

**Please note:**

**I will have minimal internet access this next week and postings will be sporadic and very abbreviated. Very Busy with family issues rdb**

## 7 Israeli soldiers killed when armored vehicle hit by explosive in southern Gaza

Initial probe finds Hamas operative planted bomb on combat engineering vehicle in Khan Younis; soldier seriously hurt in separate incident; Katz says troops fought heroically

By [Emanuel Fabian](#) Today, 9:19 am Updated at 11:41 am



*Top row, left to right: Lt. Matan Shai Yashinovski, Staff Sgt. Ronel Ben-Moshe, Sgt. Ronen Shapiro; Bottom row, left to right: Sgt. Maayan Baruch Pearlstein, Staff Sgt. Niv Radia, Sgt. Shahar Manoav, and Staff Sgt. Alon Davidov. The IDF announced that the seven soldiers were killed amid fighting in the southern Gaza Strip on June 24, 2025. (Israel Defense Forces)*

**Seven soldiers were killed during fighting in the southern Gaza Strip after an armored vehicle they were in was hit by an explosive device on Tuesday, marking one of the deadliest incidents for the Israel Defense Forces in months.**

The soldiers were named on Wednesday as Lt. Matan Shai Yashinovski, 21, from Kfar Yona; Staff Sgt. Ronel Ben-Moshe, 20, from Rehovot; Staff Sgt. Niv Radia, 20, from Elyakhin; Sgt. Ronen Shapiro, 19, from Mazkeret Batya; Sgt. Shahar Manoav, 21, from Ashkelon; Sgt. Maayan Baruch Pearlstein, 20, from Eshhar; and Staff Sgt. Alon Davidov, 21, from Kiryat Yam.

They all served with the **605th Combat Engineering Battalion**.

**The deaths raised Israel's toll in the ground offensive against Hamas in Gaza and in military operations along the border with the Strip to 440.**

**According to an initial IDF probe, a Hamas terror group operative planted a bomb on the soldiers' Puma armored combat engineering vehicle (CEV) while they were driving in Khan Younis.**

**The blast set the CEV on fire, and efforts to extinguish it were unsuccessful. All the soldiers inside perished in the blaze.** The burnt remains of the CEV were later towed out of Gaza.



*A Palestinian looks on while searching the rubble of the Abu Nadi home which was hit in an Israeli strike west of Jabalia, in the northern Gaza Strip on June 23, 2025. (Bashar TALEB / AFP)*

**Hamas took responsibility for the attack.**

**In a separate incident in the Khan Younis area, two soldiers of the 605th Battalion were wounded, one seriously and one lightly, by an RPG fired at a D9 armored bulldozer they were operating.**

**Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu offered his condolences**, דשטןמט that the “heroic soldiers fell in the battle to defeat Hamas and free our hostages in the southern Gaza Strip.”

“On my behalf and on behalf of the citizens of Israel,” Netanyahu said in a statement, “I send my deepest condolences to the families who lost their dearest loved ones, and I share with them in their unbearable grief at this difficult time.”

Defense Minister Israel Katz wrote on X that “our soldiers fought heroically and fell during their mission to defend the State of Israel and return our hostages,” and expressed condolences to their families.

In a post on X, President Isaac Herzog mourned the loss of the seven soldiers, writing, “The scene in Gaza is difficult, the battles are difficult, and the burden is unbearable.”

“We bow our heads and embrace with pain and tears the bereaved and grieving families. We are all with you, in grief, with hugs and tears. We will pray for the health of the soldiers who were injured and strengthen all IDF soldiers and their commanders who carry on their shoulders the responsibility of protecting the lives of all of us,” he wrote.

**In its statement, the Kfar Yona Municipality vowed not to forget Yashinovski’s “smile**, his values and his huge love for Israel.”



**Palestinians ride on a cart hitched to a car along the shore of Al-Zawaideh, Gaza Strip, June 24, 2025. (AP Photo/Abdel Kareem Hana)**

Israel launched its campaign in Gaza following the October 7, 2023, Hamas assault on southern Israel, in which some 1,200 people were killed 251 were taken hostage.

Terror groups in the Gaza Strip are still holding 50 hostages, including 49 of the 251 abducted by Hamas-led terrorists on October 7, 2023. They include the bodies of at least 28 confirmed dead by the IDF. Twenty are believed to be alive and

there are grave concerns for the well-being of two others, Israeli officials have said. Hamas is also holding the body of an IDF soldier killed in Gaza in 2014.

The Hamas-run Gaza health ministry says more than 56,000 people in the Strip have been killed or are presumed dead in the fighting so far, though the toll cannot be verified and does not differentiate between civilians and fighters. Israel says it has killed some 20,000 combatants in battle as of January and another 1,600 terrorists inside Israel during the October 7 onslaught.

Israel has said it seeks to minimize civilian fatalities and stresses that Hamas uses Gaza’s civilians as human shields, fighting from civilian areas including homes, hospitals, schools, and mosques.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/7-israeli-soldiers-killed-when-armored-vehicle-hit-by-explosive-in-southern-gaza/>

## **American strikes only set Iran’s nuclear program back by months — US intel report**

**Preliminary assessment says uranium stocks not destroyed, some centrifuges still intact; former UN inspector warns Tehran still has ‘ability to break out and produce weapon-grade uranium’**



By [Reuters](#), [Jacob Magid](#) and [Tol Staff](#) Today, 3:21 am



*This handout satellite picture provided by Maxar Technologies and taken on June 24, 2025, shows new airstrike craters at a perimeter installation on Iran's Fordo nuclear facility, northeast of the city of Qom. (Satellite image ©2025 Maxar Technologies/AFP)*

**A preliminary US intelligence assessment has determined that US strikes over the weekend on Iranian nuclear facilities have set back Tehran's program by only a matter of months, three sources with knowledge of the matter told Reuters.**

**The initial report was prepared by the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Pentagon's main**

**intelligence arm and one of 18 US intelligence agencies, said two of the sources, who requested anonymity to discuss classified matters.**

**The assessment found that Iran could restart its nuclear program in a matter of months, according to the three sources, one of whom said it estimated the earliest restart could be in one to two months.**

The **classified assessment is at odds with the statements of President Donald Trump** and high-ranking US officials — including Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth. They have said the weekend strikes, which used a combination of bunker-busting bombs and more conventional weapons, essentially eliminated Iran's nuclear program.

**Israel's own early assessment is also more optimistic, gauging that the twelve-day war with Iran — which seemed to conclude on Tuesday with a fragile US-brokered ceasefire agreement — set back Tehran's ability to produce a nuclear bomb by years, not months** — though Jerusalem does not believe it has wiped out the program entirely either.

**Asked for comment, the White House pointed to a statement by spokesperson Karoline Leavitt to CNN, which first reported the assessment, that the "alleged" conclusion was "flat-out wrong."**

**"Everyone knows what happens when you drop fourteen 30,000 pound bombs perfectly on their targets: total obliteration," she said.**



*A handout picture provided by the Iranian presidency shows President Masoud Pezeshkian, second left, and the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran chief Mohammad Eslami, second right, during the 'National Day of Nuclear Technology,' in Tehran, on April 9, 2025. (Iranian Presidency / AFP)*

**A US official who read the assessment noted that it contained a number of caveats and "ifs" and said a more refined report was expected in the coming days and weeks.**

Analysts said that, if the assessment was based on satellite imagery, the extent of damage to the deeply buried Fordow uranium enrichment facility would not necessarily be revealed.

Trump has said the attacks were necessary to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. Iran denies it is seeking such a weapon and says its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes.

Hegseth on Sunday said that the strikes had "obliterated" Iran's nuclear ambitions, while Trump said Iran's crucial nuclear sites had been "completely and fully obliterated."

Assessing the damage at the Fordow, Isfahan and Natanz nuclear sites is expected to be a difficult task, and the DIA is not the only agency tasked with the job. One source said the assessment was not universally accepted and had generated significant disagreement.

A US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the US did not know the extent of the damage yet. Still, the initial assessment indicated the strikes may not have been nearly as successful as the Trump

administration has claimed. The US on Tuesday told the UN Security Council that the strikes “degraded” Iran’s nuclear program, short of Trump’s earlier assertion that the facilities had been “obliterated.”

#### **Hegseth reiterates stance**

**The sources said that the report found that the US attack had caved in facility entrances and destroyed or damaged infrastructure. However, one added, the strike did not collapse underground buildings.**

**Restarting operations would basically depend on “how long it takes them to dig out and build or repair” power and water supply facilities, said** the second source.

The Washington Post, citing a person familiar the report, said some centrifuges for enriching uranium were intact.

**The Pentagon disputed the notion that the damage to Iran’s nuclear program was minor, though it did not dispute that the DIA assessment exists.**

“Based on everything we have seen — and I’ve seen it all — our bombing campaign obliterated Iran’s ability to create nuclear weapons,” Hegseth said in a statement provided to Reuters.

“Our massive bombs hit exactly the right spot at each target—and worked perfectly. The impact of those bombs is buried under a mountain of rubble in Iran; so anyone who says the bombs were not devastating is just trying to undermine the President and the successful mission.”

**One source, however, said Iran’s enriched uranium stocks had not been eliminated.**



*US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth speaks during a news conference at the Pentagon in Washington, Sunday, June 22, 2025, after the US military struck three sites in Iran, directly joining Israel’s effort to destroy the country’s nuclear program. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)*

David Albright, a former UN nuclear inspector, said that based on post-strike commercial satellite imagery, he believed the US attack effectively destroyed Iran’s uranium enrichment program for now, but failed to eliminate the longer-term threat.

**“Iran retains an ability to break out and produce weapon-grade uranium,” said Albright, the head of the**

**Institute for Science and International Security, in a post on X.**

**He noted that Iran’s stock of near-weapons grade highly enriched uranium — enough for about nine warheads — is unaccounted for as are advanced centrifuges for a new enrichment facility that Iran this month told the IAEA it was preparing.**

Initial military assessments can change as more information comes to light and it is not uncommon for opinions to vary across different US intelligence agencies.

**Democrats have previously said Trump’s claims that the weekend strikes eliminated or seriously set back Iran’s nuclear program were not yet backed by evidence.**

“There’s zero evidence that I’ve seen that the nuclear program was completely and totally obliterated as Donald Trump has claimed,” House of Representatives Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries said on Monday.

Classified briefings on the matter for members of the House of Representatives and Senate were canceled on Tuesday. Senators are now set to be briefed on Thursday, according to the New York Times. It was not immediately clear when representatives from the House will be briefed.

#### **Israel assesses Iran set back ‘several years,’ official says**

**Israeli intelligence, meanwhile, has preliminarily assessed that US and Israeli strikes set back Iran’s nuclear program by “several years,”** but did not completely destroy it, a senior Israeli official told The Times of Israel on Tuesday.

The Israeli intelligence assessment is constantly being updated and refined, and a more concrete understanding of the status of Iran’s nuclear program will be available in the coming weeks, the senior Israeli official said.

The Israeli official argued that the military strikes were still worthwhile because the negotiations that the US had previously been pursuing with Iran would not have been able to achieve such results.

Moreover, the strikes on the nuclear program along with other military targets in Iran will serve as a deterrent against the Islamic Republic again trying to enrich uranium, the official said.





**IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir also said Tuesday, “We have set Iran’s nuclear project back by years, and the same goes for its missile program.”**

*This handout satellite picture provided by Maxar Technologies and taken on June 22, 2025, shows a crater after US strikes on Iran’s Natanz nuclear enrichment facility in central Iran. (Satellite image ©2025 Maxar Technologies / AFP)*

**Israel’s UN Ambassador Danny Danon told reporters, “I think it’s still early to assess all the strikes.** We know we were able to push back the [nuclear] program. We were able to remove the imminent threat that we had.”

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/american-strikes-only-set-irans-nuclear-program-back-by-months-us-intel-report/>

## **Iran says nuclear sites ‘badly damaged’ amid conflicting reports on strikes’ success** **White House publishes Israel Atomic Energy Commission report saying Fordo is inoperable, while Israeli sources told ABC News that the success of the strikes is ‘really not good’**

By [AP](#), [Nava Freiberg](#) and [Lazar Berman](#) Today, 5:06 pm



*This handout satellite picture provided by Maxar Technologies and taken on June 22, 2025, shows a crater after US strikes on Iran’s Natanz nuclear enrichment facility in central Iran. (Satellite image ©2025 Maxar Technologies / AFP)*

**Iran’s Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei on Wednesday confirmed the country’s nuclear facilities had been “badly damaged” in American strikes over the weekend, amid clashing evaluations on the extent of the success of operations against Tehran’s nuclear program.**

**Speaking to Al Jazeera, Baghaei refused to go into detail** but conceded the Sunday strikes by American B-2 bombers using bunker-buster bombs had been significant.

**“Our nuclear installations have been badly damaged, that’s for sure,”** he said.

Iran’s **announcement came amid a wave of conflicting assessments** over the damage done by the US and Israeli strikes over the 12-day war with Iran.

**Israeli intelligence officials told CNN on Wednesday that the IDF strikes on Iran had set back Tehran’s nuclear program by two years if reconstruction of the program is not impeded.**

**Their assessment was similar to Foreign Minister Gideon Sa’ar’s before the US launched strikes on Sunday, and the IDF’s at the end of the war, which said it was still “too early” to assess the damage** but asserted that the program had been set back by years.

**The White House published on Wednesday a statement from the Israel Atomic Energy Commission that found that the underground Fordo nuclear site was “inoperable” as a result of the strikes.** The Prime Minister’s Office shared the same statement with Israeli reporters just minutes later.





*This handout satellite picture provided by Maxar Technologies and taken on June 24, 2025, shows new airstrike craters at a perimeter installation on Iran's Fordo nuclear facility, northeast of the city of Qom. (Satellite image ©2025 Maxar Technologies/AFP)*

**“The devastating US strike on Fordo destroyed the site’s critical infrastructure and rendered the enrichment facility inoperable,” the statement read.** “We assess that the American strikes on Iran’s nuclear facilities, combined with Israeli strikes on other elements of Iran’s military nuclear program, have set back Iran’s ability to

develop nuclear weapons by many years.”

**But in a more gloomy assessment, Israeli sources told ABC News that the results of the damage done to Iran’s uranium enrichment facility in Fordo by US strikes, though still being assessed, was not satisfactory.**

**While it’s too early to determine operational success, two Israeli sources told the network, one source downplayed the damage at Fordo and called the outcome there “really not good.”**

Both sources said they are unaware of how much enriched uranium Iran may have relocated ahead of the strikes, or how many centrifuges remain and are usable to enrich uranium in the future.

UN nuclear watchdog chief Rafael Grossi said Wednesday that there is a chance much of Iran’s highly enriched uranium was moved by Tehran soon after the first strikes, and thus survived the attacks.



*Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Grossi at an extraordinary IAEA Board of Governors meeting at the agency’s headquarters in Vienna, Austria on June 23, 2025. (Joe Klamar/AFP)*

**Iran reportedly informed the International Atomic Energy Agency on June 13, the first day of Israeli strikes, that it would take “special measures” to protect its nuclear materials and equipment.**

**“They did not get into details** as to what that meant but clearly that was the implicit meaning of that, so we can imagine that this material is there,” Grossi told a press conference with members of

the Austrian government.

**Conclusive findings may take months**, if they are obtained at all, a source told the US network.

**Another pessimistic report on Tuesday said that a preliminary US intelligence assessment** has determined that US strikes have set back Tehran’s program by only a matter of months.

**Additionally, a leaked US intelligence report suggested this week that the strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities did not destroy their underground components**, and that much of Iran’s stockpile of



enriched uranium may already have been spirited out of the sites before they were bombed. The White House has rejected the report’s findings, while condemning the leak. However, US President Donald Trump on Wednesday claimed that Israeli agents sent into Fordo after the US strikes said that the key nuclear site had been “obliterated.” Israeli officials told the Kan public broadcaster that they were unaware of any Israeli operation at the site.

*US President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting with NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte at the NATO summit in The Hague, Netherlands, Wednesday, June 25, 2025. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)*

Also sounding upbeat, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio told Politico on Wednesday that Iran is “much further away from a nuclear weapon” after the US strikes.

Israel and Iran entered open conflict on June 13 when Israel launched a wave of airstrikes targeting Iran’s top military leaders, nuclear scientists, uranium enrichment sites and ballistic missile program. Israel said the campaign was necessary to prevent the Islamic Republic from realizing its declared plan to destroy the Jewish state. On June 22, the US struck key Iranian nuclear facilities at Natanz, Fordo and Isfahan.

Iranian officials say more than 600 people were killed in the strikes, a figure that does not differentiate between civilians and members of Iran’s armed forces.

Iran retaliated for Israel’s attacks by launching over 550 ballistic missiles and around 1,000 drones at Israel. Iran’s missile attacks killed 28 people and wounded thousands in Israel, according to health officials. Missiles hit apartment buildings, two universities and a hospital, causing heavy damage. Iran also fired at a US base in Qatar after the American strikes, with no injuries reported. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-says-nuclear-sites-badly-damaged-amid-conflicting-reports-on-strikes-success/>

## Netanyahu claims ‘historic victory,’ says ‘we sent Iran’s nuclear program down the drain’

**After US rebuke over strikes, PM says ‘Israel has never had a friend like President Trump,’ vows to ‘act with same determination’ if Tehran attempts to restore its atomic program**

By [Lazar Berman](#) Today, 12:48 am



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks in a video address on June 24, 2025. (Screen capture/GPO)

**In a video statement on Tuesday summing up the war against Iran, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared that Israel “achieved a historic victory” that would “abide for generations” following the US-brokered ceasefire to end the 12-day conflict.**

**He said Israel removed “two existential threats — the threat of destruction via nuclear weapons and the threat of destruction via 20,000 ballistic missiles” that Iran was moving to build. Israel would have faced destruction in the**

**near future** “if we hadn’t acted now.”

**US President Donald Trump acted “in an unprecedented fashion,” the prime minister said, thanking him for “his part in defending Israel, and removing the Iranian nuclear threat.”**

**Netanyahu said the historic development — a US strike on Iran in support of Israel — was “the fruit of a diplomatic campaign** I led with [Strategic Affairs] Minister Ron Dermer,” and praised the American forces who “destroyed” the underground Fordo enrichment site.

**“Israel has never had a friend like President Trump in the White House,** and I thank him greatly for our joint work,” said Netanyahu, hours after a livid Trump blasted Israel for striking Iran both after the impending ceasefire was announced and for responding to Iranian missile attacks after the truce took effect.

**Yet, in his video statement, Netanyahu lauded Israel’s attack on Iran early Tuesday morning before the ceasefire took force —** the same massive strike Trump raged about in front of the cameras.

The prime minister also said Israel destroyed Iran’s ballistic missile production program and landed “the most severe blow in [the regime’s] history.”

**“We sent Iran’s nuclear program down the drain,” Netanyahu stated. “If someone in Iran tries to restore that program, we will act with the same determination, the same power, to cut off any such attempt.”**

**“I repeat: Iran will not have a nuclear weapon,” he vowed, adding that — with Iran’s axis in tatters — Israel will open an “axis of prosperity and peace of the nations of the region” and beyond.**

**He briefly mentioned Israel’s ongoing war in Gaza, and said: “We must defeat Hamas and bring back the hostages.”**

**Trump slams Israeli strikes, warns Netanyahu**

**Only hours before the prime minister publicly praised Trump for his support, the president expressed in no uncertain terms on Tuesday that he was furious, in a rare if not unprecedented public display of frustration with Israel by an American leader.**





*This handout satellite picture provided by Maxar Technologies and taken on June 22, 2025, shows a crater after US strikes on Iran's Natanz nuclear enrichment facility in central Iran. (Satellite image ©2025 Maxar Technologies / AFP)*

**“I’m not happy that Israel’s going out now,” the president told reporters Tuesday, as Israeli jets were responding to Iranian missile strikes earlier in the day.**

“There was one rocket that I guess was fired overboard [by Iran]. It was after the time limit, and it missed its target. And now Israel’s going out. These guys gotta calm down. Ridiculous...”

During a phone call following his public tirade, Trump warned Netanyahu

in “exceptionally firm” terms not to retaliate against Iran’s violation of the US-brokered ceasefire, a White House source told Axios.



*US President Donald Trump speaks to the press before boarding Marine One from the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, DC on June 24, 2025, to attend the NATO’s Heads of State and Government summit in The Hague. (Mandel NGAN / AFP)*

**The Prime Minister’s Office subsequently laid out the timeline of Iranian missile attacks and its own response earlier Tuesday, stressing that the ceasefire was set for 7 a.m., and four hours earlier, “Israel attacked forcefully in the heart of Tehran, hitting regime targets and killing hundreds of Basij and Iranian security forces.”**

**“Shortly before the ceasefire went into effect, Iran launched a barrage of missiles, one of which claimed the lives of four of our citizens in Beersheba,”** continued the statement.

“At 7:06 a.m., Iran launched one missile into Israeli territory and at 10:25 a.m., two more missiles. The missiles were intercepted or fell in open areas without casualties or damage. In response to Iran’s violations, the Air Force destroyed a radar array near Tehran.”

**Trump did not mention the slain Israeli civilians in his tirade,** which came before he left the White House for a NATO summit in The Netherlands.

#### **IDF chief: Challenges ahead**

**Also Tuesday, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir said that “despite the phenomenal achievement, we must keep our feet on the ground. Many challenges lie ahead. We must remain focused; there is no time to rest on our laurels.”**

“We have concluded a significant chapter, but the campaign against Iran is not over. We are entering a new



*2025. (Israel Defense Forces)*

phase, one that builds upon the achievements of the current operation. We have set Iran’s nuclear project back by years, and the same goes for its missile program,” Zamir said during an assessment, according to remarks provided by the IDF.

“Now, the focus returns to Gaza, to bringing the hostages home and toppling Hamas rule,” he added.

*L-R: Intelligence Directorate chief Maj. Gen. Shlomi Binder, Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Tamir Yadai, Assistant to the Chief of Staff Col. Alon Laniado, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir, and Operations Directorate chief Maj. Gen. Oded Basiuk, during an assessment at the IDF’s underground command center, June 24,*



**Israel and Iran entered into open conflict on June 13 when Israel launched airstrikes targeting Iran's top military leaders, nuclear scientists, uranium enrichment sites and ballistic missile program. Israel said the campaign was necessary to prevent the Islamic Republic from realizing its declared plan to destroy the Jewish state.**

Iran retaliated to Israel's attacks by launching over 550 ballistic missiles and around 1,000 drones at Israel. Iran's missile attacks killed 28 people and wounded thousands in Israel, according to health officials and hospitals. Missiles hit apartment buildings, a university, and a hospital, causing heavy damage.

US forces bombed three crucial nuclear sites in Iran on Sunday, ending more than a week of speculation over whether it would join the campaign. Iran retaliated Monday evening with a missile attack on a major US airbase in Qatar that did not cause any casualties, and hours later Trump announced the ceasefire, which was implemented Tuesday. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-claims-historic-victory-says-we-sent-irans-nuclear-program-down-the-drain/>

## **Israel reportedly knows location of Iran's enriched uranium stockpiles, Saudi outlet claims**

*The status of Iran's stockpile of enriched uranium is currently unclear following Israel's 12-day campaign and US strikes.*

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) JUNE 24, 2025 23:25 Updated: JUNE 25, 2025 00:35



*Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei visits the Iranian centrifuges in Tehran. (photo credit: Office of the Iranian Supreme Leader/WANA via REUTERS)*

**Saudi news outlet Al Hadath reported on Tuesday, citing an anonymous Israeli security source, that Israel "knows exactly" where Iran is keeping its stockpiles of enriched uranium.**

**The official who spoke to Al Hadath further claimed that "most of the enriched uranium is buried under the rubble in Iran."**

**The status of Iran's stockpile of enriched uranium remained a matter of speculation among officials since Israel** launched preemptive strikes, including on various Iranian nuclear facilities, in the 12-day war that began June 13. Such speculation continued following American strikes on Iran's three main nuclear facilities: Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan.

**IDF monitoring, but status of Iran's enriched uranium remains unclear**

**Earlier this week, IDF Spokesperson Effie Defrin said the Israeli military is closely monitoring the possibility of Iran moving its enriched uranium from sites that are damaged or destroyed to other sites, in a response to a question asked during a press conference on Sunday.**

*A general view shows the Natanz uranium enrichment facility in Natanz, about 322km (200 miles) south of Tehran March 9, 2006.*



*(credit: REUTERS/Raheb Homavandi/File Photo)*

**Iran had claimed in the past it moved enriched uranium from Fordow to other sites, as reported by the New York Times.** The NYT report added that 880 pounds of enriched uranium had been removed to 60% purity, below the 90% needed for nuclear weapons. Some 60% enriched fuel was stored at the nuclear facility in Isfahan.

**Satellite imagery taken days before US strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities showed trucks line up on the road adjacent to the facility, nestled in Iran's mountains.**

**Vance gave no update on the status of Iran's stockpile post US strikes**

**US Vice President JD Vance was unable to confirm the status of Iran's stockpile in an ABC News interview after US President Donald Trump ordered airstrikes early on Sunday morning.**

When asked about the status of Iran's 900 pounds of highly enriched uranium, Vance said that the Trump

administration is "going to work in the coming weeks to ensure that we do something with that fuel, and that's one of the things that we're going to have conversations with the Iranians about."

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director-General [Rafael Grossi](#) previously noted that "Iran has made no secret that they have protected this material," and that the fuel was last seen by his inspectors just before Israeli attacks on Iran.

After claiming Israel knows where the stockpiles are, the Saudi report quoted the official as saying that Israel will not target the stockpiles as to "avoid a nuclear catastrophe."

To date, none of the Israeli attacks on nuclear facilities have been said to have caused a major, dangerous nuclear materials contamination event to Iranian civilians. <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-858895>

## Months are needed to assess damage, but Israel must prepare for another round with Iran

*Analysis: What damage did we really inflict on Iran's nuclear and missile programs? Is there a real possibility of a quick breakout to a 'simple' nuclear bomb? And how willing are the Iranians to enter serious negotiations and make real concessions to the US? These are the questions that must now be examined—alongside closing gaps in Israel's civil defense*

[Ron Ben-Yishai](#) | 14:30

**Israel must ensure that Iran is not attempting a rapid breakout toward a basic nuclear weapon, such as a crude "dirty bomb"—using its remaining stockpile of 60% enriched uranium and several hundred advanced centrifuges reportedly hidden away.**

Iran may try to buy time for its scientists to assemble a rudimentary nuclear device that could be mounted on a missile. If successful, this could grant the Islamic Republic de facto status as a nuclear power—not a first-tier one, but one powerful enough to deter both Israel and the United States.

Donald Trump responds to the ceasefire violation

As a result, **Israel must now ramp up intelligence-gathering efforts in close coordination with the U.S. to determine whether the war's stated goals were achieved. That includes assessing the damage to Iran's nuclear weapons** project—especially its enrichment facilities—and verifying how much high-level enriched uranium Iran still has and whether any of it remains hidden, potentially enabling a swift nuclear breakout.



**Another key focus is Iran's remaining missile capabilities. While Tehran launched ballistic missiles during the war, its cruise missile and drone arsenals were barely used.** It's possible Iran still retains significant offensive capacity in these areas, posing a continuing threat to Israel.

*Ali Khamenei, Benjamin Netanyahu, Donald Trump (Photo: Reuters/GPO/ Evelyn Hockstein, Iranian Leader's Press Office, Getty Images, IDF)*

**A third major task will be tracking whether Iran is willing to reengage quickly in nuclear negotiations with the U.S., and how flexible it is regarding American demands. The issue is not only whether Tehran will agree to halt uranium enrichment on its own soil, but also whether it's willing to limit its missile program.** The pace and nature of those negotiations—and particularly whether Iran allows strict, intrusive inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency—will help determine whether the war met its strategic objectives. If Iran refuses to compromise on both nuclear and missile issues and blocks effective oversight, Israel may have to reconsider its course of action.

**Both damage assessments and negotiations over a new nuclear deal could take several months,** possibly up to half a year. If, by then, results are unsatisfactory from Israel's perspective, or if Iran drags its feet, another military confrontation may be necessary—ideally coordinated with Washington. Either way, Israel must already begin preparing for that possibility. That includes closing the significant gaps in the country's civil defense infrastructure, particularly in fortified shelters and safe rooms. Without such protection, no government could ethically justify entering another conflict from a position of strength.



**Another urgent priority is ending the war in Gaza and securing the return of the hostages.**

Failing to bring them home would severely damage Israel's national resilience.

**'Prefer surrendering to the great Satan'**

**Earlier today, we wrote that Iran's leadership appeared to have chosen de-escalation, effectively bringing about the cease-fire. While not all details of the behind-the-scenes talks or the exact timeline are yet known,** it seems Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and other senior officials signaled their desire—or even request—for a "dignified" cease-fire once they opted for a weak, [pre-coordinated response to the U.S. strike](#).

**This may not have been a traditional white-flag surrender, but Iran's move to let Washington and its Gulf neighbors know it sought to avoid escalation was a capitulation in all but name.**

It's likely that the American strike accelerated the end of the war, not only because Iran feared more powerful attacks, but because surrendering to U.S. military pressure is considered more "honorable" than backing down in the face of Israeli strikes. In the eyes of the Iranian regime, conceding to the "Great Satan"—the world's most powerful superpower—does less damage to its image and internal stability than appearing to fold before the "Little Satan," Israel. <https://www.ynetnews.com/opinions-analysis/article/s1vjhu00nxg#autoplay>

## **'Death to Israel': Iranian lawmakers vote to halt IAEA nuclear inspections**

*In response to Israeli and US strikes on its nuclear facilities, Iran's parliament voted to suspend cooperation with the IAEA, subsequently shouting death chants toward the two countries; Lawmakers accused the agency of aiding the attack and demanded restrictions on inspections until national security is guaranteed.*

[Lior Ben Ari, News Agencies](#)|07:46

**On Wednesday morning, the Iranian parliament approved a law suspending cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), following the war with Israel and recent U.S. strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities. After the vote, members of parliament chanted, "Death to America! Death to Israel!"**

**Death chants to the US and Israel in Iranian Parliament**

The law must still receive final approval from Iran's Supreme National Security Council to take effect. It stipulates that any future IAEA oversight of Iran's nuclear facilities will require the council's authorization.

Earlier this week, the Iranian parliament's National Security Committee approved the framework of the bill. The committee's spokesperson stated the law would suspend camera installations at nuclear sites, inspections, and the submission of reports to the IAEA. Tehran believes the IAEA's recent declaration—that Iran is not meeting its nuclear obligations—paved the way for Israeli strikes. It was the agency's first such statement in two decades.

**Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, the speaker of the Iranian Parliament, claimed the IAEA "sold its international credibility" by refusing to condemn the attacks on Iran's nuclear sites.** "For this reason," he said, "Iran's Atomic Energy Organization will suspend its cooperation with the agency until the security of our nuclear facilities is guaranteed and Iran's peaceful nuclear program can advance more quickly."



**IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi responded Wednesday, saying his top priority is to return inspectors to Iran's nuclear facilities in order to assess the extent of damage** caused by the attacks and review the [enriched uranium stockpile](#). "That's at the top of our agenda," Grossi said.

. However, the letter did not specify what those measures would be. Grossi added that he believes a significant portion of Iran's enriched uranium

stockpile survived the Israeli and U.S. strikes. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/b1wukdtexg#autoplay>

**Israel will be in Iran for years to come, Mossad head David Barnea says**

**In a talk to agents, he said they have achieved 'unimaginable' heights in Iran ops.**

By [YONAH JEREMY BOB](#) JUNE 25, 2025 18:39 Updated: JUNE 25, 2025 18:51



Head of Mossad David Barnea attends a ceremony held at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Museum in Jerusalem, as Israel marks the annual Holocaust Remembrance Day. April 23, 2025. (photo credit: Chaim Goldberg FLASH90)

**Mossad Chief David Barnea on Wednesday issued a rare video excerpt to the public of an address to his Mossad agents involved in the sensational operations against Iran on June 13 and afterward, which brought the Islamic Republic to its knees.**

**Almost tauntingly to [Tehran](#), he told his Mossad agents, "we will [continue to] be there, like we have been there."**

**Barnea said that the spy agencies' achievements against Iran were "unimaginable," with public details indicating they were involved in assassinating top Iranian military chiefs, nuclear scientists, blowing up nuclear facilities, drone facilities, and ballistic missiles facilities.**

**In a stunning disclosure, the Mossad has acknowledged that it had hundreds of agents inside Iran at the height of its operations, which threw the regime on its back heels from the start of the war.**

**He said that the Mossad had worked for months and years "to do all of the right actions to get to the right moment...We understood the fatefulness of the hour."**



Israel strikes in Tehran, Monday June 23, 2025. (credit: SCREENSHOT/VIA SECTION 24A OF THE COPYRIGHT ACT)

**Barnea also thanked IDF intelligence, the IDF Chief Lt.-Gen. Eyal Zamir and the CIA for their invaluable cooperation during the operation.**

**He then turned to discuss the Gaza front, stressing that the Mossad is committed to returning all 50 of the hostages, 20 of whom remain alive.** Previously, there were two hostages whose statuses were unknown.

**Mossad collaboration with Israel's air force in Iran strikes**

**The Mossad on Friday released stunning and rare video footage of its co-lead role with the air force in Israel's preemptive strike on Iran's ballistic**

**missiles and air defenses.**

*Footage of Mossad agents operating on Iranian soil, June 2025. (credit: MOSSAD VIA TELEGRAM)*

Three videos show the Mossad targeting ballistic missile targets, air defense targets, and general preparations for the attacks (with the agents' faces covered up.)

*Footage of Mossad agents striking Iranian targets, June 2025. (credit: MOSSAD VIA TELEGRAM)*

From the perspective of the videos, it appears the Mossad used drones from inside Iran to attack various targets.

*Footage of Mossad agents striking Iranian targets, June 2025. (credit: MOSSAD VIA TELEGRAM)*



Iran has previously accused the Mossad of using drones to attack the Karaj facility in June 2021 as well as other operations.

**Footage of Mossad agents striking Iranian targets, June 2025. (credit: MOSSAD VIA TELEGRAM)**

Although far more information has been publicized about the IDF's actions, these videos give readers a rare front seat into what normally are entirely clandestine operations, which the Mossad does not even admit to.

*This is a developing story.*

<https://www.jpost.com/israel->

[news/defense-news/article-859010](https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/defense-news/article-859010)



## Authorities identify the four Israelis killed in Iranian missile attack on Beersheba

**Eitan Zacks, 18, an off-duty soldier, died alongside his mother Michal, 50, and girlfriend Noa Boguslavsky, 18; Naomi Shaanan was killed in an adjacent apartment**

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)

24 June 2025, 9:04 pm Updated at 11:33 pm



*A composite image shows (from left to right) Michal Zacks, Noa Boguslavsky, Cpl. Eitan Zacks, and Naomi Shaanan, who were killed by an Iranian missile attack on Beersheba on June 24, 2025. (Courtesy, IDF)*

**An off-duty Israeli soldier was killed alongside his mother and young girlfriend early Tuesday in an Iranian ballistic missile attack on Beersheba, along with another woman in an adjacent apartment, authorities announced.**

**The soldier was named by the Israel Defense Forces as Cpl. Eitan Zacks, 18, a trainee in the elite Multidomain unit, from Beersheba.**

**He was at home for a paramedics**

**course that had been held remotely due to the security situation.**

**He was killed alongside his mother, Michal Zacks, 50, in their family apartment, which was directly impacted by the missile.**

**Noa Boguslavsky, 18 years old and a 12th-grade student from nearby Arad, was killed alongside them. She was identified by Hebrew media as Eitan Zacks's girlfriend.**

**The fourth victim was identified as Naomi Shaanan, a Beersheba resident, who was well known in the city for taking part in daily protests calling for the release of the hostages held in Gaza.**

Boguslavsky and Michal and Eitan Zacks had entered their reinforced safe room upon hearing an initial siren, but left after they received an all-clear. They did not have time to return to the safe room following a second siren that came immediately preceding the impact, according to Eliana Zacks, Michal's daughter and Eitan's sister.

The father of the family was also home during the impact and was, for a time, trapped in rubble, but managed to extricate himself and survive, she told Ynet.



*Israeli soldiers and rescue team work amid the rubble of residential buildings destroyed by an Iranian missile strike that killed several people, in Beersheba, Israel, June 24, 2025. (AP Photo/Leo Correa)*

**Two missiles were fired at Beersheba in a salvo at 5:40 a.m. One was intercepted, and the second struck the sixth floor of an apartment complex in the southern city, causing extensive destruction, including the collapse of part of the building.**

The building was relatively new, and homes had their own reinforced rooms. However, the missile directly hit two safe rooms, according to a preliminary probe by the military's Home Front

Command. One of the bomb-safe rooms was destroyed by the impact, the probe found.

A total of 28 people were killed in Iran's ballistic missile attacks since June 13. Apart from Cpl. Zacks, all were civilians.

The barrages came amid a war that opened when Israel attacked Iran earlier this month, characterizing its nuclear and ballistic missile programs as an existential threat that Jerusalem had to preempt.

On Tuesday, a US-brokered ceasefire between Israel and Iran took effect, though the two sides exchanged fire in the hours after it began. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/authorities-identify-three-of-four-killed-in-iranian-missile-attack-on-beersheba/>

## WZO launches next phase of housing initiative for families impacted by Iranian missile strikes

***“Hundreds of families lost their homes in the Iranian attack, and our response is rooted in responsibility, mutual guarantee, sensitivity, and unity,” said Yaakov Hagoel, chairman of the WZO.***

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) JUNE 25, 2025 02:08 Updated: JUNE 25, 2025 04:43



*Israeli security and rescue forces at the scene where a ballistic missile fired from Iran hit and caused damage in Ramat Gan, June 19, 2025. (photo credit: Chaim Goldberg/Flash90)*

**The World Zionist Organization (WZO) has launched the next phase of its "My Home is Your Home" initiative, offering free emergency housing for families whose homes were destroyed by Iranian missile strikes in several regions of Israel.**

**In this latest phase, apartments will be offered to families whose homes were destroyed in the missile attacks, with coordination from local authorities.**

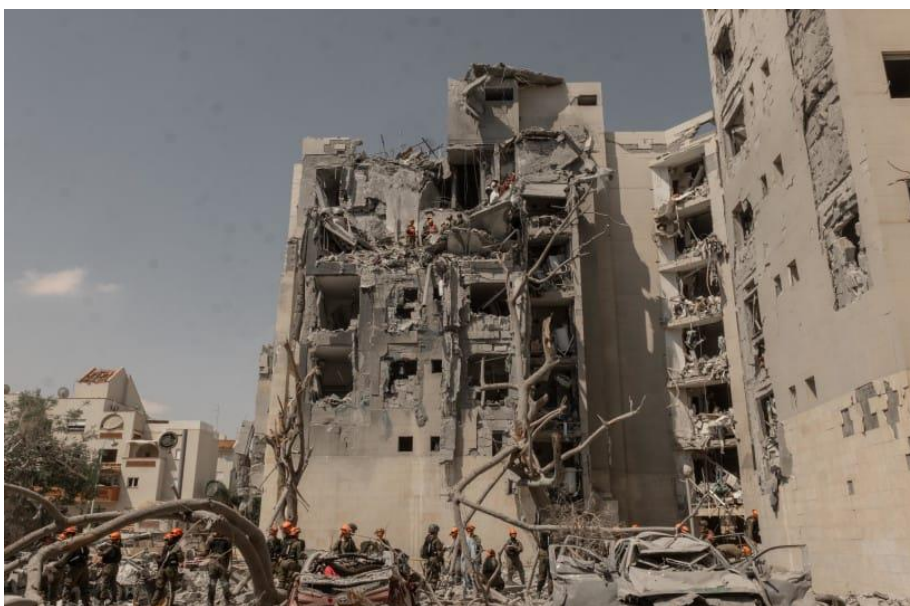
**The success of the initiative is primarily attributed to the chairman of the WZO, Yaakov Hagoel, who appealed to Jewish apartment owners both in Israel and abroad, urging them to offer their apartments to families displaced by the attack.**

**According to the WZO, the response to the call was extraordinary, allowing for the mobilization of apartments across the country. All the apartments are now ready for immediate occupancy.**

**The WZO said it is working closely with local authorities, social welfare departments, and other aid agencies to assess the needs of the affected families and ensure a swift and efficient allocation of housing.**

**The commitment of our brothers and sisters in the Diaspora is tangible proof that we are one people, whether in Israel or abroad,”** Hagoel said. **“Hundreds of families lost their homes in the Iranian attack, and our response is rooted in responsibility, mutual guarantee, sensitivity, and unity. The World Zionist Organization will continue to work tirelessly to ensure every family has a home.”**

***Apartments offered to those who lost homes on Oct 7***



*Iranian missile strikes a shelter in Beersheba, killing five, June 24, 2025. (credit: Chen G. Schimmel)“*

**The initiative was initially established following the Hamas terrorist attacks on Israel on October 7, 2023. Its goal was to provide temporary housing to families who lost their homes.**

**After the massacre, Hagoel made an appeal to diaspora Jews for assistance in securing housing for displaced families.**

**“I reached out to Jews in the Diaspora and requested their support in our efforts to offer temporary housing for displaced Israelis until this war concludes,”** Hagoel told The Jerusalem Post in



October 2023.

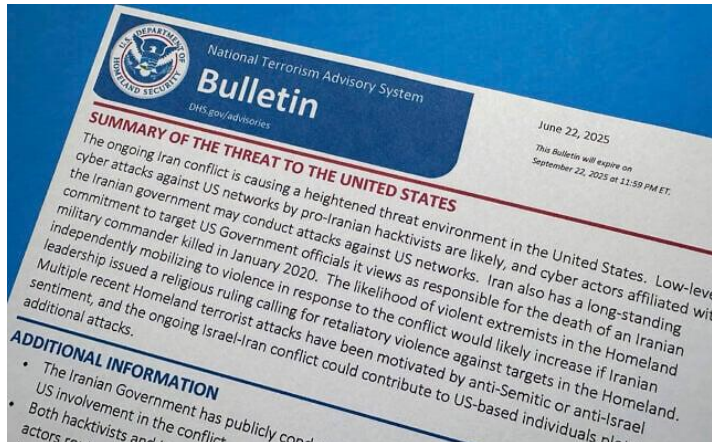
In response, over 600 apartments and homes were donated to the organization, mainly in central Israel and Jerusalem. The WZO entered into contracts with apartment owners and took responsibility for the properties.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-858901>

## US cities up security in light of Iran's history of murder-for-hire reprisals

**FBI said to reassign agents to monitor for threats from Islamic Republic, which has previously targeted senior American politicians and a prominent dissident**

By [AP](#) and [Tol Staff](#) Today, 1:16 am



**A National Terrorism Advisory System bulletin issued by the US Department of Homeland Security warning of a "heightened threat environment" following US strikes on Iranian nuclear sites, is photographed June 23, 2025. (AP Photo/Jon Elswick)**

**The US Department of Homeland Security has warned of a "heightened threat environment" following American strikes on Iranian nuclear sites and the deputy FBI director said the bureau's "assets are fully engaged" to prevent retaliatory violence, while local law enforcement agencies in major US cities like New York said they were on high alert.**

**No credible threats to the domestic US have surfaced publicly in the days since the stealth American attack.** It's also unclear what bearing a ceasefire announced Monday by the US between Israel and Iran might have on potential threats. The ceasefire appeared to hold late into Tuesday.

But the **potential for reprisal is no idle concern given the steps Iran is accused of having taken in recent years to target political figures** on US soil. Iranian-backed hackers have also launched cyberattacks against US targets in recent years.

**On Tuesday, NBC News reported that over the weekend, the FBI had reassigned a number of agents who were working on immigration cases to instead focus on national security due to potential threats from Iran.**

**The US has alleged that Iran's most common tactic over the past decade, rather than planning mass violence, has been murder-for-hire plots** in which government officials recruit operatives — including reputed Russian mobsters and other non-Iranians — to kill public officials and dissidents. The plots, which Tehran has repeatedly denied engineering, have been consistently stymied and exposed by the FBI and the US Justice Department.

**"You run into this problem that it's not like there's this one sleeper cell that's connected directly to command central in Iran. There's a lot of cut-outs and middlemen,"** said Ilan Berman, a senior vice president of the Washington-based American Foreign Policy Council. "The competence erodes three layers down."

**Whether Iran intends to resort to that familiar method or has the capacity or ambition to successfully carry off a large-scale attack is unclear,** but the government may feel a need to demonstrate to its people that it has not surrendered, said Jon Alterman, a Middle East expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

**"The capability to execute successfully is different from the capability to try," he said. "Showing you're not afraid to do this may be 90% part of the goal."**

**Hours after the US attack on Iran Sunday morning, FBI and DHS officials convened a call with local law enforcement to update them on the threat landscape, said Michael Masters,** who participated in it as director of the Secure Community Network, which coordinates security for US Jewish institutions and tracks Iranian threats.

**The DHS bulletin released over the weekend warned that several foreign terror organizations have called for violence against US assets and personnel in the Middle East. It also warned of an increased**

likelihood that a “supporter of the Iranian regime is inspired to commit an act of violence in the Homeland.”

“The amount of material that we’re tracking online is at such a fever pitch at the moment,” Masters said.



*Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump arrives at a campaign rally at Santander Arena, November 4, 2024, in Reading, Pennsylvania. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)*

#### **A plot against US President Donald Trump**

**The Justice Department in November disclosed that it had disrupted a plot to kill Donald Trump before the 2024 election, a reflection of the regime’s long-running outrage over a 2020 strike that killed Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani.**

The scheme was revealed to law enforcement by an accused Iranian government asset who spent time in American prisons for robbery and who is alleged to maintain a network of criminal associates enlisted by Tehran for surveillance and murder-for-hire plots.

**The man, Farhad Shakeri, told the FBI that a contact in Iran’s paramilitary Revolutionary Guard instructed him last September to set aside other work he was doing and assemble a plan** within seven days to surveil and ultimately kill Trump, authorities have said.

He said the official told him if he could not put together a plan within that timeframe, then the plot would be paused until after the election because the official assumed Trump would lose and that it would be easier to kill him then, according to a criminal complaint.



Shakeri disclosed some of the details of the alleged plots in a series of recorded telephone interviews with FBI agents while in Iran, the complaint said. The stated reason for his cooperation, he told investigators, was to try to get a reduced prison sentence for an associate behind bars in the US. Shakeri is at large and has not been apprehended.

*Former national security adviser John Bolton gestures while speaking at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, September 30, 2019. (AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)*

#### **A plot against John Bolton**

**John Bolton was ousted from his position as Trump’s national security adviser months before the Soleimani strike, but he nonetheless found himself targeted in a plot that US officials say was orchestrated by a member of the Revolutionary Guard and involved a \$300,000 offer for an assassination.**

**Unbeknownst to the operative behind the plot, the man he thought he was hiring to carry out the killing was actually a confidential informant who was secretly working with the FBI.**

The US Justice Department filed criminal charges in August 2022 even as the operative, Shahram Poursafi, remained at large.



*Masih Alinejad blows a kiss to supporters outside the federal courthouse after testifying at the trial of her would-be assassins in New York, Tuesday, March 18, 2025. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)*

#### **A plot against Masih Alinejad**

**Sometimes the intended target is not a US government official but rather a dissident or critic of the Iranian government.**

**That was the case with Masih Alinejad, a prominent Iranian American journalist and activist in New York who was targeted by Iran for her online campaigns encouraging women there to record videos of themselves exposing their hair in violation**

**of edicts requiring them to cover it in public.**

**Two purported crime bosses in the Russian mob were convicted in March** of plotting to assassinate her at her home in New York City in a murder-for-hire scheme that prosecutors said was financed by



Iran's government.

**Prosecutors said Iranian intelligence officials first plotted in 2020 and 2021 to kidnap her in the US and move her to Iran to silence her criticism.**

When that failed, Iran offered \$500,000 for Alinejad to be killed in July 2022 after efforts to harass, smear and intimidate her failed, prosecutors said.



*Saudi Ambassador to the US Adel Al-Jubeir (photo credit: image capture from YouTube video uploaded by saudiembassyusa)*

**A plot against a Saudi ambassador**

**Underscoring the longstanding nature of the threat, federal prosecutors in 2011 accused two suspected Iranian agents of trying to murder the Saudi ambassador to the United States.**

The planned bomb attack was to be carried out while envoy Adel Al-Jubeir dined at his favorite restaurant in Washington.

And as is common in such plots, the person approached for the job was not an Iranian but rather someone who was thought to be an associate of a Mexican drug trafficking cartel who was actually an informant for the US Drug Enforcement Administration. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-cities-up-security-in-light-of-irans-history-of-murder-for-hire-reprisals/>

## Meet the bird that inspired the B-2 Spirit stealth bomber that struck Iran's nuclear sites

Thanks to biomimicry—the imitation of nature—the B-2 can almost vanish from radar screens. Its shape, combined with whisper-quiet gliding, borrowed from the falcon's own aerial agility.

ByZIV REINSTEINJUNE 24, 2025 17:37Updated: JUNE 24, 2025 17:52



*The B-2 Spirit stealth bomber plane that struck Iran was inspired by a falcon.(photo credit: Social media/Used in accordance with Clause 27a of the copyright law)*

*The B-2 Spirit stealth bomber that struck Iran's nuclear sites was born from a close study of the natural world, most notably the peregrine falcon, which also inhabits Israeli skies. Its unique shape allows for quiet, fast, and fuel-efficient flight, making it the most expensive aircraft in history.*

This week, much was said about the B-2 Spirit—a US stealth bomber that flew nonstop for 18 hours from American soil to [Iran's nuclear](#) installations, dropped its payload, and returned without landing. **But few know that the design of**

**the \$2.1 billion aircraft was inspired by a relatively small yet extraordinary bird of prey: the peregrine falcon.**

The falcon's Latin name—*Falco peregrinus*—combines *falco*, meaning “sickle” or “scythe,” a nod to its sharply curved, outstretched wings in flight, and *peregrinus*, meaning “wanderer,” reflecting its near-global distribution. The peregrine falcon is native to Israel, and in the Persian Gulf region, it is trained by falconers for hunting, even serving as the national bird of the United Arab Emirates.

During [Operation Midnight Hammer](#), seven B-2s participated, releasing 14 Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP) bombs on Fordow and two on Natanz. A third facility at Isfahan was hit by Tomahawk missiles launched from US submarines.

**A single glance at the B-2's unusual form—a tailless, flying-wing structure with no distinct fuselage—reveals its avian inspiration. Just as the peregrine falcon dives silently on its prey, the B-2's smooth, aerodynamic profile enables it to slip through the sky with minimal drag, enhanced speed, and improved fuel economy.**



*b-2 bunker buster bomb stealth 300 R (credit: REUTERS)*  
**Radar signature as small as a bird**

**Thanks to biomimicry—the imitation of nature—the B-2 can almost vanish from radar screens.** Its shape, combined with whisper-quiet gliding, stealthy altitude adjustments, and precise spatial control borrowed from the falcon's own aerial agility, grants it perfect camouflage and an exceptional unrefueled range of up to 11,000 km. Aerial refueling can more than double that range, allowing the bomber to strike Iran and return without landing.

**The B-2's outer skin is made of radar-absorbing materials, and its rounded structure prevents sharp radar echoes. The result is a**

**radar signature as small as that of a bird.**

Unlike **conventional jets, the B-2's four General Electric engines are buried within its body, cutting noise and masking thermal emissions, making infrared detection extremely difficult.** Its smooth "flying wing" without a tail delivers uniform airflow, similar to a raptor gliding slowly, but requires millisecond digital adjustments, much like a bird's nervous system during sudden maneuvers.

So, next time you spot a [bird of prey](#) soaring overhead, remember: even the world's most advanced military technology can trace its origins back to the wisdom of nature. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-858854>

## *Kiev-orchestrated bomb plot thwarted in Moscow Region – FSB*

*"Accomplices of Ukrainian special services" were allegedly planning to kill a Russian military service member*

© FSB of Russia

25 Jun, 2025 13:11

**Two Russian citizens who were collecting an improvised explosive from a cache outside Moscow, have been killed after opening fire on law enforcement, the Federal Security Service (FSB) reported on Wednesday.**

**The deceased were identified by the agency as "accomplices of Ukrainian special services,"** who allegedly planned to use the device in a terrorist attack targeting a Russian military service member.

According to the FSB, video footage appearing to show surveillance scenes along with the alleged IED proves that the bomb was ready for activation when it was seized.

Plot details were subsequently discovered on suspects' phones and investigators are reportedly treating the case as a felony involving unlawful possession of explosives.

The FSB frequently reports having disrupted terrorist operations allegedly coordinated by Ukrainian intelligence services, though suspects are typically apprehended alive. Exceptions have occurred, particularly when Kiev is believed to rely on radicalized individuals with links to international terrorist organizations.

One such case was reported in April 2024, when two Central Asian Islamists allegedly planned to use first-person-view drones armed with explosive devices to target an oil refinery in Nizhny Novgorod Region. The FSB claimed the suspects were directed to retrieve the equipment from a cache and were given operational instructions by a "Ukrainian handler." <https://www.rt.com/russia/620485-fsb-terrorist-bomb-plot/>

**Op ed**

## **Can the Left Ever Stop Its Craziness?**



[Victor Davis Hanson](#) | Jun 24, 2025

*The opinions expressed by columnists are their own and do not necessarily represent the views of Townhall.com.*



**California Senator Alex Padilla recently crashed a press conference by Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem. He deliberately wore no identification. He gave no advance warning that he would disrupt her briefing.**

**Instead, Padilla barged forward to the podium, shouting about the deportation of illegal aliens.** Immediately, Padilla got his media moment wish -- once Secret Service agents, who had no idea who Padilla was, forcibly removed him.

Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., recently attempted a pseudo-filibuster, speaking nonstop for 25 hours straight -- not to delay legislation, but to fixate on President Donald Trump.

South Carolina Democratic state Representative Julie von Haefen just posted on social media an image of a bloody guillotine. It bore the title "In these difficult times, some cuts may be necessary" and was juxtaposed with an image of a hanging, beheaded Trump, who, a year ago, was the target of two failed assassination attempts.

The more Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and California Governor Gavin Newsom scream at Trump for nationalizing the California Guard to stop L.A.'s nightly violent anti-ICE protests, the more the two appear on the side of those who riot, destroy property, and attack police.

Yet who really wants to side with illegal aliens who spit on and burn American flags while waving Mexican flags?

Recently, some Democrats and leftists have romanticized Kilmar Abrego Garcia -- an illegal alien, accused domestic abuser, gang member, and alleged human trafficker.

They also canonized illegal alien Mahmoud Khalil. But that pro-Hamas "student" helped organize and defend sometimes violent and antisemitic demonstrations at Columbia University.

For some on the Left, the assassin of a UnitedHealthcare CEO, the rich kid Luigi Mangione, has become a folk hero.

Others champion the undocumented family of illegal alien Mohammed Sabry Soliman and demand that they not be deported home to the Middle East -- despite Soliman's recent attempt to murder Jews using a homemade flamethrower and Molotov cocktails.

Former Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton, along with other prominent Democrats, mocked the recent Washington, D.C., military parade commemorating the 250th anniversary of the army, comparing it unfavorably with their own concurrent "No Kings" anti-Trump protests.

Those demonstrations -- subsidized by left-wing billionaire donors -- were utterly incoherent.

No other president has faced more lower federal court injunctions blocking executive orders than Trump.

Indeed, dozens of cherry-picked, left-wing district judges -- the real unchecked "kings" -- now routinely block almost every one of Trump's executive orders.

Why are opposition Democrats not offering alternative agendas and compromises?

Could they partner with Trump to allow green cards to illegal aliens who have no criminal records, have not been on public assistance, are now employed, and have resided in the U.S. for over five years?

Could Democrats meet with the president to express bipartisan support for democratic Israel in its existential war with theocratic Iran?

Instead, why do Democrats throw 2-year-old temper tantrums to howl nihilistically at everything Trump says and does?

One, exasperated Democrats lack all levers of political power -- the Congress, the White House, and the Supreme Court. So, they take to the media and the streets.

Two, Democrats are permanently frustrated that the more they scream and stomp, the more polls show radical declines in public support for their party.

Three, their nemesis, 79-year-old Trump, seems impervious to Democratic lawfare, threats, and smears.

Despite the hysterical attacks, he is still polling now about where prior presidents like George Bush and Barack Obama were at similar junctures in their second terms.

The more Trump is smeared as a fascist or dictator, the more polls -- like the latest liberal Economist/YouGov survey -- show him gaining public support for securing the border and deportation.

And the more the Left damns Trump as a racist, the more he wins unprecedented Black and Hispanic support. In recent Rasmussen tracking polls, Trump garnered 54 percent approval from Black voters and 53 percent from Hispanics.

Four, Trump proves a hard-to-hit, moving target for the frustrated left. He cannot quite be pigeonholed as a predictable right-wing bogeyman.

Unlike the Left, when Trump weighs in on the Ukraine war, he first begins by deploring the tragic waste of over a million lives.

No one is more pro-Israel. Yet no one has offered a losing Iran a chance to negotiate its way out of total and humiliating defeat.

Trump talks nonstop about protecting the middle class. Unions like him; Wall Street mostly despises him.

Trump wants to deport as many illegal alien criminals as possible. But he is willing to consider green cards for unlawful aliens who are working, crime-free, and with long residence in the U.S.

The Trump counterrevolution barrels ahead. The people cheer. And Democrats keep barking at the moon.

<https://townhall.com/columnists/victordavishanson/2025/06/24/can-the-left-ever-stop-its-craziness-n2659163>