

# 71 US Military Leaders Applaud Israel’s Strike and Call for US Support



By striking Iran’s nuclear facilities, Israel has struck a decisive blow not only for its own existence but for the peace and security of America and the world.

As former senior U.S. military officers who have devoted their careers to advancing American security, we applaud Israel’s efforts and call on the U.S. Government to support Israel and ensure its efforts are successful, stand up to Iranian threats of retaliation, and ensure Tehran does not rebuild its nuclear program.

For three decades, U.S. presidents from both parties have vowed to prevent a nuclear Iran. That is because, as senior U.S. official Steve Witkoff put it, “a nuclear Iran poses an existential threat to Israel—and it is also an existential threat to the United States.”

From its very inception in 1979, the Islamic Republic of Iran has viewed America and Israel as its preeminent enemies. Iran is responsible for killing and maiming hundreds of American soldiers. It is building missiles that can target the American eastern seaboard with nuclear weapons. It has sought to assassinate President Trump, former U.S. officials, and prominent American citizens in our homeland. It seeks the destruction of Israel and is the world’s leading sponsor of terror.

Imagine what additional havoc Iran would wreak protected by a nuclear umbrella, much less the risk that it might use such weapons against America, Israel, or other U.S. allies.

Days ago, Iran was perched on the threshold of becoming a nuclear power—capable of producing enough weapons-grade uranium for a nuclear bomb in days and enough for a small arsenal in a month. Israel’s bold action has averted potential disaster and created a new chance for a more stable and secure Middle East.

Now, the United States must act to seize this opportunity and secure its vital national interests at this critical moment: ensuring that Israel succeed in stopping a nuclear Iran; minimizing the risk of any Iranian attempt to spark a wider regional war; demonstrating to America’s most dangerous adversaries, especially China, America’s unwavering resolve to stand by one of its closest partners.

This can be achieved by augmenting Israeli air defenses and helping Israel militarily in any way possible. The United States must also leave Tehran with no doubt that it will risk a severe direct confrontation with the United States should it attempt to escalate the conflict—particularly by attacking U.S. troops, U.S. regional partners (Israel and Arab allies), or the free flow of global energy supplies.

To cement Israel’s success, the United States should join with its international partners to put in place a comprehensive strategy to ensure—diplomatically, if at all possible, but by any means necessary—that Iran does not reconstitute its nuclear program.

Israel just prevented a nuclear Iran, for now, advancing a goal that successive American presidents have identified as vital to our national security. To secure this critical objective, there must now be no daylight between America and Israel.

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