



Operations Epic Fury and Roaring Lion: 3/10/26 Update

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With the United States and Israel launching a joint campaign—Operations Epic Fury and Roaring Lion, respectively—against Iranian regime targets and Iran launching retaliatory missile and drone attacks against U.S. forces in the region, Israel, and Arab nations—dubbed Operation True Promise IV—JINSA will regularly release updates detailing the conflict. The update below includes information since [JINSA's last update](#) as of March 10 at 12:00 pm ET.

1. Overview

- U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) [revealed](#) on March 9 that U.S. forces had struck 5,000 targets and destroyed over 50 Iranian naval vessels since the war began.
- U.S. Secretary of War Pete Hegseth [announced](#) on March 10, “today will be, yet again, our most intense day of strikes inside Iran—the most bombers, the most strikes.”
 - » He added that, by contrast, “the last 24 hours have seen Iran fire the lowest number of missiles they’ve been capable of firing yet.”
- Iranian missile attacks are decreasing, and the rate of this decline appears to be increasing.
 - » On March 9, Iran’s rate of fire dropped to 40 missiles, a 91 percent decline from the 428 missiles fired on February 28. So far on March 10, Iran has fired just 18 missiles, a 55 percent decline from the day prior, on pace for the lowest daily total since the conflict began.
 - » Iran has launched over 2,400 drones and roughly 1,080 ballistic missiles since the war began, with roughly 44 percent of total projectiles targeting the United Arab Emirates.
 - » Iran significantly shifted its targeting on March 10, with 31 percent of attacks so far today targeting Saudi Arabia, primarily through drones, up from just six percent on March 9.
- President Donald Trump [threatened](#) in a Truth Social post on March 10 that “if Iran does anything that stops the flow of oil within the Strait of Hormuz, they will be hit by the United States of America TWENTY TIMES HARDER than they have been hit thus far.”
 - » He added, “we will take out easily destroyable targets that will make it virtually impossible for Iran to ever be built back, as a nation, again — death, fire and fury will reign upon them.... But I hope, and pray, that it does not happen!”
 - » The U.S. military is preparing for naval escorts of commercial vessels through the Strait in the event that President Trump elects for that option.

- At a March 10 press briefing, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff General Dan Caine [stated](#), “if tasked to escort [commercial ships through the Strait of Hormuz], we’ll look at the range of options to set the military conditions to be able to do that.”
- President Trump [told](#) CBS News on March 9 that he believes “the war [with Iran] is very complete, pretty much,” noting that “[Iran has] no navy, no communications, they’ve got no air force. Their missiles are down to a scatter. Their drones are being blown up all over the place, including their manufacturing of drones.”
 - » Regarding the operation’s timeline, President Trump [assured](#) that “we’re very far ahead of schedule.”
 - » When asked about the Strait of Hormuz, President Trump [claimed](#) that he was “thinking about taking it over.”
- President Trump [told](#) the *New York Post* that the United States hasn’t “made any decision” and is “nowhere near” deciding whether or not to send ground forces into Iran to secure the regime’s nuclear material.
 - » On March 9, International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Rafael Grossi [claimed](#) that around half of the regime’s 60 percent enriched uranium (approximately 200kg) is still stored underground at Isfahan, but that recent activity suggests the regime may have relocated the material.
- President Trump [stated](#) that he was “not happy” with the appointment of Mojtaba Khamenei, the late Ali Khamenei’s son, as Iran’s new supreme leader. President Trump previously said that Mojtaba Khamenei leading Iran was “unacceptable.”
- Senior Hezbollah officials have begun back-channel talks to [signal](#) they want a ceasefire with Israel, according to Israel’s *Channel 12*. Israeli officials are reportedly taking the outreach seriously and are discussing how to proceed.

2. U.S. and Israeli Operations

- President Trump [said](#) on March 10 that, should Iran try to cut off the world’s oil supply, “they’ll get hit at a much harder level,” including strikes on targets relating to “electricity production and many other things.”
- Three U.S. B-52 strategic bombers [arrived](#) at RAF Fairford, a British military base, on March 9. Previously, three U.S. B-1 Lancer strategic bombers arrived at the base between March 7 and 8.
 - » British Prime Minister Keir Starmer has granted a U.S. request to use British bases for defensive purposes, after [publicly opposing](#) American use of the bases to initiate strikes on Iran.
- Since the start of the war, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) have [struck](#) over 30 financial institutions belonging to Al-Qard Al-Hassan, a Hezbollah-operated banking enterprise in Lebanon that funds the organization. As a result, Hezbollah is extremely strapped for cash and has reportedly not been able to pay its operatives for several weeks.

Day 11 of Operations: March 10

Iran

- U.S.-Israeli strikes reportedly [targeted](#) several regime sites throughout Iran, including:
- U.S. forces [struck](#) Iran’s “mine-laying vessels,” throughout the day, according to General Caine.
- Overnight, the IDF [struck](#) a subterranean Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) complex at Imam Hossein University, where Iranian forces “conducted experiments and tests for

ballistic missile development and production processes,” as well as the IRGC Quds Force’s central headquarters.

- Minutes before an Iranian ballistic missile was going to be fired at Israel, an Israeli drone strike [destroyed](#) the launcher.
- Strikes reportedly targeted several other regime sites throughout Iran, including:
 - » [Bandar Abbas Air Base](#); [police command](#) and [judiciary](#) buildings in Bonab; [Police Square](#) in Isfahan; a [Basij base](#) in Kangavar; a [moving vehicle](#) in Tehran; and other regime targets in [Tehran](#), [Kerman](#), [Shiraz](#), [Qods City](#), [Tabriz](#), [Behbahan](#), and [Bushehr](#).
- According to *Iran International*, joint U.S.-Israeli strikes [killed](#) Asadollah Badfar, head of the Basij.

Lebanon

- The Israeli military has [struck](#) more than 70 “primed Hezbollah rocket launchers” since the group first fired at Israel in early March, according to the *Times of Israel*, citing the IDF.
- The IDF [targeted](#) Hezbollah infrastructure in Dahiyeh and other Hezbollah-controlled southern Beirut suburbs.
 - » Hezbollah has sustained [major losses](#) to its economic assets in recent days, and is now reportedly [seeking a ceasefire](#) with Israel.

Iraq

- An airstrike [struck](#) a position belonging to the Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF), a collection of Iran-backed militia in Iraq, killing four fighters and injuring 12 others in the Dibis district of Kirkuk Governorate.
 - » The PMF blamed the United States for the strike, though Washington has not confirmed responsibility.

Day 10 of Operations: March 9

Iran

- Iranian authorities reportedly [held](#) a funeral for Asadollah Badfar, the head of Basij for Iran’s Armed Forces General Staff, on March 9, after he was killed in the joint U.S.-Israeli operations.
- Israel announced on March 9 that the prior night, it [struck](#) six Iranian military airbases, including aircraft, as well as “runways and defense and detection systems.”
- The Israeli Air Force [dropped](#) over 170 bombs on Iranian military targets across Tehran, Isfahan, and Shiraz, including: an IRGC Quds Force headquarters; a facility for producing and storing surface-to-air missiles; air defense systems; and additional military sites.
- U.S.-Israeli strikes reportedly targeted several regime sites throughout Iran and surrounding areas, including:
 - » [Basij and IRGC bases](#) in Shahriar, Nazarabad, Karaj, and Andisheh; an [Iranian naval vessel](#) in the Persian Gulf; the [IRGC’s UAV headquarters](#); [Saravan Airport](#); a [military base](#) in Aspich; and other [regime targets](#) in Tehran and Karaj.

Lebanon

- Israeli strikes [destroyed](#) three of Hezbollah’s long-range projectile launchers and [targeted](#) branches of a Hezbollah-linked bank, the Al-Qard al-Hasan association.

Iraq

- An airstrike [hit](#) a PMF headquarters building in the al-Qa’im district of al-Anbar Governorate.

- » An IRGC-linked Telegram channel [claimed](#) Israel was responsible for the strike.

U.S. and Israeli Rationale and Policy Objectives

United States

- President Trump [told](#) *CBS News* he believes “the war [with Iran] is very complete, pretty much,” adding that “[Iran has] no navy, no communications, they’ve got no air force. Their missiles are down to a scatter. Their drones are being blown up all over the place, including their manufacturing of drones.”
 - » He [added](#), “If they [Iran] do anything bad, that would be the end of Iran and you’d never hear the name again.”
 - » Regarding supporting the Iranian people, President Trump [said](#) that he would “love to help them, but they have to be in a system that allows them to be helped.”
 - » President Trump also [said](#) that he “likes the idea” of Iran’s next leader coming from within the regime.
- Secretary of War Pete Hegseth [said](#) striking Iranian oil facilities “wasn’t necessarily” a U.S. objective and rejected claims that Israel is pulling the United States into operations against its interests.
- Secretary of State Marco Rubio [stated](#) that “the world is going to be a safer and a better place” when Operation Epic Fury’s mission is accomplished. He highlighted the threats that Iran’s “terrorist government” poses to the region and the world.
- Trump [stated](#) that Iran refused to relinquish its right to produce highly enriched uranium in past nuclear negotiations and, after the 12-Day War, Iran boosted its missile production and tried to build a new nuclear site. He added that Iran’s aggression “was very quickly approaching the point of no return, and the United States found it intolerable.”

Israel

- Israeli leaders are reportedly [contemplating](#) continuing the campaign against Hezbollah long after the current campaign against Iran is over.
- According to Israel’s *Channel 12*, senior Israeli officials [expect](#) Hezbollah to escalate the conflict by firing an increased number of rockets and drones at Israel, in hopes of diverting the IDF’s attention from its operation in Iran.

3. Iranian Operations

- Iranian strikes continued targeting sites in Israel, including:
 - » Central Israel and the West Bank, in a [missile barrage](#) that Israel intercepted;
 - » Northern Israel, with a ballistic missile that [landed](#) in an open area, causing no injuries; and
 - » A ballistic missile [landed](#) in an open area near Beit Shemesh, causing no injuries.
- The IDF [assessed](#) on March 10 that roughly half of all Iranian missiles fired at Israel during the war employed cluster warheads, which disperse submunitions over a radius of six miles.
- Iran’s proxy Hezbollah also continued bombarding Israel.
 - » On March 10, a Hezbollah projectile [struck](#) an unoccupied IDF tank atop a military transporter truck at an Israeli army post along the Lebanese border.
 - » On March 9, Hezbollah launched a missile attack targeting multiple sites in central Israel: the IDF Home Front Command Headquarters in Ramle and a satellite communications station in Haela Valley.

- 16 people were [lightly injured](#) in the attack, which [caused damage](#) to a daycare center.
- These locations were the farthest south in Israel that Hezbollah missiles have reached thus far in the war.
- The attack may have [involved](#) a Fateh-110 short-range ballistic missile, an Iranian-produced missile which is believed to be one of Hezbollah’s most advanced missiles.
- Regional Arab countries continue to come under Iranian fire. Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the U.A.E., have each reported Iranian attacks on their country over the past day:
 - » Iran fired missiles and drones at targets in Iraqi Kurdistan, including five missiles at the [Al-Harir Air Base](#) near Erbil; a drone attack that damaged the [U.A.E. consulate](#) in Erbil; and a drone strike that hit civilian infrastructure belonging to the [Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan](#) (PDKI) in Degala.
 - » The Emirati defense ministry [said](#) Iran fired nine ballistic missiles and 35 drones at the U.A.E., of which eight missiles and 29 drones were intercepted by its air defenses.
 - One drone [struck](#) the U.A.E.’s Ruwais refinery—the largest single-site oil refinery in the Middle East—causing a fire and forcing operations to shut down.
 - » On March 10, Saudi Arabia’s Civil Defense [reported](#) that Iran fired drones and [missiles](#) at the Kingdom, with one drone crashing into a residential site in the Al-Zulfi governorate.
 - » On March 9, Kuwait [announced](#) that an Iranian drone struck a government building, causing serious damage but no injuries or deaths.
 - » The United Kingdom announced that it has begun shooting down Iranian drones launched towards Arab countries.
 - British Defense Minister John Healey [stated](#) on March 9 that British fighter aircraft, specifically fourth-generation Eurofighter Typhoon jets, are conducting “defensive sorties” to help defend Arab partners.
 - Healey [stated](#) that British aircraft have thus far intercepted two drones over Jordan and a third drone heading toward Bahrain.
- Iran’s Ministry of Intelligence [announced](#) on March 10 that it had detained 30 people suspected of conducting espionage for the United States and Israel.
- Iranian citizens [told](#) Israel’s *Channel 12* that Iranian security forces are “more frightening than the war itself” and that “the anger [towards the regime] is growing.”

4. Estimated Casualties of Iranian Operations

- An Iranian drone attack [killed](#) six U.S. servicemembers at Port Shuaiba in Kuwait on March 1: Maj. Jeffrey O’Brien, 45; Chief Warrant Officer 3 Robert Marzan, 54; Capt. Cody Khork, 35; Sgt. 1st Class Nicole Amor, 39; Sgt. 1st Class Noah Tietjens, 42; and Sgt. Declan Coady (posthumously promoted from specialist), 20.
- Another U.S. servicemember was [killed](#) on March 1 during an Iranian attack targeting U.S. troops at Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia. The Pentagon [identified](#) the fallen servicemember as Sgt. Benjamin Pennington, 26.
 - » At least 18 U.S. servicemembers have been seriously [wounded](#).
- Since the war’s outbreak, numerous other casualties have been reported:

- » 17 Israelis have [been killed](#), two of them soldiers [killed](#) in southern Lebanon, and nearly 1,500 have been [hospitalized](#);
- » In the U.A.E., four people have been [killed](#), and 117 have been [injured](#);
- » Two [Kuwaiti navy sailors](#), two [interior ministry officers](#), and a [Kuwaiti civilian](#) have been killed, and over 67 Kuwaiti military personnel have been [injured](#);
- » Four people have been [killed](#) in Syria, and several have been [injured](#);
- » Two foreign nationals have been [killed](#) in Saudi Arabia;
- » In Qatar, around 20 people have been [wounded](#);
- » In Oman, one person has been [killed](#);
- » In Bahrain, two people have [been killed](#) and 35 people have [been injured](#);
- » At least [15 people](#) have been killed in Iraq, including an [Iraqi security officer](#) and [several fighters](#) in Iran-backed militias. An airport employee has [been wounded](#) in Iraqi Kurdistan.
- » In Azerbaijan, four civilians have been [injured](#);
- » In Lebanon, at least 486 individuals have been [killed](#), and 1,130 have been [wounded](#);
- » In Iran, at least 1,332 Iranians have been [killed](#); and
- » Roughly 1,900 IRGC and internal security officials have been [killed](#) in the war, according to Israel's official figures.

5. Threats and Condemnation from Iranian Officials

- Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi [said](#) Iran is prepared to continue missile attacks for “as long as it takes” and ruled out further negotiations with the United States.
- IRGC Aerospace Force commander Majid Mousavi [stated](#) that Iran will no longer launch missiles with warheads lighter than one ton at U.S. and Israeli targets.
- Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Ali Larijani [threatened](#) President Trump on X, warning him to “be careful not to be eliminated.”
- Larijani also [warned](#) that “the Strait of Hormuz is either a strait of opening for all; or a strait of constriction for war-mongers.”

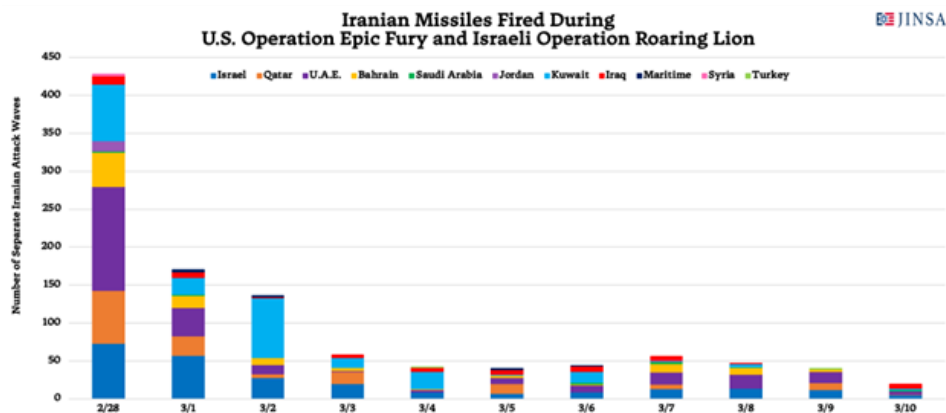
6. International Response

- Lebanon reportedly [urged](#) the Trump administration to help mediate negotiations with Israel, aiming to end the war and reach a peace agreement, after the Lebanese government condemned Hezbollah's constant attacks on Israeli territory.
 - » U.S. and Israeli officials reportedly [responded](#) skeptically to Lebanon's proposal.
 - » Lebanese President Joseph Aoun [cautioned](#) on March 9 that Hezbollah's projectile attacks on Israel risk turning Lebanon “into a second Gaza” by starting a major “direct confrontation” with Israel.
- After Lebanon's government announced its commitment to dismantling Hezbollah and banned the group's activities, Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa [declared](#) his support for President Aoun's decision, stating that Syrian troops have “reinforced our defensive forces along the border as a precaution to prevent” clashes from spreading to Syria and will “combat cross-border organizations and prevent them from using Syrian soil.”
 - » Syrian state media also [claimed](#) that Lebanese Hezbollah fighters fired munitions at Syrian territory overnight, accusing the group of targeting the state's military positions.

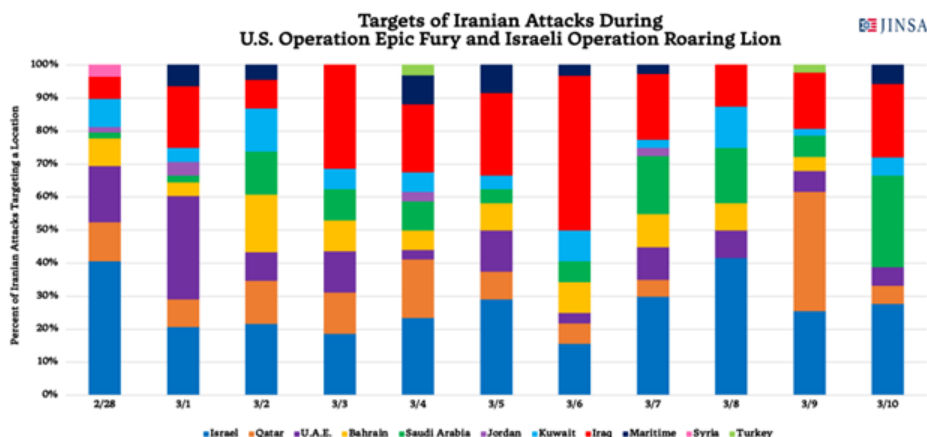
- Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan [warned](#) Iran following Tehran's second ballistic missile launch targeting Turkey on March 9.
- Oman's leader, Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, [congratulated](#) Iran's new Supreme Leader, Mojtaba Khamenei, on his selection as Iranian leader.
- On March 9, at the request of the French government, the Netherlands [announced](#) that it would deploy a frigate to the Mediterranean to defend Cypriot interests and maritime assets.
- French President Emmanuel Macron [announced](#) that France will deploy eight frigates and two amphibious assault ships to the Eastern Mediterranean and Red Sea alongside the aircraft carrier *Charles de Gaulle*.
- Several Middle Eastern countries have [reduced](#) oil production, with Saudi Arabia cutting output by 2–2.5 million barrels per day, the U.A.E by 500,000–800,000 barrels, Kuwait by about 500,000 barrels, and Iraq by roughly 2.9 million barrels per day.

7. Charts and Trends

- Iranian missile fire continued its sharp decline on March 9, with the total number falling 15 percent, from 47 on March 8 to 40 on March 9. So far, on March 10, missile fire is on pace to reach its lowest level of the conflict, with just 18 missiles fired.



- Iran significantly shifted its targeting on March 10. For the first time since the war began, Saudi Arabia absorbed the largest share of attacks, at roughly 31 percent of all attacks, up from just six percent on March 9.
 - » Israel remained a consistent target, representing 25 percent of Iranian attacks.
 - » Iranian attacks against Qatar collapsed from 36 percent of all attacks on March 9 to just six percent on March 10.



8. JINSA Resources

- Blaise Misztal, [Principles for U.S.-Kurdish Partnership](#), March 6, 2026
- Hussein Mansour, [Gulf Situation Assessment: Iran's Attacks on Arab States Will Backfire](#), March 5, 2026
- Ari Cicurel, [Iran's Missile Fire Has Almost Run Out](#), March 5, 2026
- Blaise Misztal, [Iran is Not Iraq](#), March 4, 2026
- Giran Ozcan and Jonah Brody, [The Kurdish Moment in Iran](#), March 4, 2026
- Gen. Frank McKenzie, USMC (ret.), IDF MG (ret.) Yaakov Amidror, IDF MG (ret.) Oded Bassiuk, and John Hannah, "[Webinar: Operations Epic Fury and Roaring Lion](#)," March 1, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe and Ari Cicurel, [U.S.-Israel Joint Operations Against Iran's Regime](#), February 28, 2026
- Blaise Misztal, Giran Ozcan, and Jonah Brody, [The Rise of Iran's Kurdish Coalition](#), February 27, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe and Ari Cicurel, [Israel: America's Third Aircraft Carrier in the Middle East](#), February 25, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe and Ari Cicurel, [Iran's Evolving Missile and Drone Threat](#), February 20, 2026
- Lt Gen Thomas Bergeson, USAF (ret.), LTG Karen Gibson, USA (ret.), and Lt Gen Sam Mundy, USMC (ret.), "[Any Action Against Iran Needs to Account for the Proxies](#)," *Breaking Defense*, February 19, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe and Yoni Tobin, "[Iran Has Teeth. Can America Extract Them?](#)", *JNS*, February 12, 2026
- IDF MG (ret.) Yaakov Amidror, VADM Robert Harward, USN (ret.), Lt Gen Charles Moore, USAF (ret.), and Blaise Misztal, "[Webinar: How Should the United States Respond to Iranian Protests?](#)", January 15, 2026
- Gen Charles Wald, USAF (ret.), VADM Mark Fox, USN (ret.), and LTG Robert Ashley, USA (ret.), [Operation Rising Lion: Insights from Israel's 12-Day War Against Iran](#), November 20, 2025
- Ari Cicurel, [Shielded by Fire: Middle East Air Defense During the June 2025 Israel-Iran War](#), August 21, 2025