



Operations Epic Fury and Roaring Lion: 3/25/26 Update

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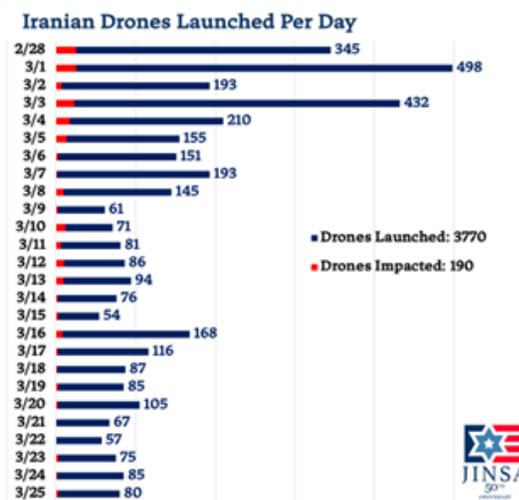
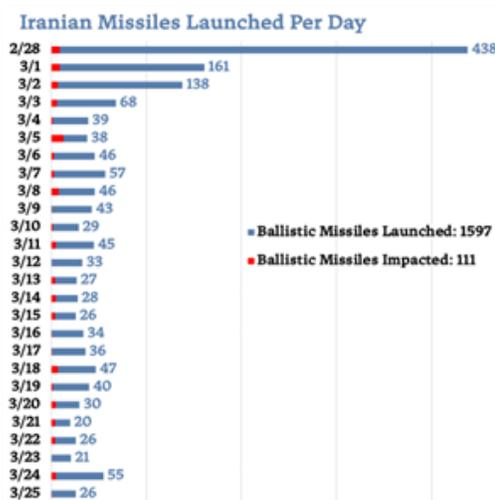
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With the United States and Israel launching a joint campaign—Operations Epic Fury and Roaring Lion, respectively—against Iranian regime targets and Iran launching retaliatory missile and drone attacks against U.S. forces in the region, Israel, and 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 25 at 11:00 am ET.

1. Overview

- On March 24, President Donald Trump [told](#) reporters, “I think we’re going to end [the war]. I can’t tell you for sure. You know, I don’t like to say this: this war has been won.”
- Israel’s *Channel 12* outlet, citing three insider sources, [revealed](#) details of the 15-point framework on the table in the U.S.-Iran indirect negotiations. The framework addresses, in vague terms, aspects of Iran’s missile, nuclear, and regional proxy programs, as well as the Strait of Hormuz maritime chokepoint.
 - » According to *Channel 12*, if Iran agrees to these 15 points, there will be an immediate one-month ceasefire to work out further details. However, Iran has [rejected](#) the framework, according to Iranian state television.
 - » The framework reportedly includes a [ban](#) on Iranian uranium enrichment, as well as Iran committing to halt its nuclear weapons and proxy programs.
- President Trump asserted on March 24 that there has been regime change in Iran.
 - » He [stated](#), “We have, really, a regime change. You know, this is a change in the regime, because the leaders are all very different than the ones we started off with that created all these problems.”
- The United States is reportedly planning to [deploy](#) to the Middle East a brigade of roughly 3,000 soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division, which functions as the U.S. Army’s main emergency response force. The brigade would also deploy with the division’s headquarters, the latter of which is responsible for planning and coordination.
- Iran has made a major energy concession “worth a tremendous amount of money,” President Trump [announced](#) on March 24.
 - » President Trump said, “they gave us a present, and the present arrived today, and it was a very big present,” specifying that “it was oil and gas related” and related to the Strait of Hormuz, without commenting further.

- » President Trump [claimed](#), in response to a reporter’s question about future control of the Strait of Hormuz, that the United States will “have control of anything we want” after the war.
- On March 24, the Israeli Air Force (IAF) used over 120 munitions to strike dozens of defense industrial base targets, including Iran’s primary explosives factory, in the central Isfahan region. The IAF also [struck](#) key Iranian air defense systems and weapons production sites in the area.
- Israel has [dropped](#) over 15,000 munitions on Iran since the war began, its military announced on March 15.
- Israeli operations in Lebanon are now focused on [three primary efforts](#), according to a report from Israel’s *Maariv* outlet. These include protecting northern Israeli towns by operating along the border; demilitarizing southern Lebanon, south of the Litani River; and applying military and economic pressure on Hezbollah across all of Lebanon.
 - » Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Division 162 is reportedly [set to join](#) Division 36 in the Israeli ground maneuver in the coming days.
- Updated Israeli intelligence [suggests](#) that Israel’s military has eliminated approximately 85 percent of Hezbollah’s missile arsenal and that the group now only maintains around 11,000 to 13,000 missiles and rockets.
- A senior Israeli defense source told Israel’s *Walla News* on March 25 that Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem is [extremely nervous](#) about the prospect of losing ties with Iran as well as the steady erosion of Hezbollah’s fighting force.
- The stock market recorded [gains](#) on March 25, with S&P 500 index futures rising 1 percent and Nasdaq index futures rising 1.1 percent. Energy prices [declined](#), with Brent crude benchmark prices dropping by 6.2 percent from \$100.23 to \$93.97.
- Iran continues to launch far fewer missiles than it did during the opening days of the war, but drone attacks against Bahrain surged on March 25, with Iran launching 80 drones so far, up from 19 on March 24.
 - » Iranian missile fire increased 119 percent on March 24, with 46 missiles fired, up from 21 on March 23. So far on March 25, Iran has fired 26 missiles.
 - » Iran has launched roughly 3,770 drones, 1,597 ballistic missiles, and 28 cruise missiles since the war began.



2. Diplomatic Engagement

- Journalist Yaron Avraham of Israel's *Channel 12* outlet [published](#), on March 24, what he said is the full 15-point ceasefire framework that President Trump has [publicly discussed](#) in recent days. *Bloomberg* reported on March 24 that Pakistani intermediaries have [delivered](#) the proposed framework to Iran.
 - » The [15 points](#), according to Avraham, are:
 - Iran must dismantle its existing nuclear capabilities;
 - Iran must commit to abandoning its nuclear weapons program;
 - For an unspecified time, Iran will not enrich any uranium on its soil;
 - All enriched material inside Iran must be handed over to inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency;
 - Iran must dismantle its Fordow, Isfahan, and Natanz nuclear facilities;
 - The International Atomic Energy Agency must be granted full access to relevant information about Iran's nuclear project;
 - Iran must commit to abandoning its proxy program entirely;
 - Iran must fully cease funding and arming its proxies;
 - Iran must commit to allowing safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz;
 - Iran must agree to limitations on the range of its missiles;
 - Iran must agree to restrictions on the number of missiles it has;
 - Iran will be allowed to retain missiles only for self-defense purposes;
 - Sanctions on Iran will be lifted;
 - The United States must commit to not reimposing sanctions; and
 - The United States will help Iran with a civilian nuclear project.
- Iran has [conveyed its own five demands](#) for a ceasefire agreement, according to *Wall Street Journal* reporting from March 24. The *Journal* said U.S. officials view Iran's proposal as completely unrealistic and a nonstarter, even zany.
 - » The five main Iranian demands reportedly include:
 - Iran charging fees for ships traversing Strait of Hormuz;
 - Pledges that the war will not resume at any point;
 - A commitment that Israel will stop its strikes on Iran's Hezbollah proxy;
 - The lifting of all sanctions on Iran; and
 - No restrictions being imposed on Iran's missile program.
- President Trump [confirmed](#) on March 24 that his administration is negotiating with Iran, describing how "we're actually talking to the right people." Added President Trump, "they want to make a deal so badly, you have no idea."
 - » Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters spokesman Ebrahim Zolfaqari [accused](#) the United States of negotiating with itself, claiming that "people like us can never get along with people like you."

- Danny Danon, the Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations (UN), [claimed](#) that Israel has no role in any potential U.S.-Iran talks in Pakistan this week and confirmed that the U.S. and Israeli militaries are continuing to strike critical regime targets in Iran.
- Iranian officials have [told](#) mediators that they fear being deceived again by President Trump, citing two previous instances in which U.S.-Iran talks were followed by military strikes, according to *Axios*.

3. U.S. and Israeli Operations

- In framework agreements with the Pentagon, major defense firms Honeywell Aerospace, BAE Systems, and Lockheed Martin [agreed](#) on March 25 to accelerate the production of critical munitions and defense systems, including the Precision Strike Missile (PrsM) and seekers for Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) interceptors.
- New Israeli intelligence assessments [indicate](#) that Hezbollah has lost approximately 85 percent of its missile arsenal since the war began, leaving the group with an estimated 11,000 to 13,000 rockets and missiles—roughly one-sixth of its pre-war stockpile.
 - » Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem reportedly [believes](#) Hezbollah is at risk of losing its military capabilities, and, given the Iran war, potentially its ability to resupply itself with Tehran’s patronage.
- In southern Lebanon’s Al Khayyam village, Israeli combat engineering forces are now [operating](#) on the ground and systematically destroying terror infrastructure. Israel reportedly sees this as a model it can replicate elsewhere across southern Lebanon.
 - » According to *Walla News*, Al Khayyam served as “[a strategic point](#)” for Hezbollah and a “springboard village,” where operatives stockpiled military equipment and prepared for attacks on Israel.
 - » JINSA Distinguished Fellow IDF MG (ret.) Yaakov Amidror, former head of Israel’s National Security Council, explained in a recent [JINSA webinar](#) that Israeli operations near the border aim to ensure two main outcomes:
 - One, that “no [Hezbollah] ground operation can be done against the [Israeli] communities near the border” with Lebanon; and
 - Second, “that [Hezbollah is] losing the line of sight and cannot launch anti-tank missiles into the civilian communities.”
- The IDF [announced](#) it destroyed Iran’s most central explosives production facility, which had previously been targeted during Operation Rising Lion but was subsequently rebuilt before being struck.
- The IDF [reported](#) that approximately 700 Hezbollah fighters have been killed in operations so far.
- The Israeli government [approved](#) the call-up of up to 400,000 reservists—up from a previous cap of 280,000—with the IDF clarifying the figure represents a ceiling for operational flexibility rather than the actual number to be mobilized.

Day 26 of Operations: March 25

Iran

- Overnight, the Israeli Air Force (IAF) [struck](#) several key weapons production sites throughout Tehran, including:
 - » Two long-range naval cruise missile [manufacturing facilities](#);
 - » Several other aerial and naval weapons production sites for supplying Hamas, Hezbollah, and Iran’s other proxies; and

- » The regime's air defense systems.
- According to *Iran International*, overnight strikes targeted several other regime sites throughout Iran, including:
 - » The [Imam Ali air defense base](#) in Kahrizak;
 - » A [military facility](#) in Bandar Abbas; and
 - » The [IRGC's Imam Ali and Imam Javad garrisons](#) in Shiraz; and
 - » [Alborz Industrial City](#) in Qazvin.

Lebanon

- Overnight, an Israeli drone [killed](#) Hezbollah fighters shortly after they fired rockets at Israeli troops operating in southern Lebanon.
- Golani Brigade troops killed multiple Hezbollah fighters in Southern Lebanon, including a militant equipped with an assault rifle and RPG, while others were killed by airstrikes.
 - » 7th Armored Brigade soldiers also [discovered](#) and destroyed a weapons depot belonging to the group.

Iraq

- An unattributed strike [hit](#) a base shared by the Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF) and Iraqi Armed Forces in Al Anbar Governorate, killing seven Iraqi soldiers and wounding 13 others.

Day 25 of Operations: March 24

Iran

- The IAF struck Iran's only [submarine research and development site](#) in Isfahan, as well as the country's "main" [facility for developing explosives](#).
- The Israeli military recently [eliminated](#) the Iranian operatives that had launched a missile on the southern Israeli city of Arad last Saturday, according to the IDF's top spokesman and former JINSA Visiting Fellow Brig. Gen. Effie Defrin.
- The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran [claimed](#) that a projectile targeted Iran's Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant, but did not directly strike or damage the facility.
- An airstrike [destroyed](#) the Isfahan Optics Industries building, a regime-owned defense company that produces weapons systems' components.
- An Iranian official [claimed](#) that between March 23 and 24, strikes targeted three locations in Tabriz, a site in Shabestar, and Akhula industrial park production facility.

Lebanon

- The Israeli military [struck](#) a Hezbollah headquarters in Beirut, as well as several Hezbollah-owned gas stations.
- The IDF [announced](#) that strikes earlier in the week targeted two Hezbollah command centers in Bint Jbeil, killing five fighters in the group's anti-tank missile unit and hitting other anti-tank launch sites.
- The IDF [confirmed](#) that a strike on March 23 killed Muhammad Ali Kourani, an IRGC Quds Force operative, in Beirut.

4. Iranian and Proxy Operations

- On Wednesday, Iran [launched](#) missiles at the USS *Abraham Lincoln* aircraft carrier.
 - » The day before, President Trump [stated](#) that 101 Iranian missiles targeted a U.S. aircraft carrier, with every missile having been intercepted.

- Iran and Hezbollah continue to target Israel with an array of drone, missile, and rocket attacks. Over the past 24 hours:
 - » An Iranian missile [equipped](#) with cluster munitions impacted sites in central Israel's Bnei Brak, injuring nine people.
 - » An Iranian ballistic missile [crashed](#) into an open area close to Hadera, resulting in no injuries.
 - » Hezbollah [launched](#) a barrage of around 30 rockets at northern Israel, killing one woman and injuring two other people after a rocket impacted an area near Mahanayim Junction.
 - » Hezbollah [fired](#) several rockets at northern Israel, with Israeli air defenses intercepting some of the rockets and one striking Karmiel in northern Israel, injuring two people.
 - » Hezbollah [fired](#) approximately 10 rockets in the Haifa area, with some landing in open areas and Israeli air defenses intercepting the others.
- Israel's Cyber Defense Division [reported](#) handling over 1,200 significant cyber incidents carried out directly by Iran or at its direction since the start of the conflict.
- Arab countries continue coming under Iranian and proxy fire. Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and the U.A.E. each reported attacks on their country over the past day:
 - » Bahrain:
 - Bahrain [intercepted](#) 30 drones over the country.
 - » Iraq:
 - U.S. aircraft [intercepted](#) at least four missiles and five drones, which were launched from Iran toward Erbil in Iraqi Kurdistan.
 - » Jordan:
 - Jordan [intercepted](#) five missiles and one drone over Jordanian airspace.
 - » Kuwait:
 - Iran [launched](#) twenty ballistic missiles and nine drones at Kuwait on March 25, with two drones striking a fuel tank at Kuwait International Airport that sparked a fire but caused no casualties.
 - » Lebanon:
 - A missile was [intercepted](#) over Lebanese airspace by a "foreign naval vessel," marking the first interception of a projectile over Lebanon, with missile fragments causing injuries. The missile may have [targeted](#) the U.S. Embassy in Awkar, the Hamat Air Base, or a location in Cyprus. Lebanon [disputed](#) that it was the target, noting that while it cannot tell if a force intercepted the missile or if it malfunctioned, "it exploded at a high altitude, which suggests that its target was outside Lebanese territory."
 - In the same attack, the Israeli military [reported](#) that a missile "fell in Beirut."
 - » Saudi Arabia:
 - Between March 24–25, the Saudi Ministry of Defense reported it intercepted at least two missiles and 65 drones.
 - » U.A.E.:
 - The U.A.E. [intercepted](#) nine drones over various parts of the country.

5. Estimated Casualties of Iranian Operations

- Thirteen U.S. service members have died during Operation Epic Fury.
 - » 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.
 - » A U.S. servicemember, Sgt. Benjamin Pennington, 26, was [killed](#) in a March 8 Iranian attack targeting U.S. troops at the Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia.
 - » Six U.S. servicemembers were [killed](#) when a KC-135 aerial refueling aircraft crashed over western Iraq on March 12: Major John A. Klinner, 33; Captain Ariana G. Savino, 31; Technical Sergeant Ashley B. Pruitt, 34; Captain Seth R. Koval, 38; Captain Curtis J. Angst, 30; and Technical Sergeant Tyler H. Simmons, 28.
- At least 200 members of the U.S. military have been [injured](#) thus far in the war, 10 of whom have been “seriously wounded,” according to CENTCOM Capt. Tim Hawkins.
- Since the war began, 27 [people have been killed in](#) Israel, while over 4,000 people have been [hospitalized](#).
 - » Two Israeli soldiers have been [killed](#) in southern Lebanon.
 - » According to the Times of Israel, over the past day:
 - A 27-year-old Israeli woman was [killed](#), and two other people were wounded after a Hezbollah rocket struck close to northern Israel’s Mahanayim Junction.
 - Nine people, including six children, were [injured](#) after an Iranian cluster bomb crashed into Bnei Brak in central Israel.
 - Two men were [injured](#) after a Hezbollah rocket struck Karmiel in northern Israel.
- Since the war’s outbreak, numerous other casualties have been reported:
 - » Iran:
 - At least 3,291 people, including at least 1,167 military personnel, have been [killed](#), with at least 20,000 [wounded](#). However, *Iran International* reported that at least 5,000 military personnel have been [killed](#).
 - » Azerbaijan:
 - Four civilians have been [injured](#).
 - » Bahrain:
 - Three people have [been killed](#), including a [Moroccan contractor](#), and at least 40 people have [been injured](#), including five [Emirati soldiers](#).
 - » Iraq:
 - At least 84 people have been [killed](#), including:
 - 62 Iran-backed militia fighters;
 - Seven Iraqi soldiers;
 - Six Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga;
 - Five Iranian Kurdish militants;
 - Five members of Iraq’s Counter-Terrorism Service;
 - Four individuals, reported to be Iranian, in a targeted airstrike in Baghdad;

- One French soldier in Iraqi Kurdistan;
 - One airport security guard in Erbil; and
 - One civilian southeast of Baghdad.
- » Jordan:
 - At least 29 people have been [injured](#).
 - » Kuwait:
 - Two [Kuwaiti navy sailors](#), two [Kuwaiti interior ministry officers](#), and a [Kuwaiti civilian](#) have been killed, over 70 Kuwaiti military personnel have [been injured](#), and two medical staff have been [wounded](#).
 - » Lebanon:
 - At least 1,072 people have been [killed](#), and more than 2,960 have been wounded—figures that do not distinguish between Hezbollah operatives and civilians.
 - » Oman:
 - At least [three people](#) have been killed, and at least 10 people have been [wounded](#).
 - » Qatar:
 - Around 20 people have been [wounded](#), and seven people were [killed](#) on March 22 in a helicopter crash in Qatari territorial waters due to a technical issue.
 - » Saudi Arabia:
 - Two foreign nationals have been [killed](#), and at least 16 others have [been injured](#).
 - » Syria:
 - At least four people have been [killed](#) in Syria, and several others have been [injured](#).
 - » U.A.E.:
 - Eight people have been [killed](#), and at least 161 have been [injured](#).

6. Threats, Condemnations, and Statements from Iranian Officials

- Iran’s foreign ministry [issued](#) a statement to the International Maritime Organization, which stated that non-hostile vessels may transit the Strait of Hormuz provided they do not support acts of aggression against Iran and comply with safety and security regulations.
- Sources [informed](#) *Iran International* that they are witnessing a major “surge” in forces carrying out nighttime patrols, the establishment of security checkpoints, and the presence of armed vehicles and Basij members stationed to intimidate Iranian civilians throughout the country.

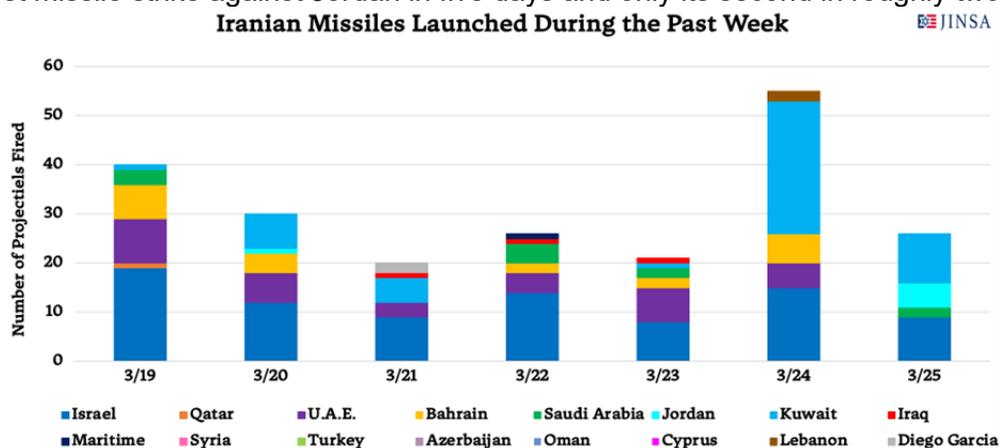
7. International Response

- At a session of the U.N. Human Rights Council (UNHCR), Gulf states [denounced](#) Iran’s strikes and stressed the severity of the threat Iran poses. The UNHCR also [adopted](#) a resolution proposed by Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the U.A.E., and Jordan that denounced Iran’s “egregious attacks” and attempts to close the Strait of Hormuz, ordered Iran to “cease all unprovoked attacks,” and demanded reparations for damage resulting from Iranian strikes.
 - » The Kuwaiti Ambassador to the United Nations, Naser Abdullah H. M. Alhayen, [stated](#), “We are seeing an existential threat to international and regional security. This aggressive approach is undermining international law and sovereignty.”

- » The Emirati Ambassador to the United Nations, Jamal Jama al Musharakh, [condemned](#) Iran’s “attempt to destabilise the international order through reckless adventures of expansionism.”
- » However, the Omani Ambassador to the United Nations, Idris Abdul Rahman Al Khanjari, [stated](#) that U.S.-Israeli strikes were “the spark that ignited the escalation currently affecting the region and the consequences are threatening states and their vital economic interests and their security and stability.”
- » The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Turk, [stated](#), “If they [attacks on civilian targets] are deliberate, such attacks may constitute war crimes.”
- The U.K. will [spearhead](#) a coalition to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, involving American, British, and French mine-clearing vessels.
- Iraq [announced](#) it would summon both the U.S. *chargé d'affaires*, Joshua Harris, and the Iranian ambassador, Mohammad Kazem Al-e Sadeq, to deliver formal protests over a string of airstrikes on Iraqi territory.
 - » As a result of a March 25 airstrike on a joint PMF-Iraqi Armed Forces base, the Iraqi government [granted](#) the PMF “the right to respond” to any attack against it.
 - » Additionally, Iraqi authorities [arrested](#) four individuals who carried out a March 24 attack on a Syrian base.
- Following the expulsion of Iran’s ambassador to Lebanon, Hezbollah [called](#) on the Lebanese government to “immediately reverse this decision because of its dangerous repercussions,” adding that the decision is a “national and strategic sin.”

8. Charts and Trends

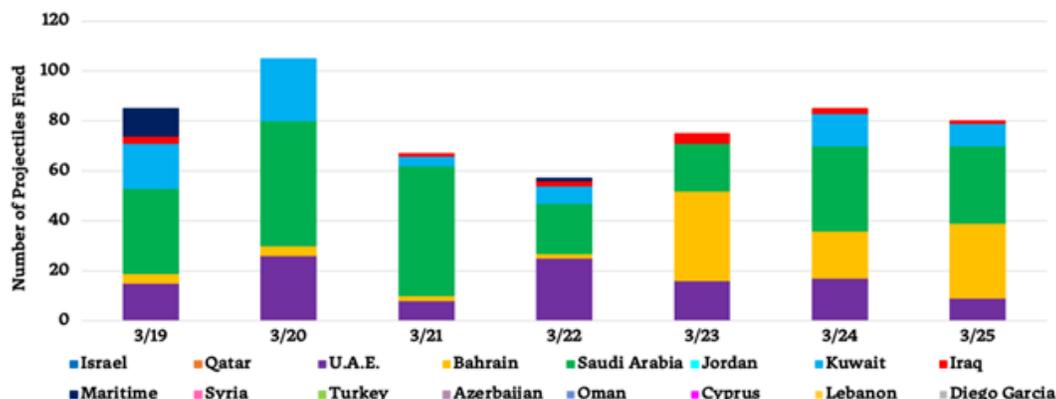
- Iranian missile fire increased 119 percent on March 24, with 46 missiles fired, up from 21 on March 23. So far on March 25, Iran has fired 26 missiles.
 - » Iran fired 10 missiles against Kuwait so far on March 25, down from 27 on March 24, but still sustaining an elevated rate of fire following the large escalation against Kuwait the prior day.
 - » Iran launched a rare attack against Jordan on March 25 with five ballistic missiles, its first missile strike against Jordan in five days and only its second in roughly two weeks.



- Iran has continued its escalation of drone attacks against Bahrain in recent days. Already on March 25, Iran has launched 30 drones at Bahrain, up from 19 on March 23 and 36 on March 23, after launching no more than 12 at the country per day over the two weeks beforehand.

Iranian Drones Launched During the Past Week

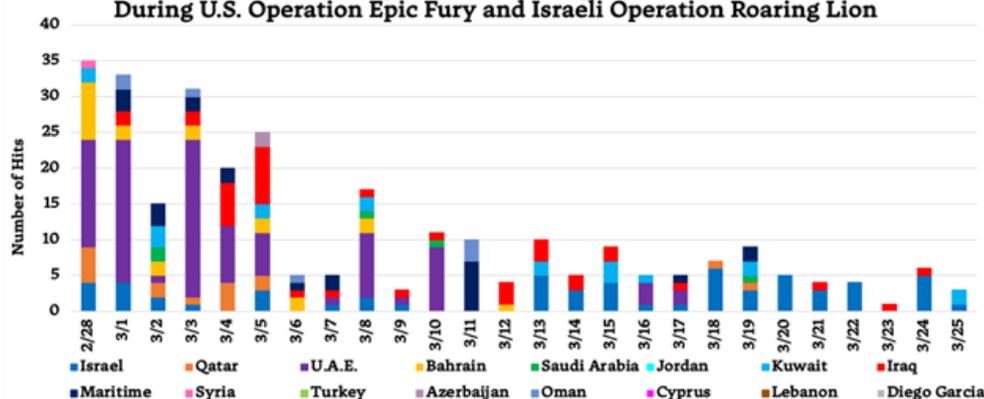
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- On March 24, six Iranian projectiles successfully hit targets, with five missiles striking Israel. So far on March 25, one Iranian missile has hit Israel, and two drones have hit fuel tanks at the Kuwait international airport, causing a fire.

Number of Iranian Projectile Hits on Populated or Critical Areas During U.S. Operation Epic Fury and Israeli Operation Roaring Lion

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9. JINSA Resources

- Jonathan Ruhe, [Scared Strait: Ending Iran's Threat to Hormuz and the Gulf](#), March 19, 2026
- VADM Herman Shelanski, USN (ret.), IDF MG (ret.) Yaakov Amidror, and Blaise Misztal, ["Webinar - Iran's Threat to Global Shipping: What Can Be Done?"](#) March 19, 2026
- Giran Ozcan and Jonah Brody, [Iran's Kurdish Coalition and the Future of the Opposition](#), March 18, 2026
- Hussein Mansour, [If Tehran Falls: How Iran's Collapse Reshuffles Arab Gulf Relations](#), March 16
- Infographic: [Operation Epic Fury—What is the Aim Point?](#), March 13, 2026
- VADM Mark Fox, USN (ret.), IDF MG (ret.) Yaakov Amidror, and Jonathan Ruhe, ["Webinar: Washington and Jerusalem's Next Moves,"](#) March 12, 2026
- Meriem Mokhtari, [How the Muslim Brotherhood Funds Iran's Proxies](#), March 11, 2026
- Robert McNally and Michael Makovsky, PhD, ["Webinar: Iran War Energy Disruption: Short-Term or Here To Stay?"](#) March 10, 2026
- 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