

MAKING WAVES



THE USA-IRAN-ISRAEL CONFLICT

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ISRAEL KILLS IRGC NAVAL COMMANDER ISRAEL SAYS IRGC NAVY'S COMMANDER, OTHER CHIEFS KILLED; QALIBAF SAID REMOVED FROM HIT LIST

In a pre-dawn strike on 26 March in the port city of Bandar Abbas, Israel assassinated Admiral Alireza Tangsiri, eight-year commander of the IRGC Navy, along with his intelligence chief Admiral Behnam Rezaei and the rest of the IRGC Navy's senior leadership. Israel's Defence Minister Katz stated Tangsiri was "directly responsible for the terrorist operation of mining and blocking the Strait of Hormuz." CENTCOM confirmed the killing and called on all IRGC Navy personnel to abandon their posts immediately. Tangsiri had personally overseen which vessels were permitted through the strait, making him the operational architect of the blockade that has paralysed 20 per cent of global oil flows since 28 February.

Source: [Here](#), 26 March 2026

US SAYS 92% OF IRAN NAVY'S MAJOR VESSELS HIT OR DESTROYED IN ONGOING WAR

United States officials claim that roughly 92 per cent of Iran's major naval vessels have been hit or destroyed during the ongoing conflict, signalling a severe degradation of Tehran's conventional maritime capacity. The reported losses likely include key surface combatants, patrol assets, and support platforms critical to sea-denial operations in the Strait of Hormuz. While this weakens Iran's formal naval posture, it does not eliminate asymmetric threats such as mines, drone boats, submarines, and missile swarms. The development underscores a strategic shift from conventional deterrence to irregular maritime coercion, sustaining risks to regional shipping and energy flows.

Source: [Here](#), 26 March 2026

STRIKES DEEPEN — NUCLEAR SITES, STEEL FACTORIES ISRAEL LAUNCHES STRIKES ON NUCLEAR SITES AS IRAN WARNS OF RETALIATION

On 27 March, Israel struck the Ardakan yellowcake production plant in Yazd Province and the Khondab Heavy Water Complex in Arak for a second time in the conflict. The IDF described Ardakan as the only facility of its kind in Iran, where raw uranium ore is chemically processed into yellowcake, the essential first step before enrichment. Iran's Atomic Energy Organization confirmed both strikes, reporting no casualties or radioactive leakage. The IRGC immediately threatened retaliation, with analysts noting Iran could respond by targeting Dimona again. IRGC Aerospace Commander Moosavi warned the conflict was entering new territory, stating the equation "will no longer be an eye for an eye."

Source: [Here](#), 27 March 2026

IRANIAN STEEL PLANTS DAMAGED BY AIR STRIKES

US-Israeli airstrikes on 26 March struck Mobarakeh Steel in Isfahan and Khuzestan Steel in Ahvaz — two of Iran's biggest steelmakers, both partially owned by the IRGC and listed under US sanctions. At Mobarakeh, an electrical substation, an alloy steel production line, and power units sustained significant damage. In Khuzestan, warehouses were hit, although blast furnaces were reported to be offline at the time. One person was killed in Isfahan, and two were injured. Tehran swiftly threatened retaliatory strikes against six Gulf steel facilities across Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Israel. The targeting of IRGC-linked industrial capacity marks a deliberate escalation beyond purely military assets.

Source: [Here](#), 27 March 2026

ISRAEL LAUNCHES STRIKES ON NUCLEAR SITES AS IRAN WARNS OF RETALIATION

On 27 March, Israeli strikes hit the Khondab Heavy Water Complex in Arak and the Ardakan uranium processing facility in Yazd Province — two cornerstones of Iran's nuclear supply chain. The Ardakan plant extracts raw uranium compounds at the very first stage of the nuclear fuel cycle, making it a critical chokepoint. Israel confirmed the Yazd strike, describing it as a "unique facility" within Iran's nuclear infrastructure. Iran's Atomic Energy Organization acknowledged the hit but reported no casualties or radiation leaks. The simultaneous targeting of uranium input and heavy water production in a single day represents the most coordinated single-day strike on Iran's nuclear architecture since the conflict began.

Source: [Here](#), 27 March 2026

IRAN'S KHONDAB HEAVY WATER PLANT DAMAGED AFTER ISRAELI STRIKES, SAYS IAEA

Israeli strikes on 27 March 2026 severely damaged Khondab Heavy Water Plant near Arak, with the International Atomic Energy Agency confirming the facility is no longer operational. The site, part of Iran's heavy-water and plutonium pathway, contained no declared nuclear material, limiting immediate radiological risk, but its disabling marks a significant blow to Tehran's nuclear infrastructure. The strike signals continued targeting of dual-use nuclear assets below the threshold of reactor catastrophe, yet risks further escalation by hardening Iran's threat perceptions and reinforcing retaliatory pressure across regional energy and maritime chokepoints.

Source: [Here](#), 30 March 2026

PRINCE SULTAN AIR BASE HIT AGAIN, E-3 SENTRY DAMAGED; B-52S ENTER IRANIAN AIRSPACE IRAN STRIKES PRINCE SULTAN TWICE — 29 US TROOPS INJURED, SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT DAMAGED

Iran attacked Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia twice within a single week, with the second strike on the night of 27–28 March. In the two combined attacks, 29 American soldiers were injured, five seriously, and several refuelling aircraft were damaged, including an E-3 Sentry airborne early warning aircraft used to detect incoming missiles and drones at ranges of hundreds

of kilometres. Military analyst Cedric Leighton described the loss of the E-3 as "a serious blow to US surveillance capabilities." Iran's repeated ability to strike the same major US installation despite declared American air superiority signals a persistent gap in base defence posture with serious implications for the sustainability of operations across the theatre.

Source: [Here](#), 29 March 2026

IRAN ATTACKS UAE EMAL PLANTS, KUWAIT'S MINA AL-AHMADI REFINERY AND BAHRAIN'S ALBA FACILITY

On 28–29 March, the IRGC launched 16 ballistic missiles and 42 UAVs at the UAE's EMAL aluminium plants, struck Kuwait's Mina Al-Ahmadi oil refinery with drones, causing fires, and targeted Bahrain's ALBA aluminium smelter with missiles and UAVs. ALBA had already shut down three smelting lines, 19 per cent of its annual production capacity, earlier in the month due to Hormuz disruptions. Bahrain simultaneously reported intercepting 20 missiles and 23 UAVs in a single day. The coordinated strikes across three Gulf states in one 24-hour period reflect Iran's deliberate strategy of imposing maximum economic cost on US-allied nations, compounding already severe supply-chain disruptions flowing from the Hormuz closure.

Source: [Here](#), 29 March 2026

US B-52 BOMBER REFUELS MID-AIR DURING OPERATION EPIC FURY

B-52 Stratofortress bombers are receiving mid-air refuelling from KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft during Operation Epic Fury missions against Iran, as shown in United States Central Command footage released between 26 and 31 March 2026. Armed with long-range precision munitions, the bombers are conducting sustained strikes on missile sites, air defences, and command nodes, complementing stealth aircraft and naval operations. The use of aerial refuelling enables persistent long-range bombing from distant bases such as Diego Garcia, sustaining pressure on Iranian military infrastructure without requiring vulnerable forward basing.

Source: [Here](#), 31 March 2026

HOUTHIS ENTER THE WAR; US MARINES ARRIVE AS WAR ON IRAN ENTERS SECOND MONTH, YEMEN'S HOUTHIS OPEN NEW FRONT

Yemen's Houthi movement fired two ballistic missiles at Israel, their first attacks since re-entering the conflict, with one intercepted over the Red Sea and a second targeting Eilat. Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Saree vowed further strikes. The Houthis, who had reached a ceasefire with the United States in 2025 over Red Sea shipping attacks, have now reopened that front in direct support of Iran. Their entry transforms the maritime geometry of the conflict entirely, with the Strait of Hormuz already effectively closed, Iran and its allies now exercise influence over both of the region's critical chokepoints simultaneously, placing Saudi Arabia's emergency oil export route through Yanbu on the Red Sea directly in the line of fire.

Source: [Here](#), 29 March 2026

3,500 US TROOPS ARRIVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST ON USS TRIPOLI AS IRAN ISSUES THREAT AGAINST GROUND INVASION

The USS Tripoli amphibious assault ship arrived in the Middle East on 28 March carrying 3,500 sailors and Marines, joining an earlier contingent of 2,500 Marines — bringing total amphibious strength to approximately 5,000. The Washington Post reported the Pentagon had been preparing plans for weeks of potential ground operations in Iran, possibly involving Special Operations raids and conventional infantry, though President Trump had not yet approved such plans. Iran's Parliament Speaker Ghalibaf responded by stating Tehran's forces were "waiting for them," accusing Washington of secretly planning a ground invasion while publicly floating negotiations. The deployment gives the US the organic amphibious capability to execute ground raids if ordered.

Source: [Here](#), 29 March 2026

SCHOOLS, WATER, INDUSTRY: WHAT CIVILIAN TARGETS HAVE US, ISRAEL, IRAN HIT?

Following US-Israeli strikes on the Iran University of Science and Technology in Tehran on 28 March, the IRGC issued a formal threat to target American and Israeli-affiliated university campuses across the Middle East, declaring them "legitimate targets until two universities are struck." The US Embassy in Baghdad subsequently warned American citizens to leave Iraq immediately, citing Iranian and proxy intent to target US-affiliated universities in Baghdad, Sulaymaniyah, and Dohuk. The threat marks a significant and alarming expansion of Iranian targeting doctrine — moving explicitly toward civilian educational infrastructure and placing thousands of international students and faculty directly in the crossfire of a conflict not of their making.

Source: [Here](#), 30 March 2026

THE SECOND MARITIME FRONT — BAB AL-MANDEB THREAT EMERGES

DAILY REPORT: THE SECOND IRAN WAR – MARCH 29, 2026

Britain announced the deployment of RFA Lyme Bay, an amphibious landing ship equipped with a specialised fleet of mine-clearing drones, to assist in reopening the Strait of Hormuz. The vessel's mission focuses on mine countermeasure operations — addressing the most persistent threat to safe passage, as Iran has been actively laying naval mines in the strait since the conflict began. The deployment allows the UK to contribute to maritime security without formally endorsing the broader US-Israeli campaign — a distinction that preserves Britain's diplomatic positioning while offering a practical operational contribution. Its impact will depend heavily on whether allied navies join the effort and whether a political framework for Hormuz reopening can be agreed upon in parallel.

Source: [Here](#), 29 March 2026

HOUTHİ BLOCKADE? WHY BAB AL-MANDEB MAY BECOME NEXT FRONT IN US-İRAN CONFLICT SHAKING ENERGY MARKET'S

With the Strait of Hormuz effectively closed since 28 February, global attention has turned to the Bab al-Mandeb, the 29-kilometre-wide strait connecting the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden. Houthi Deputy Information Minister Mohammed Mansour confirmed to CNN that closing it was "a viable option." Middle East specialist Professor Elisabeth Kendall of Cambridge University described a simultaneous blockade of both straits as a "nightmare scenario," warning it would "disrupt, if not cripple, trade toward Europe." Saudi Arabia has been routing emergency oil exports through Yanbu on the Red Sea since Hormuz closed — making both Yanbu and Jeddah, now carrying vastly elevated tanker traffic, acutely vulnerable to Houthi drone and missile strikes.

Source: [Here](#), 31 March 2026

DIPLOMATIC PUSH — PAKİSTAN HOSTS REGIONAL TALKS; İRAN REJECTS US 15-POINT PLAN WHY PAKİSTAN'S AMBITIOUS BID TO MEDIATE IN THE İRAN-US WAR COULD 'BACKFIRE'

Pakistan has attempted to position itself as a mediator between the United States and Iran, including by offering to host indirect talks and relay proposals on nuclear restraint, proxy de-escalation, and reopening the Strait of Hormuz. However, its mediation remains constrained by limited leverage, domestic political instability, economic fragility, and dependence on external partners. Tehran has reportedly rejected aspects of Islamabad's outreach, while competing diplomatic channels involving Oman and India further dilute its role. The episode highlights the limits of crisis diplomacy by financially and strategically constrained middle powers.

Source: [Here](#), 31 March 2026

'NO DIRECT TALKS WITH US': İRAN REJECTS TRUMP'S 15-POINT PEACE PROPOSAL, CALLS IT 'UNREALISTIC'

US special envoy Steve Witkoff confirmed that Washington had presented Iran with a 15-point framework for a peace deal, delivered through Pakistani mediators. Iran rejected the proposal and responded with five conditions of its own: an end to all US-Israeli strikes on Iran and pro-Iranian forces in Lebanon and Iraq; mechanisms to prevent any resumption of hostilities; compensation for war damages; and international recognition of Iranian sovereignty over the Strait of Hormuz. The final condition — sovereignty over Hormuz — is one no Western government or international body is likely to accept, reflecting a vast gulf between the two sides that renders a near-term negotiated settlement extremely difficult despite active back-channel communication through Islamabad.

Source: [Here](#), 30 March 2026

WAR ENTERS DAY 32 WITH NO EXIT IN SIGHT TRUMP SAYS IRAN DOESN'T HAVE TO MAKE A DEAL FOR WAR TO END

Speaking in the Oval Office on 31 March, Trump stated that Iran does not need to agree to a deal for the United States to end its military campaign, adding that if Iran eventually reconstituted its nuclear capability in the future, a later president could "go there and knock the hell out of them again." The statement represents the most significant public revision of US war objectives since the campaign began — an implicit admission that regime change, full denuclearisation, and the permanent reopening of the Strait of Hormuz may not all be achievable within a single military operation. The war, now in its 32nd day, has no declared end condition, only a shifting sequence of deadlines, extensions, and ultimatums that have produced no political resolution.

Source: [Here](#), 31 March 2026

IRAN WAR: WHAT IS HAPPENING ON DAY 32 OF US- ISRAEL ATTACKS?

In an exclusive interview with Al Jazeera on 31 March, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio stated that communication between Washington and Tehran was ongoing through intermediaries and that US war objectives, degrading Iran's nuclear programme, missile forces, and naval capabilities, would be achieved in "weeks, not months." Rubio also warned that Iran's plans to impose formal tolls on vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz were "illegal, unacceptable and dangerous to the world," saying he had found broad G7 support for confronting the move. Rubio's framing contrasts with Trump's same-day acknowledgement that Iran need not make any deal for operations to wind down, highlighting a degree of mixed messaging on what the endgame actually looks like.

Source: [Here](#), 31 March 2026