

LIVE COVERAGE

Updated 11 minutes ago

Live updates: Trump, Iran agree to two-week ceasefire after threat of massive attacks

The president said he had agreed to a two-week ceasefire on the condition that Iran re-open the Strait of Hormuz.



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Updated April 08, 2026, 12:15 AM EDT

By NBC News

What to know

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Iran agreed to a deal before his deadline. He had threatened [massive U.S. attacks on civilian infrastructure](#) and brushed off concerns about possible war crimes.

- **IRAN TO ALLOW PASSAGE THROUGH STRAIT:** Iran said tonight that it will allow safe passage of marine traffic through the Strait of Hormuz for two weeks if vessels coordinate with Iranian armed forces. Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi also said Iran will stop military attacks as long as it is not attacked.
- **U.S. STRIKES KHARG ISLAND:** An intense wave of strikes was reported on bridges across Iran and on Kharg Island, the country's key oil export hub. The U.S. military struck dozens of military targets on the island overnight, a U.S. official told NBC News.
- **U.S. JOURNALIST FREED:** The Iran-backed militia group Kataib Hezbollah said in a statement today that it would release American journalist Shelly Kittleon, who was kidnapped in Iraq last week. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said the U.S. was relieved that this American is now free and was working to support her safe departure from Iraq.
- **DEATH TOLL:** More than 3,400 people have been killed across the Middle East. Over 1,500 people have been killed in Lebanon, and 23 have died in Israel. Iranian officials have not released a recent death toll, but the U.S.-based rights group HRANA put the total of those killed at almost 3,400, including more than 1,600 civilians. Thirteen U.S. service members have been killed, and two more died of noncombat causes.
- **INSIGHTS AND ANALYSIS:** Get exclusive analysis and insight into the Middle East conflict by [becoming an NBC News subscriber](#).

11m ago / 12:15 AM EDT

Australian PM Albanese welcomes 2-week ceasefire

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The Australian government has long called for de-escalation and an end to the violence, emphasizing the risks posed by the prolonged war to global economic stability.

In his statement, Albanese also praised the efforts of international negotiators, including those from Pakistan, Egypt, Turkey and Saudi Arabia, in advancing de-escalation measures.

41m ago / 11:45 PM EDT

Israeli PM's office says ceasefire doesn't include Lebanon

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said the ceasefire in the Iran war does not include Lebanon, where Hezbollah militants are located and which Israel has invaded.

"Israel supports President Trump's decision to suspend strikes against Iran for two weeks subject to Iran immediately opening the straits and stopping all attacks on the US, Israel and countries in the region," the prime minister's office [said in a statement on X](#).

The office said it supports negotiations, but it added: "The two-weeks ceasefire does not include Lebanon."

Israel has attacked what it said are Hezbollah targets in Lebanon, and it has [invaded the southern part of the country](#) over what it said are security concerns.

Hezbollah, a militant group backed by Iran, has periodically launched attacks against Israel, including retaliatory attacks after the U.S. and Israel launched strikes against Iran on Feb. 28, setting off the current war.

2h ago / 11:13 PM EDT

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U.S. and Iran agree to 2-week ceasefire

03:47



Trump posted on Truth Social that the U.S. agreed to a two-week ceasefire with Iran, contingent on Iran's reopening the Strait of Hormuz.

2h ago / 10:41 PM EDT

Here's what Iran says is in its 10-point plan

Iran's Supreme National Security Council confirmed the ceasefire agreement and claimed victory, saying "nearly all war objectives have been achieved."

In a statement, it also spelled out what it said was in the 10-point plan submitted to the U.S.

It said it includes the following, which are direct quotes translated by NBC News:

- "Controlled passage through the Strait of Hormuz coordinated with Iran's armed forces"
- "The necessity of ending the war against all components of the resistance axis" (Iran has

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- “Establishment of a secure transit protocol in the Strait of Hormuz, ensuring Iran’s control under the agreed framework”
- “Full compensation for damages to Iran”
- “Removal of all primary and secondary sanctions and relevant resolutions of the Board of Governors and the U.N. Security Council”
- “Release of all frozen Iranian assets abroad”
- “The adoption of all these provisions in a binding U.N. Security Council resolution”

Advertisement

3h ago / 9:44 PM EDT

Trump announces 2-week Iran ceasefire after he’d warned ‘a whole civilization will die tonight’

Trump announced a [two-week ceasefire](#) with Iran tonight – hours after he’d threatened “a whole civilization will die tonight” and about 90 minutes before a deadline he set for Tehran to reach an agreement with the U.S.

“Based on conversations with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Asim Munir, of Pakistan, and wherein they requested that I hold off the destructive force being sent tonight to Iran, and subject to the Islamic Republic of Iran agreeing to the COMPLETE, IMMEDIATE, and SAFE OPENING of the Strait of Hormuz, I agree to suspend the bombing and attack of Iran for a

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[Read the full story here.](#)

4h ago / 8:59 PM EDT

Kidnapped journalist Shelly Kittleson is freed in Iraq

An American journalist [abducted by a militant group in Iraq](#) has been freed, Secretary of State Marco Rubio said this evening.

Rubio [announced on X](#) that Shelly Kittleson had been freed and thanked the FBI, the Defense Department and "our Iraqi partners," among others, for helping secure her release.

An Iran-backed Iraqi militia group, Kataib Hezbollah, said earlier today that it would release Kittleson, who was kidnapped in Baghdad last week.

"We are relieved that this American is now free and are working to support her safe departure from Iraq," Rubio said on X.

4h ago / 8:31 PM EDT

Discussions are being held about in-person talks between the U.S. and Iran, White House press secretary says

The U.S. and Iran may hold in-person talks to negotiate, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a statement.

"President Trump's words speak for themselves: this is a workable basis to negotiate, and those negotiations will continue. The truth is that President Trump and our powerful military got Iran to agree to reopening the Strait of Hormuz, and negotiations will continue," Leavitt said. "There are discussions about in person talks, but nothing is final until announced by the President or the White House."

5h ago / 8:21 PM EDT

Pakistan prime minister praises ceasefire, expresses hope for talks

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said he welcomes the announced ceasefire between the

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negotiate for a conclusive agreement to settle all disputes,” Sharif [said in a statement posted on X a short time ago](#).

“We earnestly hope, that the ‘Islamabad Talks’ succeed in achieving sustainable peace and wish to share more good news in coming days!” he said in the post.

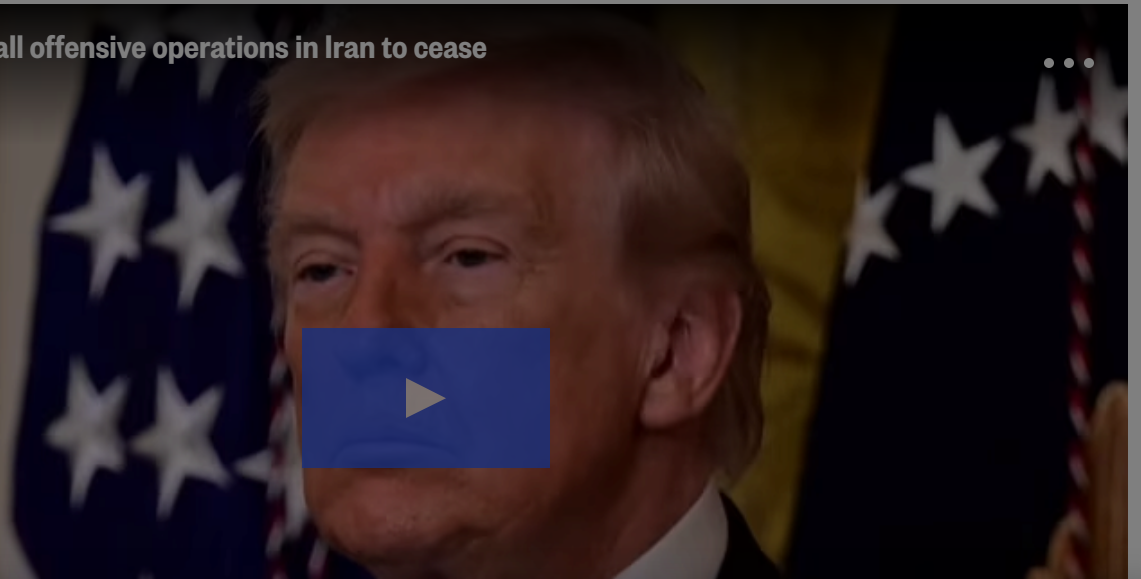
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5h ago / 8:08 PM EDT

The U.S. has ordered a stop to offensive military operations, two U.S. officials tell NBC News

U.S. military orders all offensive operations in Iran to cease

01:29



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The U.S. has given the order to cease military offensive operations effective immediately, two U.S. officials told NBC News.

5h ago / 8:04 PM EDT

Negotiations with U.S. to end war will start in Pakistan on Friday, Iran says

Iran will begin a two-week period of negotiations to end the war with the U.S. in Islamabad, Pakistan, starting Friday, the country's Supreme National Security Council said in a statement, adding that the negotiation period can be extended if both sides agree.

Ending the war will depend on the U.S.' accepting the demands Iran has outlined in a 10-point statement given to the U.S. via Pakistan, the statement said.

"It is emphasized that this does not mean the end of the war, and Iran will only accept the end of the war when, in addition to accepting the principles outlined in the 10-point plan, the details are finalized in negotiations," the statement said.

The statement said the terms had been agreed upon by the country's supreme leader, Mojtaba Khamenei.

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5h ago / 7:43 PM EDT

Safe passage through Strait of Hormuz will be allowed for two weeks, Iran's foreign minister says

Iran will allow safe passage of marine traffic through the Strait of Hormuz for two weeks if vessels coordinate with Iranian armed forces, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi [said today on X](#).

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— A satellite view of the Strait of Hormuz in January. Gallo Images via Getty Images file

"For a period of two weeks, safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz will be possible via coordination with Iran's Armed Forces and with due consideration of technical limitations," Araghchi wrote.

Araghchi also said Iran will stop military attacks as long as it is not attacked.

"If attacks against Iran are halted, our Powerful Armed Forces will cease their defensive operations," he wrote.

Araghchi said he was announcing the two points on behalf of the country's Supreme National Security Council and after the "announcement by POTUS about the acceptance of the general framework of Iran's 10-point proposal as a basis for negotiations."

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5h ago / 7:33 PM EDT

Israel has also agreed to ceasefire terms, White House official tells NBC News

Israel has agreed to the temporary ceasefire, noting that the ceasefire is subject to Iran's reopening the Strait of Hormuz, a White House official told NBC News.

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6h ago / 6:59 PM EDT

Oil plunges, stock futures rip higher on Trump announcement about ceasefire

Oil prices plunged after Trump announced he would suspend attacks for two weeks if Iran reopens the Strait of Hormuz, with U.S. crude oil sliding 8%, to around \$103 per barrel, after having traded as high as \$117 earlier today.

S&P futures are also ripping higher by more than 1.6%. Nasdaq 100 futures are soaring 1.8%, and Dow futures are up 725 points.

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Oil prices tumble after Trump says he will pause Iran strikes

01:23



6h ago / 6:41 PM EDT

Trump agrees to suspend attacks for two weeks if Iran opens Strait of Hormuz

Trump posted on Truth Social that he is suspending attacks on Iran for two weeks if the Islamic Republic opens the Strait of Hormuz.

“Based on conversations with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Asim Munir, of Pakistan, and wherein they requested that I hold off the destructive force being sent tonight to Iran, and subject to the Islamic Republic of Iran agreeing to the COMPLETE, IMMEDIATE, and SAFE OPENING of the Strait of Hormuz, I agree to suspend the bombing and attack of Iran for a period of two weeks,” he wrote.

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Trump announces two-week ceasefire if Iran opens Strait of Hormuz

03:31



Trump added: "This will be a double sided CEASEFIRE! The reason for doing so is that we have already met and exceeded all Military objectives, and are very far along with a definitive Agreement concerning Longterm PEACE with Iran, and PEACE in the Middle East. We received a 10 point proposal from Iran, and believe it is a workable basis on which to negotiate. Almost all of the various points of past contention have been agreed to between the United States and Iran, but a two week period will allow the Agreement to be finalized and consummated. On behalf of the United States of America, as President, and also representing the Countries of the Middle East, it is an Honor to have this Longterm problem close to resolution. Thank you for your attention to this matter! President DONALD J. TRUMP"

6h ago / 6:37 PM EDT

Diplomacy on Iran war takes 'step forward,' Iran's ambassador to Pakistan says

Iran's ambassador to Pakistan, Reza Amiri Moghaddam, [said on X](#) that diplomacy in the Iran war had taken "a step forward."

"As of now, a step forward from critical, sensitive stage..." he wrote, without providing

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Sharif also asked Iran to open the Strait of Hormuz for two weeks as a gesture of goodwill.

7h ago / 6:23 PM EDT

Oil drops 5%, stock futures soar 1% on hopes of pause in war with Iran

Stock futures, which opened for evening trading at 6 p.m. ET, immediately shot higher. S&P 500 futures rose 1%, Nasdaq 100 futures rose 1.2%, and Dow futures popped by around 400 points.

Shortly after the closing bell rang at 4 p.m. ET, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt confirmed to NBC News that Trump was reviewing a proposal from Pakistan's prime minister that urged Trump to extend his Iran deadline by two weeks.

As a result, the price of U.S. crude oil also slid by 5%, to around \$107 per barrel. Earlier in the day, oil rose as high as \$117.

The moves came shortly before Trump's 8 p.m. ET deadline for Iran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

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7h ago / 6:06 PM EDT

IDF says it has struck 7th crossing over Litani River in Lebanon

The Israeli military has struck a seventh key crossing point over the Litani River linking

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The attack comes after Israel launched sweeping ground and aerial operations across southern Lebanon amid a bid to create a "security zone" south of the Litani River.

The military noted that yesterday's strike followed six attacks on crossings over the Litani River since it launched its operation, dubbed "Roaring Lion." It said the IDF would "continue to operate decisively" against Hezbollah, which launched strikes on Israel in early March after Israeli and American forces launched a war against Iran.

7h ago / 5:30 PM EDT

U.N. Security Council fails to adopt resolution to reopen Strait of Hormuz

The U.N. Security Council failed to adopt a resolution today intended to coordinate efforts to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, a choke point for the global trade of oil and liquid natural gas now under the control of Iran.

The measure, put forward by Bahrain, had been stripped of stronger language to authorize use of force to secure the critical waterway. Instead, it "strongly encourag[ed]" those who use it to coordinate their efforts "to contribute to ensuring the safety and security of navigation" of the strait.

The changes were still not enough to carry the resolution, which got support from 11 members but was vetoed by Russia and China, with Pakistan and Colombia abstaining.

Bahraini Foreign Minister Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, who presided over the meeting as president of the Security Council, said failing to adopt the measure "sends the wrong signal to the world."

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8h ago / 5:16 PM EDT

U.N. secretary-general says 'no military objective' justifies destruction of civilian infrastructure

U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres warned the U.S. that no military objective would justify "the wholesale destruction" of a society and its infrastructure.

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"There is no military objective that justifies the wholesale destruction of a society's infrastructure or the deliberate infliction of suffering on civilian populations," he wrote.

Guterres didn't name Trump specifically, but he appeared to be referring to Trump's threat to Iran that a "whole civilization will die tonight" if the Strait of Hormuz isn't opened.

8h ago / 4:38 PM EDT

France warns of 'vicious circle' of retaliation in Iran war

France has called for restraint in the U.S. and Israel's war with Iran, warning of a "vicious circle" of retaliation if Washington moves ahead with threats to target civilian and energy infrastructure in the Islamic Republic.

Speaking on France Info Television, Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot called for restraint as he warned that targeting civilian infrastructure is "barred by the rules of war [and] international law" after Trump threatened not only to attack Iran's energy sites, but also to bomb the entire country.

"They would without doubt trigger a new phase of escalation, of reprisals, that would drag the region and the world economy into a vicious circle that would be very worrying and, most of all, very damaging to our own interests," Barrot said, according to The Associated Press.

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9h ago / 4:18 PM EDT

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NBC News.

"The president has been made aware of the proposal, and a response will come," she said.

Sharif also asked Iran to open the Strait of Hormuz for two weeks as a gesture of goodwill.

9h ago / 3:59 PM EDT

Pakistani prime minister urges Trump to extend deadline by two weeks

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif urged Trump to extend today's deadline for Iran by two weeks "to allow diplomacy to run its course."

Sharif also asked Iran to open the Strait of Hormuz for two weeks as a gesture of goodwill.

"We also urge all warring parties to observe a ceasefire everywhere for two weeks to allow diplomacy to achieve conclusive termination of war, in the interest of long-term peace and stability in the region," Sharif [wrote on X](#).

9h ago / 3:43 PM EDT

Threats against the people of Iran 'truly unacceptable,' Pope Leo says

Pope Leo XIV today called Trump's threats against Iran and its people "truly unacceptable."

"There are certainly issues of international law here, but even more so a moral issue for the good of the whole, entire population," Leo told reporters in Italy. "And I would like to invite everyone to truly think in their hearts about the many innocent people, so many children, so many elderly, completely innocent, who would also become victims of this escalation of a war that began from the very first days, as we were saying."

The pope also encouraged the citizens of the countries involved in the war to call their politicians and representatives to ask them to pursue peace.

9h ago / 3:34 PM EDT

Iran's call for human shields around power plants 'totally illegal,' Trump says

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“Totally illegal,” he said. “They’re not allowed to do that.”

As for what motivated him to post this morning that “a whole civilization will die tonight” – a comment that has drawn backlash from around the world – he would only say: “You’ll have to figure that out.”

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9h ago / 3:27 PM EDT

Trump's 'apocalyptic threats' demand global action, Amnesty International says

[Amnesty International](#) said that Trump's "apocalyptic threats" toward Iran, where he threatened that "a whole civilization will die tonight," demand global action.

The organization's secretary general, Agnès Callamard, said the comments include threats to target civilian infrastructure in Iran and "may constitute a threat to commit genocide" of its over 90 million people.

"The international community, including the UN Security Council, regional bodies and all states must urgently intervene to avert an impending catastrophe and unequivocally affirm that inciting, ordering or committing war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide entail individual criminal responsibility under international law," Callamard said.

10h ago / 3:13 PM EDT

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"This precautionary measure is taken to ensure everyone's safety, enhance preventative measures, and enable security forces to perform their duties with high efficiency," the ministry said.

The temporary shelter-in-place order aligns with Trump's 8 p.m. ET deadline.

10h ago / 2:55 PM EDT

White House: 'Only the President knows where things stand and what he will do'

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a statement to NBC News that tonight's deadline for Iran remains in place.

"The Iranian regime has until 8PM Eastern Time to meet the moment and make a deal with the United States," Leavitt said.

"Only the President knows where things stand and what he will do," she said.

11h ago / 2:02 PM EDT

GOP Sen. Ron Johnson hopes Trump's Iran threat is just 'bluster'

Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., said he doesn't want to see the U.S. attack Iran's civilian infrastructure, marking a rare break with President Trump.

"I am hoping and praying that President Trump, that this really is bluster. I do not want to see us start blowing up civilian infrastructure," Johnson [said](#) in a Monday episode of the "John Solomon Reports" podcast.

"I do not want to see that. We are not at war with the Iranian people. We are trying to liberate them," he added.

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11h ago / 1:38 PM EDT

Trump has targets in Iran that are both civilian and military, a possible effort to avoid war crime definition

As President Donald Trump weighs whether to follow through with his threat to bomb Iran's critical infrastructure if there is no deal by tonight, the Pentagon prepared options for him that include targets that are used for both military and civilian purposes, according to two U.S. officials.

Trump has said he would target Iran's bridges and power plants, including electrical and desalinization facilities, which could amount to a war crime.

But targeting infrastructure that is considered "dual use" could allow the administration to argue the U.S. is hitting military targets and avoid the technical definition of a war crime.

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12h ago / 1:25 PM EDT

American journalist Shelly Kittleson to be released by Iran-backed Iraqi militia

Kataib Hezbollah issued a statement today saying it will release American journalist Shelly Kittleson, who was kidnapped in Iraq last week.

The group said Kittleson's release would be "on the condition that she leaves the country immediately."

The State Department did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

After announcing her release, the group shared a video of Kittleson discussing her background as a journalist and saying that the American Consulate in Baghdad had asked her for information on Hashd al-Sha'bi, Kataib Hezbollah and Harakat al-Nujaba, all Iran-backed Iraqi militias.

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— U.S. journalist Shelly Kittleson in Baghdad in 2025. AP file

Kittleson can also be seen blaming President Donald Trump and his administration for endangering Americans in the region and asking the men of the militia to free her, promising that she won't do anything to harm their country.

It's not clear if Kittleson made these comments while under duress or of her own volition.

12h ago / 1:08 PM EDT

'Pure evil': Top Democrats blast Trump for Iran comments

Congressional Democrats are resoundingly condemning President Trump's post on Truth Social where he said "a whole civilization will die tonight," with some calling for Congress to return to rein him in, others calling it a war crime, and some even calling for Trump's impeachment.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer called Trump "an extremely sick person." adding that

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party and stop the madness."

Rep. Jim McGovern, the top Democrat on the powerful House Rules Committee, called Trump's comments "pure evil" and "a genocidal threat to commit war crimes," which is illegal under international law.

"@SpeakerJohnson must immediately call Congress back to Washington & rein in this mad president," McGovern wrote on X.

13h ago / 12:17 PM EDT

Vance warns Iran that U.S. has 'tools in our toolkit that we so far haven't decided to use'

At his news conference in Budapest, Vice President JD Vance hinted that the U.S. could intensify attacks on Iran if it does not come to terms.

"The president of the United States is a man who recognizes leverage, that if the Iranians want to exact a certain amount of pain, the United States has the ability to exact much, much greater pain," Vance said. "The president doesn't want to do that. I don't want to do that. That's why we're negotiating so aggressively. But fundamentally, the ball is in the Iranians' court."

Vance added that although negotiations have taken some time and suffered from delays in communications, "we feel confident that we can get a response, whether it's positive or negative, we're going to get a response from the Iranians by 8 o'clock tonight."

"I hope they make the right response, because what we really want is we want a world where oil and gas is flowing freely, where people can afford to heat their homes and cool their homes, where people can afford to transport themselves to work," Vance said. "That's not going to happen if the Iranians are engaged in acts of economic terrorism."

Iran has "got to know we've got tools in our toolkit that we so far haven't decided to use," Vance added. "The president of the United States can decide to use them, and he will decide to use them if the Iranians don't change their course of conduct."

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13h ago / 12:11 PM EDT

Iran will prevail 'over the logic of brute force,' Iranian official says

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baqaei said his country "will undoubtedly prevail" ahead of President Donald Trump's 8 p.m. deadline.

"The power of a 'CIVILIZED' nation's culture, logic, and faith in its righteous cause will undoubtedly prevail over the logic of brute force," Baqaei wrote on X, appearing to reference Trump's threat that "a whole civilization will die tonight."

With the hashtag #IranWillWin, Baqaei wrote: "A nation that has every faith in the righteousness of its path shall harness all its capacities and capabilities to safeguard its rights and legitimate interests."

14h ago / 11:23 AM EDT

Trump tells Fox News that '8 p.m. is happening'

Bret Baier said on Fox News that President Donald Trump called him this morning and said that "8 p.m. is happening" as of now, referencing the threatened strikes on Iran's bridges and energy infrastructure tonight.

Baier added: "Now, he said if negotiations move forward today and there is something concrete, that could change, but at this hour – he didn't want to put odds on it – but he said it is moving forward with the plans that we have."

14h ago / 11:03 AM EDT

U.S. Embassy in Bahrain recommends all Americans in the country to shelter in place

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"Iran and its aligned terrorist militias may intend to target American universities in Bahrain. Iran has specifically threatened American universities across the Middle East," the update said.

14h ago / 10:38 AM EDT

Three people killed in attack on Tehran market

Three people were killed after an Israeli strike on the Seyed Esmail market in Tehran, Iran, according to official state news agency IRNA and semi-official news agency Fars.

Two people were also wounded in the attack, according to Fars. One of the deceased victims was a 65-year-old man, IRNA reported.

Four shops collapsed as a result of the strike, according to IRNA.

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15h ago / 10:06 AM EDT

U.S. gas prices now average \$4.14 a gallon

U.S. gas prices rose again today, soaring to a national average of \$4.14 a gallon amid Iran's continued closure of the Strait of Hormuz, the AAA motor club has said.

The increase marks raised costs for drivers by nearly 39 percent since the war began at the end of February. On Feb. 26, the AAA had put the national average for a gallon of regular gasoline at \$2.98

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Crude oil prices have been surging beyond \$100/barrel as the conflict consuming the Middle East continues, with no clear sign of a ceasefire as President Trump's deadline for Iran to agree to a ceasefire and reopen Hormuz looms.

15h ago / 9:51 AM EDT

Two French nationals freed from prison in Iran

Two French nationals have been allowed to leave Iran after spending over three years in detention there, French President Emmanuel Macron has said on X.

The pair identified as Cécile Kohler and Jacques Paris, are on their way to France, Macron said. They had been holed up in French diplomatic premises in Iran since their release from prison in November.

"This is a relief for all of us and, of course, for their families," Macron wrote on X.

Omani authorities helped facilitate their return, Macron said.

15h ago / 9:49 AM EDT

Iranian media reports 'human chains' around sites under threat

Iranian state media has shared photos purporting to show civilians creating "human chains" around sites that could come under threat of attack from Israeli and U.S. forces.

It comes after Iranian officials called on young people across the country to form human chains to protect the Islamic Republic's power plants.

NBC News could not independently verify the photos or the reports of human chains around key sites, including the centuries-old Dezful bridge and the Shahid Rajaei power plant in Qazvin.

Small crowds of people could be seen in the photos published by semi-official Iranian news agency Fars standing outside the sites, reportedly rallying in a bid to deter Israeli and U.S. forces from striking the key areas.

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"We strongly condemn the terrorist attack on the Israeli Consulate in Istanbul today," Israel's foreign ministry said, thanking Turkish security forces' for "swift action in thwarting this attack."

U.S. Ambassador Tom Barrack earlier condemned the incident as an attack on the Israeli consulate after Turkey's Interior Minister Mustafa Ciftci said one suspect was dead after three people engaged in an armed clash with police officers in Istanbul.

Ciftci described the assailants as "terrorists" and said one of the individuals was "found to have links to an organization that exploits religion." He did not say whether the Consulate, which Israel's foreign ministry told The Jerusalem Post was unstaffed, was directly targeted in the incident.

Advertisement

16h ago / 9:13 AM EDT

Vance sees Witkoff text in the middle of news conference amid ceasefire talks

There were some murmurs and chuckles in the room when Vice President Vance, asked if he had any updates on Trump's Iran deadline, pulled out his cellphone and teased some live information.

"Well, so you asked if there's new information," he told the news conference in Budapest. "Unless I have a text message from Steve – Oh, I do have a text message from Steve Witkoff. Wouldn't you like to know the subject of this message? But no, I need to read it first before I talk about it."

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— Vice President JD Vance looks at his phone and comments about an unread message from Steve Witkoff. Pool / Getty Images

Another reporter urged him to read the message from Trump's special envoy, but he did not.

Asked about the U.S.' latest attacks on Iran's Kharg Island, Vance said he didn't think that represented "a change in strategy, or represents any change from the president of the United States."

16h ago / 9:03 AM EDT

Trump 'openly threatening' to carry out war crimes, rights expert says

President Trump is "openly threatening" to carry out a war crime by vowing to target a "whole civilization" if Iran does not agree to a ceasefire deal and to reopen the Strait of Hormuz by his deadline tonight, human rights expert Kenneth Roth said.

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"Attacking civilians is a war crime. So is making threats with the aim of terrorizing the civilian population," he said, with making threats to carry out war crimes potentially a war crime in and of itself under international humanitarian law.

International law experts have [previously told](#) NBC News that Trump's threats to target civilian infrastructure, including desalination plants, represent threats of possible war crimes.

NBC News has reached out to the White House for further comment on Trump's post.

The president said yesterday he was "not at all" concerned about the possibility the U.S. could be committing war crimes. White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said last week that the U.S. military would always operate within the "confines of the law."

16h ago / 8:46 AM EDT

VP Vance says the war in Iran will conclude 'very shortly' but how that happens 'is ultimately up to the Iranians'

Vice President J.D. Vance said during a news conference in Hungary that the war in Iran would conclude "very shortly," but "the nature of the conclusion is ultimately up to the Iranians."

He said that negotiations have been focused on the question of "what does this look like afterwards?"

"The president has set a deadline for about 12 hours from now in the United States," he said, speaking alongside Hungarian leader Viktor Orbán. "We're going to find out, but there's going to be a lot of negotiation between now and then, and I'm hopeful that it gets to a good resolution."

16h ago / 8:27 AM EDT

Oil prices jump after news that U.S. struck Iran's Kharg Island

The price of U.S. crude oil jumped more than 3% to nearly \$116 per barrel, after the first reports that the U.S. struck Kharg Island, from which Iran exports 90% of its crude oil. A U.S. official confirmed the strikes to NBC News, but said the strikes did not involve oil assets.

Brent crude oil also jumped to more than \$110 per barrel.

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— Gas prices topping \$6 a gallon at a gas station on Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles yesterday.

Frederic J. Brown / AFP - Getty Images

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"A whole civilization will die tonight, never to be brought back again," Trump said in a post on his Truth Social platform.

"I don't want that to happen, but it probably will," Trump said, adding: "However, now that we have Complete and Total Regime Change, where different, smarter, and less radicalized minds prevail, maybe something revolutionarily wonderful can happen, WHO KNOWS?"

The president said the world would "find out tonight" in what he described as "one of the most important moments in the long and complex history of the World."

The comments are his latest threats ahead of the deadline. International humanitarian law experts and officials have characterized his previous threats against civilian infrastructure as threatening war crimes.



— Smoke rises from strikes in Tehran today. Atta Kenare / AFP - Getty Images

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The mission included U.S. airstrikes along the northern side of the island and did not include any U.S. troops on the ground, the U.S. official said. They did not strike the oil, but instead hit military bunkers and storage facilities, air defense systems and other military facilities.

The U.S. official stressed these were all military targets and many were targets the U.S. hit previously. Trump [said March 13](#) that the U.S. "totally obliterated every MILITARY target in Iran's crown jewel, Kharg Island"

The island is a key oil export hub for Iran and has previously been mooted as a potential site for a U.S. ground operation.

The official stressed that this was not an oil infrastructure strike, ahead of Trump's deadline for Iran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz or face attacks on its infrastructure.

U.S. strikes targets on Iran's Kharg Island

03:12



17h ago / 7:54 AM EDT

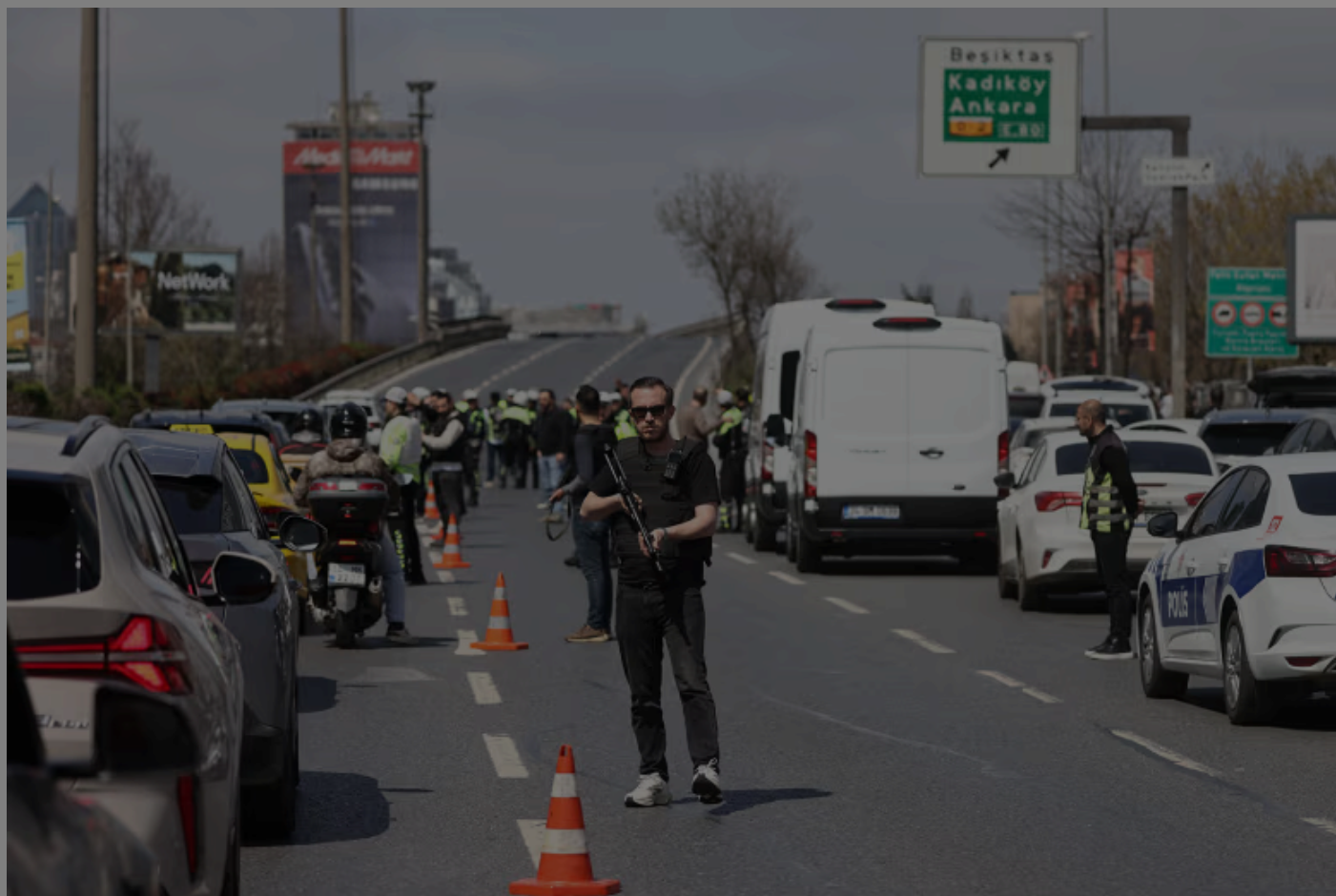
U.S. condemns 'attack on' Israeli consulate in Istanbul

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Barrack said in a post on X that "attacks on diplomatic missions are attacks on the international order – and an assault on the principles that bind nations together."

It comes after Turkish Interior Minister Mustafa Ciftci said one suspect was dead after three people engaged in an armed clash with police officers in Istanbul that saw gunfire reported ringing out near the Israeli Consulate.

Ciftci described the assailants as "terrorists" and said one of the individuals was "found to have links to an organization that exploits religion." He did not say whether the consulate was directly targeted in the incident. Israel's Foreign Ministry told The Jerusalem Post the consulate is currently unstaffed.



— Police stand by a cordoned off area outside a building that previously housed the Israeli Consulate after gunman opened fire today in Istanbul. Burak Kara / Getty Images

17h ago / 7:53 AM EDT

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There is no risk of broader fuel shortages and “oil is arriving in France,” government spokeswoman Maud Bregeon said, adding that shortages at some pumps resulted from transport difficulties that were being urgently addressed.

Around 18% of service stations were short of at least one fuel type, but 83% of those belong to TotalEnergies, which has capped prices. Weekend lines formed at some of the company’s stations because its fuels are often cheaper than other distributors.

Bregeon said about 900 trucks, hundreds more than a normal day, were traveling to Total stations with resupplies today.

“There are no problems at the refineries. When trucks go to depots, they can load up” with unleaded and diesel, Bregeon said. “We can expect a progressive improvement.”

Advertisement

17h ago / 7:48 AM EDT

Egypt's foreign minister speaks with Witkoff on de-escalating war

Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdel-Aty has spoken with Trump's envoy Steve Witkoff and counterparts from Iraq and Pakistan in a bid to de-escalate the war with Iran, the ministry said today.

In a statement, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry said Badr Abdel-Aty met with Witkoff alongside Iraq's Fuad Hussein and Pakistan's Mohammed Ishaq Dar, in talks held yesterday. Jean Arnault, personal envoy of the United Nations' secretary-general for the Middle East was also present, it

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de-escalation and reduce tensions, given the critical juncture and delicate turning point the region is experiencing."

It said Badr Abdel-Aty "stressed the need for wisdom to defuse tensions and avoid a catastrophic scenario from which no party would be immune" and emphasized the importance of dialogue and diplomacy in reaching an agreement that would spare the region from "widespread repercussions."

17h ago / 7:40 AM EDT

Synagogue damaged in airstrike in Iran's capital

A synagogue in Tehran was heavily damaged by a projectile fired in the U.S. and Israel's war against Iran, semi-official Iranian news agency Mehr has reported.

Video published by Mehr appeared to show first responders at the scene, surrounded by rubble.



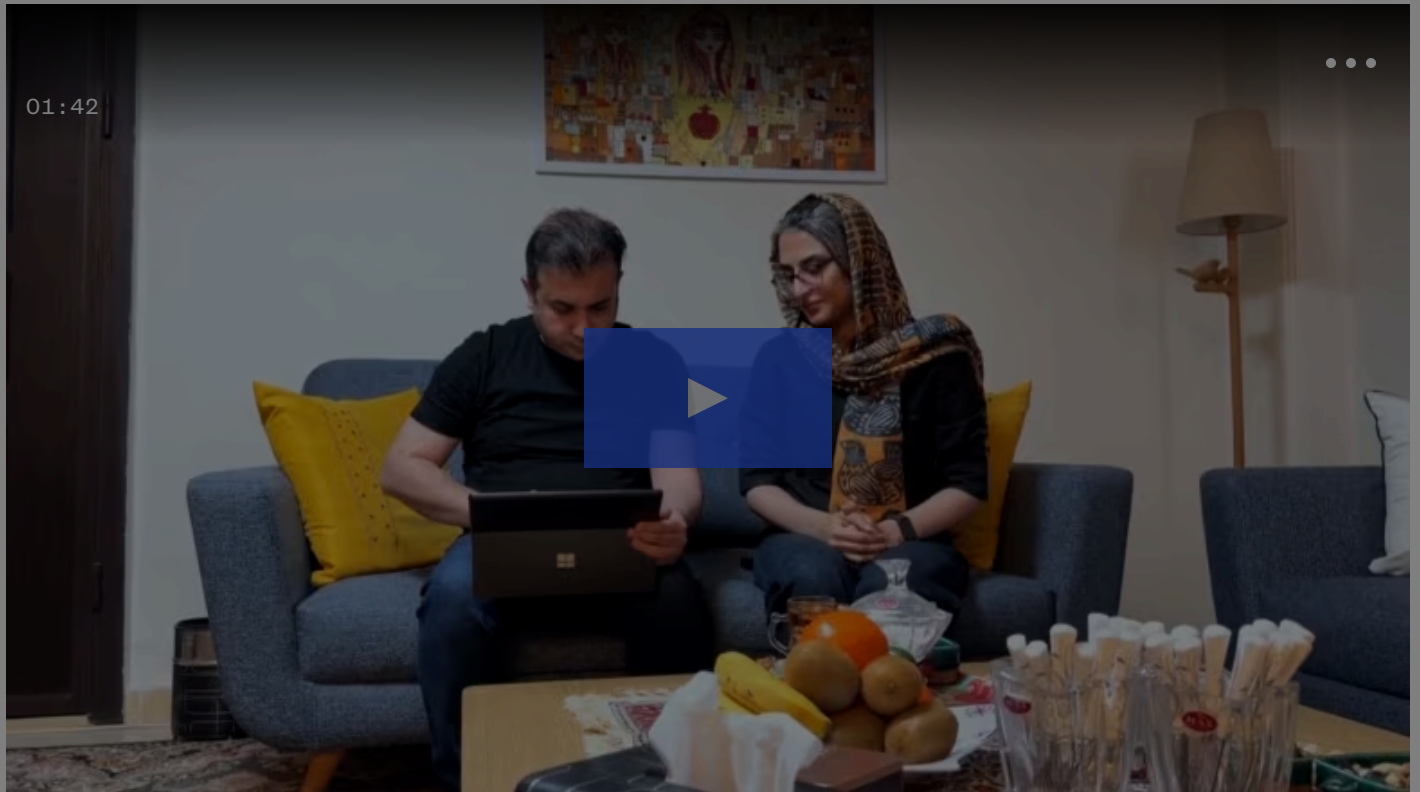
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shows that they are opposed to all religions."

The Israeli military did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the incident.

17h ago / 7:34 AM EDT

Tehran couple expresses fear as Trump threatens Iran's infrastructure



Tehran residents Zahra Arghavan and Medir Alishir expressed new fears as the deadline for President Trump's latest ultimatum approaches. Trump warned in an expletive-laden threat that Iran would be "living in Hell" unless the Strait of Hormuz is opened, giving a deadline for tonight.

18h ago / 7:24 AM EDT

Strikes reported on multiple bridges across Iran

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linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guard, reported. He said two people were killed, with three others injured.

Strikes were also reported on the Tabriz-Zanjan freeway in the northwest and a railway in Karaj in the north.

It comes after a key bridge in the area of Qom, around 80 miles south of Tehran, was reported to have been struck, Iranian television network IRIB reported, citing the deputy of political and security affairs of Qom Governorate.

The Israeli military said it had completed a "wide-scale wave of strikes targeting dozens of infrastructure sites" across Iran. It did not specifically identify bridges as targets in the attack, but said more information would be forthcoming.

Advertisement

18h ago / 7:19 AM EDT

IRGC warns fuel will be cut off 'for years' if Trump follows through on threats

Iran's Revolutionary Guard has warned that it will act to deprive the U.S. and its allies of regional oil and gas "for years" if President Trump moves forward with his threat to target civilian infrastructure.

"We have not initiated attacks on civilian targets and will not; however we will not hesitate to retaliate against despicable aggressions on civilian facilities," the IRGC warned in a statement today.

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"Regional American partners should know that, until now we have exercised significant restraint for the sake of good neighborliness and have taken precautions in selecting retaliatory targets, but from now on, all such precautions have been removed," it warned.

18h ago / 7:03 AM EDT

Multiple explosions reported on Iran's Kharg Island

Explosions have been reported on Iran's crucial Kharg Island, which is home to a sprawling oil facility.

Semi-official Iranian agency Mehr News said multiple strikes had been reported on the island, to which Iran pumps almost all of its crude production through underwater pipelines for export.



— Satellite image of Kharg Island. Gallo Images / Getty Images file

The U.S. has already bombed dozens of targets on Kharg, including air defenses, a naval base and

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18h ago / 6:46 AM EDT

1 suspect dead after gunfire and clash near Israeli consulate in Istanbul

At least one suspect has been killed after three people engaged in an armed clash with police officers in Istanbul that saw gunfire reported ringing out near the Israeli embassy in the Turkish city, officials said.



— Police officials gather outside the Israeli consulate in Istanbul today, following a shootout between gunmen and police. Yasin Akgul / AFP via Getty Images

Calling the assailants "terrorists," Turkish Interior Minister Mustafa Ciftci said one of the individuals was "found to have links to an organization that exploits religion." He said two of the suspects were brothers, with one having a drug-related record.

Istanbul governor Davut Gul told local media at least one of the suspects was dead and that two police officers were injured.

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investigation, but said the consulate is currently unstaffed.

19h ago / 6:21 AM EDT

Turkey launches probe into reports of gunfire near Israeli embassy

An investigation has been launched into reports of gunfire near the Israeli Consulate in the Besiktas district of Istanbul, Turkey's justice minister said today.

Turkish Justice Minister Akin Gurlek confirmed in a post on X reports of gunfire near the consulate. It was not immediately clear whether the consulate was directly targeted.

Gurlek said the Istanbul Chief of Public Prosecutor's Office had "immediately launched" a probe into the reports of gunfire, with a deputy chief public prosecutor and two public prosecutors assigned to the investigation.

A spokesperson for Israel's Foreign Ministry separately told The Jerusalem Post that the incident was under investigation, but noted that the consulate is currently unstaffed.

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19h ago / 6:15 AM EDT

More than 14 million Iranians have volunteered to fight, Iran's president claims

Iran's president has claimed that over 14 million Iranians have volunteered to fight to defend the nation.

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Iran.”



— Members of Iran's security forces stand guard in Enqelab Square, Tehran during a demonstration in support of the Iranian government on Sunday. Majid Saeedi / Getty Images

19h ago / 6:12 AM EDT

2 children among 18 killed in strikes on Iran, officials say

At least 18 people were killed, with two children among them, in strikes carried out in Alborz Province in Iran, the local governor's office has said.

"Zionist regime warplanes, with direct American support, cowardly targeted the homes and shelters of our defenseless citizens in Alborz Province," the Political, Security and Social Deputy of the Alborz Province Governor's Office said, according to the semi-official Iranian Fars News Agency.

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19h ago / 6:02 AM EDT

China calls for peace in the Middle East

China has expressed support for all initiatives aimed at bringing peace to the Middle East, while also welcoming Pakistan's efforts to mediate in the ongoing war.

"We hope the relevant parties will seize the opportunity for peace, bridge differences through dialogue, and quell the flames of war as soon as possible," said Mao Ning, spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Affairs Ministry.

"China is also willing to continue playing a constructive role toward this end," he added.

Meanwhile, in China, gasoline and diesel prices have seen a significant rise, increasing by approximately \$61 and \$58 per ton, respectively, following regulatory changes.

19h ago / 5:32 AM EDT

IDF says it struck key petrochemical compound in Iran

Israel's military has confirmed it struck one of the last remaining facilities in Iran responsible for producing essential chemical components used in explosives.

In a statement, the IDF said it hit a petrochemical facility in Shiraz, a city in southwestern Iran. The IDF also reported conducting a "wide-scale airstrike" across multiple locations in the country.

Additionally, the IDF stated it also targeted a significant ballistic missile array site in northwestern Iran.

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20h ago / 5:20 AM EDT

Photos show destruction inside Tehran



— Majid Saeedi / Getty Images

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— Majid Saeedi / Getty Images



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— Majid Saeedi / Getty Images

Images captured by a news agency photographer yesterday reveal the scope of destruction to Tehran inflicted by a joint Israel-U.S. attack on the city.

20h ago / 5:07 AM EDT

At least 8 reported killed in Israeli strikes on southern Lebanon

At least eight people were killed in Israeli airstrikes launched across southern Lebanon overnight, the state-run National News Agency reported today.

The strikes were carried out across swathes of the region and the western Bekaa, "including Wadi al-Hujeir, Tebnine, Maarakeh, Zebdine, Deir al-Zahrani, Nabatieh al-Fawqa, Kfardounin, Batouliyah, Tyre outskirts and Sahmar," the news agency reported.

It said at least eight people were killed across four different areas: three in Maarakeh, one in Zebdine, one in Deir al-Zahrani, and three in Tyredba, with dozens of people injured. The outlet said the strikes also destroyed homes and caused widespread damage.

The Israeli military did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the reported deadly strikes.

20h ago / 4:56 AM EDT

Killings of top commanders will not deter Iran's armed forces, supreme leader says

The assassinations of Iran's top commanders will not deter Tehran's armed forces, the Islamic Republic's new Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei has said.

Expressing condolences in a written statement over the killing of the Revolutionary Guard's intelligence chief, Khamenei said Maj. Gen. Majid Khademi joined a "steadfast line of warriors and fighters."

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— Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Intelligence Chief Majid Khademi in Tehran in Feb.

KHAMENEI.IR / AFP via Getty Images

With Khademi on a growing list of top commanders and leaders killed in Israel and the U.S.'s war against Iran – Khamenei's father Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei among them – he said Iran's armed forces would not be deterred.

"The steadfast ranks of the fighters and strivers on the path of truth in Islamic Iran, and the self-sacrificing armed forces, are so extensive and firmly established that assassination and crime cannot create any disruption in their ideals of struggle," he said.

20h ago / 4:41 AM EDT

There are no 'winners' if Trump strikes Iran's civilian infrastructure: Former defense secretary

As President Trump doubles down on his threat to strike Iran's civilian infrastructure, if it doesn't

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21h ago / 4:19 AM EDT

Fuel crisis worse than 1973, 1979, 2002 together, IEA chief says

The current oil and gas crisis triggered by Iran's blockade of the Strait of Hormuz is "more serious than the ones in 1973, 1979 and 2002 together," Fatih Birol, the head of the International Energy Agency, said on Monday.

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He said European countries, as well as Japan, Australia and others, would suffer, but emphasized that the countries most at risk were developing nations whose populations will be hard-hit by higher oil and gas prices and rising food prices, as well as the general ramping up of inflation.

It comes as IEA member countries agreed last month to release part of their strategic reserves amid the blockade of Hormuz, through which around 20% of the world's oil flows. Birol said some of this had already been released, but added that the process was still underway.

21h ago / 4:07 AM EDT

Key bridge linking Saudi Arabia and Bahrain reopens after threats

The King Fahd Causeway, a key bridge linking Saudi Arabia and the island of Bahrain, reopened this morning after closing for hours over possible threats from Iran.



— The King Fahd Causeway. Manfred Segerer / IMAGO via Reuters

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The hourslong closure came after a ballistic missile attack from Iran targeted Saudi Arabia and may have done damage to energy infrastructure there.

The kingdom has not elaborated on damage from that attack.

21h ago / 3:59 AM EDT

Iranian official urges youth to gather at Tehran power plants to protest attacks

An Iranian official has urged young people to gather around power plants across Tehran to send a message to the international community that “attacking public infrastructure” is a “war crime.”

“I invite all our youth, athletes, artists, students, university students, and professors,” Alireza Rahimi said, according to Iranian state television, which identified him as the secretary of the Supreme Council of Youth and Adolescents.

“Gather to tell the world that attacking public infrastructure is a war crime,” he added.



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IDF warns Iranians to avoid trains nationwide

Israel's military has warned people across Iran to avoid using trains and to stay far away from railway lines.

The IDF said the advisory would remain in effect until 9 p.m. local time (1:30 p.m. ET).

“Your presence in trains and near tracks will put your life in danger,” it said in a statement in Farsi on X.

The internet is shut off for most Iranians, making it difficult for many to see the warning.

Advertisement

21h ago / 3:29 AM EDT

Diplomacy approaching 'critical' stage, Iran envoy to Pakistan says

Pakistan's “positive and productive” efforts to help stop the war in the Middle East are approaching a “critical, sensitive stage,” Iran's ambassador to Pakistan said.

“Pakistan[‘s] positive and productive endeavours in Good Will and Good Office to stop the war is approaching a critical, sensitive stage,” Ambassador Reza Amiri Moghadam wrote in a post on X this morning.

“Stay tuned for more,” he added, without providing further details or a timeline for updates. Pakistan has been serving as a key intermediary between Iran and the U.S. amid a push for a last-

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The King Fahd Causeway, a key bridge linking Saudi Arabia to the island kingdom of Bahrain, closed early Tuesday over threats from Iranian attacks.

The King Fahd Causeway Authority made the announcement on X.

Vehicle movements had been “suspended as a precautionary measure” over Iranian attacks targeting Saudi Arabia’s Eastern Province, the authority said.

The 25-kilometer (15.5-mile) bridge is the only connection by road for Bahrain, home to the U.S. Navy’s 5th Fleet, to the Arabian Peninsula.

While there has been no formal threat against the King Fahd Causeway, some hard-liners within Iran have increasingly identified it as a possible target.

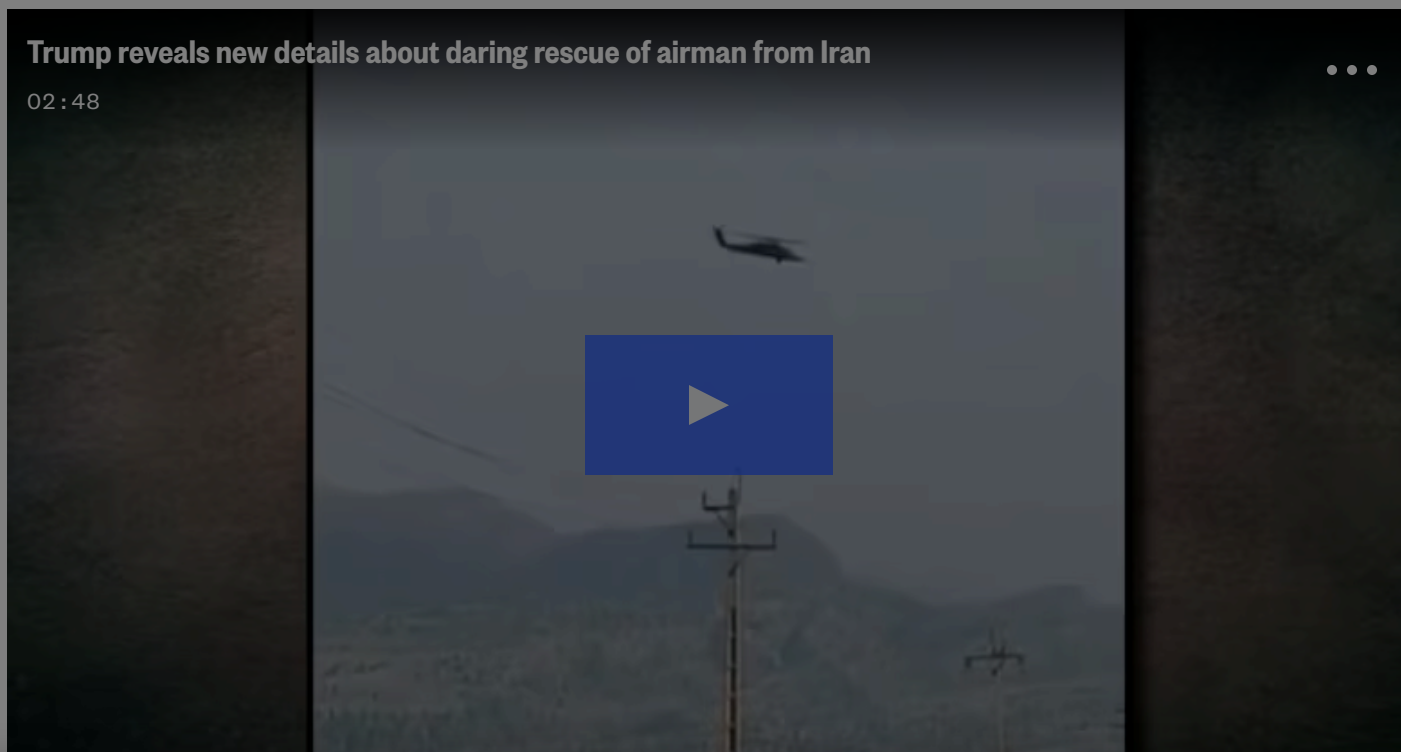
That risk likely would grow if Trump carries out his threatened strikes against bridges in Iran.

22h ago / 3:15 AM EDT

The U.S. fighter jet was downed in Iran by a shoulder-fired missile

Trump reveals new details about daring rescue of airman from Iran

02:48



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But that damage has exposed a more enduring threat: asymmetric warfare, in which individuals or small groups of militants can pose threats strategic to the American military.

[Read the full story here.](#)

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22h ago / 3:15 AM EDT

Trump's deadline looms as Iran rejects temporary ceasefire proposal

The U.S. and Iran appear far apart in diplomatic efforts aimed at ending the war, ahead of President Donald Trump's deadline for the government in Tehran to either agree to a deal or face a bombardment of attacks on its country's infrastructure.



Iran, for its part, has been demanding a permanent end to the war despite Trump's latest ultimatum. Iran publicly has rejected proposals for a temporary ceasefire that have been shared through intermediaries.

One of those proposals includes a 45-day ceasefire that was recently delivered by Pakistan to both U.S. and Iranian officials, according to two regional officials and a senior White House official.

[Read the full story here.](#)

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