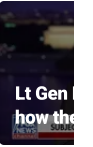
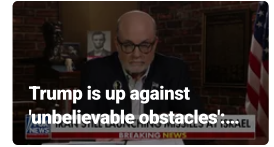


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Kharg Island is home to major oil terminals that have long been central to Iran's energy trade

By **Amanda Macias** · Fox News

Published March 13, 2026 7:14pm EDT



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President [Donald Trump](#) said Friday that the U.S. had carried out a bombing raid on Iran's Kharg Island, a strategically vital island in the Persian Gulf that

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The island, located roughly 35 miles off Iran's Bushehr province in the country's southwest, is about the size of New York City's Central Park but carries huge importance for Iran's economy.

It has a loading capacity of about 7 million barrels per day, and roughly 90% of Iran's crude oil exports pass through it. Most of those exports are shipped to China and India, underscoring the island's importance not only to Iran's [energy](#) trade but also to broader global oil markets.

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Satellite view of Kharg Island, located in the Persian Gulf off the coast of Iran. (Gallo Images/Orbital Horizon/Copernicus Sentinel Data 2024)

That makes Kharg Island one of Iran's most sensitive and strategically important pieces of infrastructure. Any military action there could have consequences well beyond Iran, raising the risk of disruptions to crude flows, shipping traffic and energy prices across the region.

Trump said the U.S. had deliberately avoided targeting the island's oil infrastructure, while warning that could change if Iran moved to disrupt shipping through the Strait of Hormuz.

"Our Weapons are the most powerful and sophisticated that the World has ever known but, for reasons of decency, I have chosen NOT to wipe out the Oil Infrastructure on the Island. However, should Iran, or anyone else, do anything to interfere with the Free and Safe Passage of Ships through the Strait of Hormuz, I will immediately reconsider this decision," Trump added.

THE UNLIKELY TOOL TRUMP IS EYEING TO TACKLE RISING OIL PRICES AMID THE IRAN CONFLICT

The latest revelation comes as the widening conflict in the Middle East rattles global energy markets and raises fresh fears about the security of the Strait of Hormuz, the world's most important oil choke point.

The Strait of Hormuz, a narrow passage between Iran, the United Arab Emirates and Oman, carries roughly 20 million barrels of oil a day and about one-fifth of the global supply of liquefied natural gas (LNG). When conflict flares in the region, even the threat of disruption can rattle markets because so much of the world's energy moves through that single corridor.

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A satellite image shows the Strait of Hormuz, a key maritime passage connecting the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman, vital for global energy supply. (Amanda Macias/Fox News Digital)

That threat is already rippling through energy markets.

This week, benchmark oil prices punched back above \$100 a barrel for the first time since 2022, underscoring how quickly geopolitical shocks can ripple through the energy complex.

That jump is showing up at the pump. As oil prices climb, [gasoline and diesel prices](#) are rising fast — especially diesel, which can move quickly because it's tied closely to freight and industrial demand.

On Friday, the national average for regular gasoline rose to about \$3.63 a gallon, according to AAA. Diesel prices have also jumped, with the national average up \$1.23 to \$4.89 a gallon.

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A woman pumps gas at a station in New York as prices climb nationwide due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. (Lori Van Buren/Albany Times Union via Getty Images)

As energy costs accelerate, the White House is weighing steps to safeguard commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz and leaning on emergency stockpiles to cushion the blow.

Before boarding Air Force One for Mar-a-Lago late Friday, Trump told reporters the U.S. Navy may start escorting tankers through the Strait "very soon."

Asked about the risk of disruptions, Trump said Monday evening he would keep the route open and threatened retaliation if Iran tried to interfere.

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"I will not allow a terrorist regime to hold the world hostage and attempt to stop the globe's oil supply. And if Iran does anything to do that, they'll get hit at a much, much harder level," Trump said during a news conference in Florida.

"In the long run, oil supplies will be dramatically more secure without the threat of Iranian ships, drones, missiles," he added.

Amanda covers the intersection of business and politics for Fox News Digital.

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Nice to see the US not fighting with one hand tied behind it's back. This will be shorter and more complete than expected.

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About time! Hopefully no more oil flows out of that country without the people's consent and NOT the IRGC.

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