghold**

***Hezbollah rockets continue to be fired on Thursday; Air Force striking terror group's targets in Lebanon and IDF expands its presence there, repeating warning for all residents south of Litani leave***

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)  
[Agencies](#) Today, 4:28 pm Updated at 8:01 pm

*An Israeli APC maneuvers in southern Lebanon, as seen from northern Israel, Thursday, March 5, 2026. (AP/Ariel Schalit)*

**As the rate of Iran's ballistic missile fire has decreased, the Israeli military assessed Thursday that Hezbollah's attacks on Israel from Lebanon may increase and called for the evacuation of one of the terror group's**



**strongholds near Beirut.**

**So far, the Iran-backed Lebanese terror group has launched dozens of rockets and drones at Israel, mainly at the north of the country, but also a handful of projectiles at the center.**

**After attacks by the US and Israel on Iran, Hezbollah launched missiles and drones into Israel Monday for the first time in over a year, and Israel retaliated with strikes on Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon and Beirut's southern suburbs, leading to further Hezbollah attacks.**

Two Hezbollah rockets have hit northern Israeli towns so far this week, injuring one person. Israel has vowed to exact heavy consequences from the terror group in response to the attacks and is expanding its presence in southern Lebanon.

Thursday saw dozens of rockets launched from Lebanon at northern Israel by the evening, causing sirens to sound in the Acre area, Galilee, and the Golan Heights.

A US general [said](#) on Wednesday, meanwhile, that Iran's rate of missile fire against Israel and other countries had dropped 86% since the start of the conflict.

The IDF on Thursday issued an "urgent warning" to residents of Beirut's southern suburbs, a Hezbollah stronghold known as the Dahiyeh, ahead of planned strikes against the terror group.

The unprecedented evacuation order marked the first time that the Israeli military has called on wide swaths of the Lebanese capital to evacuate, and came a day after the military warned all Lebanese civilians in south Lebanon to evacuate their homes amid the fighting against Hezbollah and to move north of the Litani River, roughly 30 kilometers (20 miles) north of the Israeli border.

Previous evacuation warnings in Beirut have been for specific buildings that the IDF has then struck. The latest order covers four major neighborhoods in the southern suburbs of the city.

"Residents of the neighborhoods of Bourj el-Barajneh and Hadath move east toward Mount Lebanon on the Beirut-Damascus road. Residents of the neighborhoods of Haret Hreik and Shiyyah move north toward Tripoli on the Beirut-Tripoli road, and also east toward Mount Lebanon via the Metn Expressway," said army spokesman Col. Avichay Adraee.

"Save your lives and evacuate your homes immediately," he said.

"It is forbidden to move south. Any movement southward may endanger your lives. We will notify you when it is safe to return to your homes," Adraee added.



**Rescue workers check a destroyed building that was hit by an Israeli airstrike in Nabatiyeh town, south Lebanon, Thursday, March 5, 2026. (AP Photo/Mohammed Zaatari)**

The IDF also issued a wide evacuation warning in Lebanon's eastern Beqaa Valley ahead of airstrikes on Hezbollah sites on Thursday evening

"Urgent warning to the residents of the Beqaa area, specifically the residents of the villages and towns: Douris, Brital, and Majdaloun. Hezbollah's activities in the area force the IDF to act against it with force in order to target its military infrastructure. The IDF does not intend to harm you," said Adraee.

"To ensure your safety, we call on you to evacuate the area immediately and head west via the Zahle-Baalbek road," he said.

Adraee warned that "Anyone who is near Hezbollah members, its facilities, or its [weapons] is putting their life and the lives of their family members at risk."

"We will inform you when it is safe to return to your homes," he added.

The IDF said it estimated that over 300,000 Lebanese civilians have so far evacuated their villages in southern Lebanon. During the fighting between Israel and Hezbollah in 2024, nearly 1.2 million Lebanese were displaced from their homes, along with some 60,000 Israelis.

The IDF continued its strikes against the terror group overnight Wednesday-Thursday, hitting command centers in Beirut, including one serving Hezbollah's aerial forces, which is responsible for drone attacks on Israel, according to the army. It also killed a cell of Hezbollah operatives in a drone strike on a command center in southern Lebanon.

Lebanon's Health Ministry said a strike on a building in the Beddawi Palestinian camp, in the coastal city of Tripoli, killed two people.

The IDF announced later on Thursday that a Hamas commander was killed in the Israeli Navy strike on Beddawi.

According to the military, the strike killed Wasim Atallah Ali, who is responsible for "training and exercises" in Hamas's military wing in Lebanon.

"The terrorist worked to advance terror attacks aimed at harming the citizens of the State of Israel and IDF troops, and his activity posed a threat to Israel and its citizens," the military said.

It published footage of the strike, as well as others carried out by the Israeli Navy against Hezbollah weapon depots in southern Lebanon.

On Thursday evening, the IDF said a Hezbollah rocket launcher had also been destroyed in an airstrike shortly after it was used in a rocket barrage on the Acre area of northern Israel.

Fewer than 20 rockets were launched from Lebanon in the barrage.

According to the IDF, some of the rockets were intercepted while the others were allowed to hit open areas "according to protocol." No injuries or damage were caused.

The military said that shortly after the attack, it struck the launcher. It published footage of the strike.

The attacks took place as troops pushed deeper into southern Lebanon in recent days, with the IDF saying it assumed "forward defensive positions to establish an additional defensive layer to remove the threats to the residents of northern Israel."

Since Hezbollah joined the conflict on Monday, the military has struck over 320 targets in Lebanon.

The number of people killed in Lebanon since the resurgence in hostilities has risen to 77, with 527 people wounded, the Lebanese health ministry said Thursday.

It is not clear how many of the casualties are civilians. The Lebanese health ministry earlier claimed that seven children were killed.

In a televised address Wednesday night, Hezbollah chief Naim Qassem said his terror group's resumption of rocket attacks on Israel this week was a response to Israel's continued presence in Lebanon and airstrikes in the country since the November 2024 Israel-Hezbollah ceasefire deal halted a year of conflict between the sides.



The speech came alongside the Lebanese government's accusation that the Iran-backed proxy was dragging Lebanon into a regional war. The Lebanese government has called on Hezbollah to lay down its weapons and has made efforts to disarm the terror group.

"By God, how strange you are," Qassem said in the speech, addressing the Lebanese government. "What is your response to the wide-scale aggression?"

The renewed fighting against Israel, he claimed, "is not linked to any other battle; what we want is to stop the aggression."



*Troops of the 810th "Mountains" Regional Brigade operate on the Lebanese side of Mount Dov in southern Lebanon, in a handout photo issued by the military on March 5, 2026. (Israel Defense Forces)*

At the same time, Qassem said that the renewed rocket attacks on Israel "are a response to 15 months of violations against us, including the targeting of the great religious authority," ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Iranian supreme leader who was killed at the start of the US-Israeli bombing campaign on Saturday.

Israel has regularly been striking Hezbollah targets in Lebanon since late 2024, citing violations of the ceasefire and attempts by Hezbollah to reestablish its threat against the Jewish state along the border. Hebrew media has widely reported that Hezbollah had been under intense Iranian pressure in recent days to strike Israel due to the Israeli-American campaign in Iran.

"To anyone asking about the timing" of Hezbollah's resumption of attacks, Qassem said: "Were we expected to remain endlessly patient?"

"What Israel did after the rocket salvo was not a response. It was an aggression that had been prepared in advance," he continued.

"Hezbollah and its Islamic resistance are responding to the Israeli-American aggression and this is a legitimate right... For us this is an existential defense."

He added that the Lebanese government's formal decision in August to bring all weapons in the country — chiefly Hezbollah's — under state control, "was a grave error that has weakened the position of the Lebanese state and legitimized Israel's freedom of aggression."

"As long as there is occupation — resistance and arms are a right," he said.

Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem delivers a speech broadcast on March 4, 2026. (Screenshot/Al Manar via X)

Qassem also criticized Beirut's announcement Monday of an "immediate ban" on Hezbollah's military activities and fresh demand that it surrender its weapons.

"Instead of the Lebanese government moving to condemn the Israeli-American aggression and look for ways to confront it, it turned against the resistance to complete its error and align itself with Israeli demands."

"The topic of the resistance and the weapons of the resistance is not a subject of dispute for anyone or with anyone. It is a legitimate right. We are fighting in Lebanon in defense of our people, the future of our children and our country," he added.

Also Wednesday, French President Emmanuel Macron spoke to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and urged him not to order a ground offensive against Hezbollah in Lebanon, according to a French readout.

The call came a day after Israel deployed troops deeper into southern Lebanon, beyond the five posts it had been holding.

Macron also called Lebanon's President Joseph Aoun and Prime Minister Nawaf Salam, stressing "the need for Hezbollah to immediately cease its attacks against Israel and beyond. This strategy of escalation constitutes a major error that endangers the entire region." <https://www.timesofisrael.com/as-iranian-missile-fire-expected-to-slow-idf-assesses-hezbollah-attacks-may-increase/>

## 'Spontaneous' US-Iran war protests funded by billionaire anti-Israel group backer - report

*Rapid US protests over the Iran campaign were reportedly driven by anti-Israel groups with alleged links to a Shanghai-based billionaire and a funding network under congressional scrutiny.*

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) MARCH 5, 2026 17:11



People wave Iranian flags and signs condemning the war on Iran as they march past the Eisenhower Executive Building during a protest in Washington, DC, on February 28, 2026. (photo credit: Ken Cedeno / AFP via Getty Images)

**Thousands of demonstrators rallied in Washington within hours of the start of the US-Israel military campaign against Iran, in what appears to be a combined mobilization effort linked to a China-based US billionaire, according to a new investigation published Thursday by Calcalist and the watchdog outlet Shomrim.**

**The report said the groups driving the anti-war mobilization are the same organizations that have led anti-Israel protests in recent years, and adds that those groups have also been linked to activism around Iran-related protests, even as their alleged funding ecosystem has drawn scrutiny in past reporting and on Capitol Hill.**

**In May 2024, a Network Contagion Research Institute report said three conveners of the Shut It Down For Palestine coalition, including the ANSWER Coalition and The People's Forum, were connected through a "web" of financial, personal, personnel and ideological ties to Shanghai-based US citizen Neville Roy Singham and his wife, Calcalist/Shomrim reported that three organizations, CodePink, the ANSWER Coalition (Act Now to Stop War and End Racism), and the Party for Socialism and Liberation (PSL), were among the most prominent drivers of the demonstrations opposing the [Iran war](#), Israel and US policy.**

The report framed the speed and geographic spread of the rallies as evidence of a coordinated, funded organizing infrastructure rather than a purely spontaneous grassroots response.



**Neville Roy Singham alongside his wife and CODEPINK founder Jodie Evans. (credit: Mark Sagliocco/Getty Images)**

It said it contacted CodePink and ANSWER with questions about their ties to Singham-linked entities, the scope of funding, and the absence of criticism toward Iran in their messaging, but that responses had not been received at the time of publication.

The investigation placed Singham, a US tech businessman living in Shanghai, at the center of the broader network it says has supported organizations opposing Israel and US policy. This network has been covered extensively by *The Jerusalem Post*.

In June 2024, CODEPINK activists disrupted then-Vice President Kamala Harris during a televised appearance, an incident described as part of a broader push to demand an arms embargo on Israel and an end to US aid.

### **Singham faces congressional scrutiny**

In September 2025, two US House members sent a letter urging the Treasury Department to evaluate the applicability of federal sanctions and to review and potentially freeze assets of Singham and affiliated entities, alleging he supported radical far-left, pro-CCP and anti-Israel groups through a network of organizations.

Previously, US lawmakers have held hearings and sought information about foreign-linked funding streams and tax-exempt organizations connected to the protest ecosystem, including calls to review or investigate specific groups' status and activities.

In September 2025, the US House Ways and Means Committee opened an investigation into The People's Forum, seeking documents about foreign funding and alleged ties to Singham, and citing claims that Evans served on the forum's board and that the forum acknowledged having received funding from Singham.

*Michael Starr contributed to this report.*

<https://www.jpost.com/international/article-888981>

## **Over 1,000 injured since Saturday: Health Ministry summarizes first days of Operation Roaring Lion**

As of 7 a.m. on March 5, 2026, 145 people remain hospitalized or are currently being treated in emergency departments, the ministry said.

ByMAARIVMARCH 5, 2026 12:56Updated: MARCH 5, 2026 14:49



Medical team, soldiers receive patients from Beit Shemesh attack at Shaare Zedek hospital, Jerusalem. March, 1, 2026. (photo credit: MARC ISRAEL SELLEM)

**The Health Ministry said 1,473 people have been evacuated to hospitals since the start of Operation Roaring Lion, according to an update released Thursday morning.**

**As of 7 a.m. on March 5, 2026, 145 people remain hospitalized or are currently being treated in emergency departments, the ministry said.**

**Among the injured, four people are in serious condition, although officials noted that half were**

**not directly injured by missile strikes. In addition, 28 are listed in moderate condition, 67 in light condition, and two remain under medical evaluation.**

During the past 24 hours, from 7 a.m. Wednesday to 7 a.m. Thursday, hospitals across the country treated 199 injured people. Of those, 14 were moderately injured, 170 sustained [light injuries](#), 13 were treated for anxiety, and two are still undergoing medical evaluation, according to the ministry.



Victims from Beit Shemesh attack being treated at Shaare Zedek hospital in Jerusalem. March 1, 2026. (credit: MARC ISRAEL SELLEM)

**Healthy Ministry urges caution when heading towards protected spaces**

The [Health Ministry](#) again urged elderly residents to move slowly and carefully when heading to protected spaces, noting that many people treated in hospitals were injured while making their way to shelters.

Officials stressed that many of these injuries can be prevented by heading to [shelters](#) early, moving slowly and carefully, and asking others for assistance when needed.

The ministry also called on residents living near elderly citizens to assist them whenever possible, including helping them choose the closest and safest protected space,

practicing how to reach it, and - when possible - arriving early at the shelter before the siren sounds to prevent accidents caused by falls while heading to protected areas. <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-888934>

## Jesse Jackson's Criminal Son Wants Back in Congress

Wed, 4 Mar 2026 5:06 PM PST by Daniel Greenfield



The death of Jesse Jackson, who got his start lying about holding MLK's body in his arms, shaking down companies with fake racism accusations to get franchises for his sons, and subsidize his affair and his out-of-wedlock baby, has given a boost to his criminal son.

Jesse Jackson Jr, a former Obama campaign co-chair, had been busted and sent to prison for making off with \$750,000 in campaign cash and spending over \$10,000 on Michael Jackson memorabilia, including \$8,500 on two fedoras, not to mention \$800 on a mink cashmere cape, is relaunching a campaign for his old House seat in Chicago, while exploiting his father's death.

"We've got a lot of work to do," Jesse Jackson Jr told Sharpton on MSNBC (MS NOW) and remembered how

amazing it was that “on any given Saturday, Michael Jackson might stop by.”

Jesse Jackson Jr didn't specify if it was to molest one of the kids or ask for his fedora back.

Jackson Jr. told Sharpton that if Jesse Jackson were alive today, “he would stand against any kind of conflict with the Iranian people. He would have opposed the engagement that the United States under the president's leadership had in Venezuela and the threats of big gunboat diplomacy that the president is advancing. He would have fought against ICE in our cities.”

Mostly though he would have threatened to block corporate mergers by accusing the companies of racism unless they gave franchises to his kids and funded his mistress through his ‘charity’.

“If I were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to return to Congress,” Jackson Jr. told Sharpton without mentioning what it is that caused him to depart the hallowed House halls.

Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. and his wife, Chicago Alderwoman Sandra Stevens Jackson, who served as his treasurer, campaign manager and consultant, ‘redistributed the wealth’ from the ‘Jackson for Congress’ campaign to the poor and the needy.

\$60,857 went to poor and needy nightclubs, \$17,163 went to the poor and needy tobacco stores plus a lot of Michael Jackson, Bruce Lee, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, and Jimmy Hendrix memorabilia, along with a mink cashmere cap, a cashmere cape, and a mink reversible parka.

Jesse Jackson Jr. had portrayed them as loving parents and asked the court to stagger their sentences so that one of them could always stay with the kids. Then Jackson Jr. managed to get early release after only two years in prison and then served his wife, who went to prison, with divorce papers over “irreconcilable differences”. The difference being she was in prison.

After \$1.8 million in debt, former Rep. Jackson Jr. got out of prison and despite only being [52-years-old](#) went back to living off taxpayers with [\\$138,400 in workers' comp](#) and Social Security Disability Insurance after having been diagnosed with depression. He told reporters he wasn't sure when he might get a job.

The good news is he's now looking for a job. It's in Congress.

But first the messy divorce case had to be settled. Highlights [included](#) Jesse Jr's wife demanding a list of all his “sex partners” while they were married and called a strip club owner and a bikini model who was described as a “social acquaintance” and Rev. Jesse Jackson, an expert on infidelity, as well as multiple police officers, as witnesses. Jesse Jr however claimed that he found something on her computer while she was in prison that made it “impossible for the marriage to continue.” By 2018, they finally settled the case of which “no aspects of the settlement will be public” because it would have inspired at least one BET series.

During the divorce, the former congressman explained that he couldn't be expected to get a job [because of the](#) “emotionally draining” divorce case.

“He's not a slacker,” insisted Jackson's lawyer, claiming that the politician is totally disabled.

Now, Jesse Jackson Jr. is working on his congressional comeback after having presumably been cured of his total disability. There's already one Jackson in Congress, Rep. Jonathan Congress, who claimed that [white firefighters let black homes burn](#), was caught violating stock trading disclosure laws, and who endorsed Gov. J.B. Pritzker's campaign while quietly getting a \$13,000 consulting contract from him and then his construction company got a [\\$750,000 contract](#) from a Pritzker's state program. But at least no Michael Jackson fedoras or mink capes were bought with campaign cash. That we know of.

When Joe Biden was pardoning his crooked family members, Jesse Jackson Sr. pleaded with him for a “full and absolute pardon for your son, and for mine, former Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr” who had “devoted his life to what he refers to as his ministry – to public service, and to fighting for equality and equity in civil and human rights for all Americans.”

Considering Biden and Jackson's history of philandering, it's probably best not to inquire too closely into how Jesse Jr. might be the son of both men.

“I'm asking for it, but I didn't ask just for myself,” Jesse Jackson Jr. insisted. “When I was elected in 1995 I had a big name, but I had no money. I didn't realize quite the gravity of what it meant to live in Chicago and live in Washington. So to the tune of about \$75,000 a year, I lived in my campaign. \$75,000 a year to live in two cities — Chicago and Washington, to go to work every day, to not miss a vote in nearly 17 years as a congressman. Yes, I lived in my campaign fund and I owned my behavior for that.”

It's tough when you have no money, even though your dad is a millionaire, and you're trying to live on \$75,000 a year while buying cashmere capes and mink caps (or is it cashmere caps and mink capes) not to mention Michael Jackson memorabilia and spending \$17,000 at tobacco shops while just trying to get by as an

ordinary working class congressman. Is that a crime?

(Editorial note: yes it is.)

“Lots of members of Congress find themselves in a similar situation. Some of them live in their offices. Some of them live literally in their cars,” Jesse Jackson Jr. complained. And some like Jesse Jackson Jr. owned a [1921 era D.C. townhouse](#) off Dupont Circle valued at \$2.7 million with 4 stories, 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, with a rooftop deck with a jacuzzi and a copper roof.

In 2024, Jesse Jackson Jr claimed that he has a “ministry” and that he wants to “work in broadcast journalism” and wasn’t thinking about politics. But now he wants to get back to Congress on a promise to build a third airport in Chicago. “The one thing that is missing from this congressional district is access to the global economy”. With flights to Hong Kong.

Who in Hong Kong doesn’t want to experience daily drive-by shootings in Chicago?

His crooked philandering father’s slogan was “keep hope alive”. Jesse Jr’s is a “new hope”.

“I’ve cried enough. I’m divorced now. I’ve lost my home in foreclosure,” former Rep. Jackson insisted. Now he’s ready to take another try at the brass ring or the mink cape.

Among his campaign promises, Jesse Jackson Jr wants to “advance sensible criminal justice and prison reform” and supports “legislation to remove the check box that asks if job applicants have a criminal record.” Especially when they’re applying for a job in politics.

*[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>



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](mailto: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.**

Yaffa Smolensky