



Ari Cicurel  
*Associate Director of Foreign Policy*

Yoni Tobin  
*Senior Policy Analyst*

Jonah Brody  
*Policy Analyst*

Sarah Havdala  
*Policy Analyst*

# Israel's Operation Rising Lion: 6/17/25 Update

With Israel conducting Operation Rising Lion against Iranian military, nuclear, and leadership targets and Iran launching retaliatory missile and drone attacks, dubbed Operation True Promise III, against the Jewish state, JINSA will regularly release updates detailing the conflict. JINSA has released an [estimate](#) of Iran's future ballistic missile launches and continues to [track international responses](#) to Israeli and Iranian operations. The update below includes information as of June 17, 2025 at 10:00 am ET since JINSA's [last release](#).

## 1. Israeli Operations

- The IDF has continued its pace of intense operations against Iranian nuclear, military, leadership, and regime targets.
  - » On June 17, the IDF bombed the Iranian military's main [emergency command center](#), as well as [air defense systems and radar sites](#) in western Iran.
    - Overnight, the IDF announced that it had [destroyed](#) surface-to-surface missile storage sites, launch infrastructure, surface-to-air missile launchers, dozens of surface-to-surface missile launchers, and UAV storage sites in western Iran.
    - The Israeli military killed [Maj. Gen. Ali Shadmani](#), the newly appointed head of Iran's Khatam-al Anbiya Central Headquarters and Iran's *de facto* most senior military commander.
    - "Predatory Sparrow," an alleged Israeli-linked cyber hacking group, claimed responsibility for a successful [cyberattack](#) on Iran's Bank Sepah. The group accused the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps of using the bank to finance Iran's military programs.
  - » On June 17, the IDF [announced](#) that over 200 Iranian ballistic missile launchers have been destroyed or neutralized by Israeli strikes since the start of Operation Rising Lion.
    - Based on the IDF's [previous estimates](#), this would amount to more than half of Iran's ballistic missile launcher capacity.
  - » On the evening of June 16, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu [announced](#) that Israel has neutralized about 1,000 Iranian drones, comprising roughly half of the regime's drone arsenal.
  - » On June 16, the Israeli military struck an [Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting \(IRIB\) broadcasting studio](#) in Tehran during a live broadcast, two [Iranian F-14 fighter jets](#) right before their scheduled takeoff, a [truck carrying a surface-to-air missile launcher](#) between Tehran and Qom, and Iranian [surface-to-surface missile infrastructure](#) in western Iran.

## 2. Iranian Operations

- Over the past 24 hours, Iran launched at least 33 ballistic missiles and 30 drones at Israel.
  - » Early in the morning on June 17, Iran launched 30 ballistic missiles in four waves, with 20 missiles fired during the final wave, and at least 31 drones at Israel.
    - During the first three waves, which consisted of only a total of 10 ballistic missiles, Israel's Home Front Command issued [warnings](#) only 2-3 minutes before the attacks, compared to its usual 10 minutes, possibly because of the small number of missiles in each attack. Possibly for the same reason, Israel's Home Front Command did not issue a pre-launch alert, which it tries to send 10-15 minutes before an attack, during any of the overnight attacks.
    - Israel's Home Front Command also announced that it would stop releasing [pre-launch alerts](#) for civilians to enter their bomb shelters. The alerts are usually sent out 15-30 minutes before Iranian missiles are set to launch.
    - At least [five people](#) in Herzliya and [two people](#) in the Tel Aviv area were injured from shrapnel.
  - » During the evening local time on June 16, Iran [launched](#) three ballistic missiles and multiple drones towards northern Israel. The IDF confirmed that the projectiles did not reach their targets and that Israeli defense systems had intercepted the attacks.
    - Israel's Cyber Authority [warned](#) Israelis of false messages coming from "orefalert," which has urged civilians to avoid entering bomb shelters at the risk of terrorists attacking the structures.
    - Israel's Bazan Group, which operates the Haifa Bay oil refinery, [announced](#) that the facility will be shut down for at least 10 days following an Iranian missile strike earlier in the day.

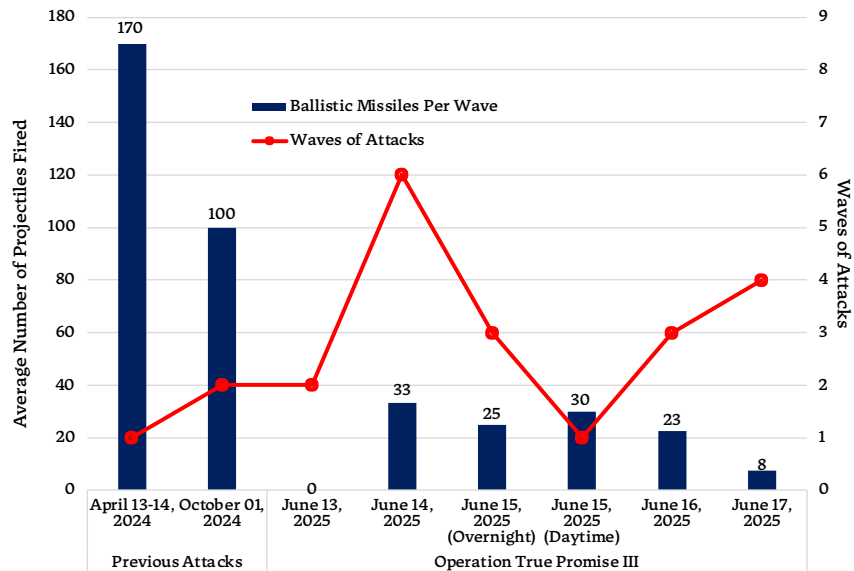
## 3. U.S. Operations

- The United States continued to bolster its deterrent posture against Iran.
  - » On June 17, [Israeli](#) and [U.S.](#) media outlets reported that the United States has begun deploying advanced fighter jets, including the F-22 Raptor and F-35 Lightning II, to the Middle East as part of Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth's directive over the weekend to deploy additional capabilities to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.
  - » On June 16, the U.S. Air Force [deployed](#) over 30 KC-135 and KC-46 aerial refueling tankers to Europe. The planes reportedly landed in Germany, the United Kingdom, Estonia, and Greece.

## 4. Charts and Trends

- Iran decreased the number of ballistic missiles it fired at Israel per wave by 65 percent on June 17 compared to June 16. Iran's significant decrease in missile launches was likely due to Israel destroying at least [200 missile launchers](#).
  - » Iran launched only eight missiles per wave on June 17 and 23 missiles per wave on June 16.
  - » However, Iran increased the number of waves that it launched overnight on June 17, likely to keep persistent pressure on Israel, forcing Israelis to repeatedly run to shelters or spend an entire night in them.

## Average Number of Ballistic Missiles Iran Fired At Israel Per Attack Wave



- Iran decreased the number of ballistic missiles it fired at Israel overnight on June 17 by 55 percent compared to June 16.
  - » Iran fired only 30 ballistic missiles over four waves on June 17, compared to 68 missiles over three waves on June 16.
    - Two-thirds of the missiles that Iran fired overnight on June 17 occurred during the final wave.
    - 96 percent of the missiles Iran launched on June 16 occurred during the first two waves.
    - On June 16, Iran launched 65 missiles over its first two waves and only three during the last wave.
  - » To supplement its ballistic missiles, Iran has increased its use of drones by launching 31 drones on June 17.

## Projectiles Iran Fired At Israel

