



Iran War Update: 6/22/26

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President Donald Trump and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on June 17, outlining terms to end the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz. The MOU launches a 60-day period of technical negotiations on Iran's nuclear program. JINSA continues to release regular updates about the conflict. The update below includes information since [JINSA's last update](#) as of June 22 at 10:30 am ET.

Iranian missiles and drones launched since June 14 MOU announcement: **At least 4** (0 on June 17–22)

Hezbollah projectiles fired since June 19 ceasefire announcement: **At least 176** (0 on June 21–22)

Ships transiting Strait of Hormuz since June 14 MOU announcement: **At least 92** (at least 28 between June 21–22)

- **Note:** Many ships in the area are transmitting false locations.

1. Overview

- After [18 hours of discussions](#) between U.S., Iranian, Qatari, and Pakistani officials in Switzerland, Qatar and Pakistan released a [statement](#) on June 22 that the discussions led to “a roadmap towards reaching a final deal within 60 days” and the creation of a High Level Committee among the countries to provide “political oversight” and lead “working groups focused on nuclear, sanctions, and a monitoring and dispute resolution” issues.
 - » The statement also indicated that the sides had agreed to a “de-confliction cell” to stop military operations that would involve the United States, Iran, Lebanon, Qatar, and Pakistan, but does not include Israel.
 - A deconfliction mechanism previously existed in Lebanon as part of the November 2024 Israel-Hezbollah ceasefire brokered by the Biden administration, which included the United States, Israel, Lebanon, France, and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).
 - » According to the statement, “technical talks will continue for the remainder of the week at the Burgenstock resort on all issues.”
- On June 22, the U.S. Treasury Department issued a [general license](#) that waives sanctions until August 21 on “the production, sale, delivery, or offloading of crude oil, petrochemical products, or petroleum products of Iranian origin,” as outlined in the June 17 memorandum of understanding (MOU).

- During a [press conference](#) on June 22, Vice President JD Vance indicated that talks in Switzerland with Iran, Qatar, and Pakistan had created a “good foundation for a successful final deal” and that “the Iranians have agreed to invite IAEA inspectors back into their country.”
 - » He also stated that the negotiations had made “very good progress” toward a “deconfliction mechanism” for Lebanon, claiming “we want Hezbollah to stop firing at our friends in Israel. We want Israelis to be able to live in peace. We also want to make sure that, you know, when things happen, they don’t spiral into a broader escalation.”
 - » According to Vice President Vance, U.S. and Qatari officials are working on a proposal to ensure that the United States and Qatar have approval over how any currently frozen Iranian funds would be spent for humanitarian purposes if they are unfrozen.
- On June 22, Israel’s *Walla News* outlet [reported](#), citing Saudi Arabia’s *Al Arabiya*, that several Iranian regime operatives have traveled to southern Lebanon to help direct Hezbollah operations. According to the article, the Iranian officers’ presence in Lebanon is partially why Iran is so adamant that Israel stop its advances in Lebanon.
- Over 6 million barrels of oil [have flown](#) through the Strait of Hormuz between June 20 and June 21, per data reviewed by *Al Arabiya*.
- In a June 21 Truth Social post, President Donald Trump [warned](#) that “Iran must immediately stop their highly paid PROXIES in Lebanon from causing trouble,” adding that “If they don’t, we’ll hit Iran very hard again, just like we did last week, only harder!”
- On June 21, President Trump reportedly [conveyed](#) his disappointment in Israel’s inability to “move” Hezbollah to Fox News.
 - » Reportedly, President Trump also stated that the Israeli military can’t address the Hezbollah threat without destroying buildings and that, because of this, he is interested in urging Syria’s President, Ahmed al-Sharaa, to combat Hezbollah in southern Lebanon.

2. Diplomatic Engagement

Iran

- On June 22, Iranian state media [reported](#) that Iranian President Pezeshkian will travel to Pakistan tomorrow to share his “appreciation” of Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for his mediation efforts.
- According to the Qatari and Pakistani [statement](#) on June 22 about the negotiations in Switzerland, the talks established “a communication line...to avoid incidents and miscommunication with the aim of safe passage for commercial vessels through the Strait of Hormuz.”
- On June 22, Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Esmaeil Baghaei [spoke](#) about the diplomatic discussions between the United States and Iran in Switzerland, stating that “One of the points raised by the American delegation was the presentation of its positions regarding the nuclear issue,” and that “a very brief discussion took place regarding the nuclear issue, but there was no discussion of details, and it cannot be said that negotiations on the nuclear issue have begun.”
- On June 22, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi [wrote](#) on X that “Tireless Pakistani and Qatari mediation has delivered major progress to end Lebanon War [sic]. Oil and petrochem exports are waived, blockade lifted, some frozen assets released, and major reconstruction & development plan launched for Iran,” adding, “1st real test: Lebanon deconfliction cell.”
- Although Iranian media reports on June 21 [claimed](#) that Tehran’s delegation had left the negotiation venue in protest of President Trump’s threats against the Islamic Republic, a senior U.S. diplomat involved in the talks [told](#) reporters that Iran’s delegation remained engaged in negotiations in Switzerland and conversations continued until June 22.
- On June 21, Iran’s Tasnim News Agency reportedly [learned](#) that if Article 1 of the MOU, which calls for “ending the war on all fronts, including Lebanon, and ensuring Lebanon’s

sovereignty and territorial integrity,” is not upheld, diplomatic talks between the United States and Iran will cease.

- » Tasnim added that “negotiations are fundamentally meaningless” if the involved parties fail to adhere to Article 1.
- During a conference in Jerusalem on June 21, U.S. Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee [spoke](#) about President Trump’s commitment to Israel, stating, “The one thing that I’ve always heard him say, always, and I’ve always seen him do, is that America has an unbreakable bond with the State of Israel, and I trust that he means what he says.”
 - » While also reassuring that Iran “will never have a nuclear weapon,” Ambassador Huckabee spoke about the diplomatic discussions between the United States and Iran, saying, “If we can get peace, wonderful, but even this afternoon the president issued very clear understandings to the Iranians that if they think that the United States is going to fold and collapse and let them have their way, he has made it clear that he will do it [go to war].”

Lebanon

- On June 22, Qatar and Pakistan [announced](#) the establishment of a “de-confliction cell” involving the United States, Iran, and Lebanon to ensure the “adherence of the termination of military operations in Lebanon as per the MOU.”
- On June 21, following Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s claim that Israeli troops would stay stationed in southern Lebanon, Hezbollah Secretary General Naim Qassem [stated](#) that Israeli forces “remaining on Lebanese land is impossible. There are no security zones for Israel... we have a national army which deploys, and it is responsible for preserving sovereignty, and it is who we cooperate with.”
- On June 21, Israeli media [reported](#) that the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) is urging Israel’s political leadership to intensify negotiations with the Lebanese government amid concerns that ongoing U.S.-Iran negotiations could further constrain Israeli military operations against Hezbollah.
 - » A security source told Israel’s Channel 12 outlet that “another attempt” by Israel to “separate between the theaters [Iran and Lebanon] will worsen our situation with the United States.”

3. U.S. and Israeli Operations

- On June 22, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent [announced](#) on X that the United States “issued a temporary 60-day general license” that authorizes the “production, delivery, and sale of Iranian oil” as part of ongoing talks in Switzerland.

Iran

- At a conference in Jerusalem on June 21, Prime Minister Netanyahu [spoke](#) of the specific achievements of Operations Epic Fury and Roaring Lion, claiming, “we decapitated the leadership of the terror regime; we shattered their missile industry; we knocked out their navy; we knocked out their air force; we attacked their military industries; we attacked their bridges.”
 - » He continued, stating, “the cumulative damage that we did to the Islamic Revolutionary Guards’ economy is... counted in hundreds and hundreds of billions of dollars.”
 - » He then stated that “it will take them a long time to recover... And they may not recover,” adding that “Because once you deal these blows, and once the rift between the regime and the people is so deep, you cannot tell when such a regime will fall. And I think we created the conditions for its future fall.”
 - » Addressing the strength of the Iranian people, he emphasized, “that is what will be the real triumph, when the Iranian people take their own destiny in their hands, and they knock out this brutal regime that is terrorizing them and terrorizing the rest of the world.”

Lebanon

- Israel's leaders are considering small reductions in the Israeli military's force posture in Lebanon ahead of bilateral talks this week, Israeli media reported on June 21, but Israel is [not planning](#) to withdraw its forces from Lebanon writ large.
 - » Per senior defense sources who spoke with Israel's Channel 12, U.S. officials have not requested that Israel withdraw its forces from southern Lebanon.
 - » IDF Chief of Staff Lt Gen Eyal Zamir is strongly opposed to doing so, Channel 12 reported, quoting him as saying that "the presence of IDF forces on the Yellow Line has removed the threat of a raid. The withdrawal of the forces is a repeat of the threat of a raid on the [northern Israeli] communities."
 - » *Israel Hayom* had [reported](#) earlier that day, citing Lebanese sources, that "Israel may withdraw from some of the positions it holds in southern Lebanon as a goodwill gesture ahead of the negotiating meeting between Israel and Lebanon expected to take place this week."
- On June 21, Prime Minister Netanyahu [spoke](#) at a Jewish News Syndicate conference in Jerusalem, stating that "as long as we need to protect our people, we will remain in the security zone in South Lebanon. And the reason is perfectly understood. No country would be asked to do otherwise."
 - » He continued, asking, "What would America do? Would it say, well, there's nothing we can do? Let's hold our fire? Is that what America would say? No! You know damn well what America would do. It would cross the border, create a security zone, kill the terrorists, and protect its people until the threat is removed. That's exactly what we are doing."
 - » Netanyahu stated, "we target the terrorists, but there are some civilian casualties in every such war, in every such urban warfare. And normally the ratio of noncombatants to combatants killed is about seven to one, eight to one," adding that in Lebanon, the ratio of Hezbollah combatants to civilians killed by the IDF is one to five.
 - » He finished, stating, "we should be commended for it, not condemned. We do everything in our power to protect our people. We don't have a war with Lebanon. We have a war with Hezbollah, who terrorizes Lebanon and seeks our destruction."
- On June 21, Israel's Channel 12 [reported](#) that Israeli forces had located one of Hezbollah's major strategic sites, a large underground compound containing a drone factory and drone launch sites near the town of Majdal Zoun.
 - » The complex, around eight miles from the Israel-Lebanon border, is over 95 feet underground and contains 12 chambers, including launch shafts for conducting projectile attacks; assembly rooms for making drones; and stockpiles of anti-tank missiles and improvised explosive devices (IEDs).
 - » During the operation, the Israeli military's first in the Majdal Zoun area thus far in the war, 20 Hezbollah terrorists were killed.
- Israeli forces are undergoing an operation to [clear](#) a separate major Hezbollah tunnel network in southern Lebanon, in which around 30 terror operatives are currently located. The web of tunnels, which is located near the Beaufort Castle, is less than seven miles from the Israel-Lebanon border.
 - » The operation is the IDF's main combat effort in Lebanon right now, Israeli media reported on June 21. Airstrikes have reportedly not proven effective at degrading the tunnel network, requiring a large number of ground forces.

4. Strait of Hormuz Shipping and Blockade Status

- Reuters [reported](#) on June 22 that commercial traffic through the Strait of Hormuz slowed after Iran announced it was again closing the waterway in response to U.S. and Israeli violations of the MOU.
 - » According to shipping data cited by Reuters, only five vessels transit the Strait on June 21, down roughly 81 percent from the previous day's total of 26 vessels.

5. Iranian and Proxy Operations

Outside the Middle East

- On June 21, U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Markwayne Mullin [revealed](#) that Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) members attempted to secretly come to the United States, pretending to be a part of Iran's World Cup delegation.
 - » According to Secretary Mullin, American authorities thwarted their plot to illegally enter the country.

6. 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 400 members of the U.S. military have been [injured](#) thus far in the war.
 - » Ten have been seriously [wounded](#), and at least 354 of the injured have reportedly returned to duty.
 - » At least 15 Americans were [hurt](#) in an Iranian drone strike on Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait on April 6, most of whom were lightly injured.
 - » In the March 27 Iranian attack on a U.S. base in Saudi Arabia, at least 15 U.S. servicemembers were [injured](#), including two who were seriously wounded.
- Since the war began, [at least 64 people have been killed in Israel](#), while over 7,795 have been [injured](#). At least 34 of these [casualties](#) include Israeli soldiers and one defense contractor killed while fighting Hezbollah.
- Since the war's outbreak, numerous other casualties have been reported:
 - » Iran: At least 3,636 people, including at least 1,221 military personnel, have been [killed](#), with at least 26,500 [wounded](#). *Iran International* reports that over 4,700 security personnel have been [killed](#), including members of the Basij, IRGC, and police forces.
 - » Azerbaijan: Four civilians have been [injured](#).
 - » Bahrain: Three people have [been killed](#), including a [Moroccan contractor](#), and at least 46 people [have been injured](#), including five [Emirati soldiers](#).
 - » Iraq: At least 119 people have been [killed](#), including 20 [people](#) in Iraqi Kurdistan.

- » Jordan: At least 31 people have [been injured](#).
- » Kuwait: Two [Kuwaiti navy sailors](#), two [Kuwaiti interior ministry officers](#), two [Kuwaiti civilians](#), and two [Indian nationals](#) have been [killed](#); over 90 Kuwaiti military [personnel have been injured](#), and [over 70 civilians](#), including two [medical staff](#), have been wounded.
- » Lebanon: At least 4,057 people have been [killed](#), and nearly 12,120 have been wounded—figures that do not distinguish between Hezbollah operatives and civilians.
- » Oman: At least [three people](#) have been killed, and at least 17 have [been wounded](#).
- » Qatar: Around 20 people have been [wounded](#), and seven were [killed](#) on March 22 in a helicopter crash in Qatari territorial waters due to a technical issue.
- » Saudi Arabia: Three people have been killed, including a Saudi [national](#) and two [foreign nationals](#), and at least 23 others [have been injured](#).
- » Syria: At least four people have been [killed](#) in Syria, and several others have been [injured](#).
- » United Arab Emirates: 13 people have been [killed](#), and at least 230 have been injured.

7. Threats, Condemnations, and Statements from Iranian Officials

- On June 21, Parliament Speaker and chief negotiator Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf [warned](#) that the United States should “be careful” in its statements toward Iran, adding that the country’s armed forces “are ready to respond” to any escalation from Washington.

8. International Response

- On June 21, Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa [denied](#) rumors that Syria would intervene militarily in Lebanon against Hezbollah, stating Damascus seeks “economic channels between Lebanon and Syria, not military ones.”

9. JINSA Resources

- Blaise Misztal, [Uncertifiable and Illegal, but Probably Unstoppable: Congress Must Review the Iran MOU](#), June 17, 2026
- Michael Makovsky, PhD, [The Origins of the Iran Deal](#), June 16, 2026
- Sarah Havdala, [While the War Raged On: Repression in Iran](#), June 16, 2026
- [Infographic: What’s the Deal with the Deal?](#) June 12, 2026
- John Hannah, [“Trump Is Stuck and His Iran Leverage Is Spent,”](#) *The Washington Examiner*, June 12, 2026
- Jonathan Ruhe, [“We Need a Long-Term Strategy to Deal With Iran,”](#) *The Dispatch*, June 11, 2026
- Maj Gen Charles Corcoran, USAF (ret.) and Yoni Tobin, [“What the Iran War Shows About the Future of Warfighting,”](#) *RealClearDefense*, June 8, 2026
- Michael Makovsky, PhD, and Blaise Misztal, [Trump Is Lost on Iran](#), June 5, 2026
- IDF MG (ret.) Yaakov Amidror, Stephen Rademaker, and Blaise Misztal, [Webinar: Bad Deal Rising?](#), May 26, 2026
- LTG Charles Hooper, USA (ret.) and Yoni Tobin, [Abraham’s Fortress: Strengthening Middle East Defenses Against Iran](#), May 19, 2026
- Yoni Tobin, [Blockade Evasion Update – 5/19/26](#), May 19, 2026
- Rena Gabber and Jonah Brody, [Holding China Accountable for Iran](#), May 13, 2026

- Gen Charles Wald, USAF (ret.), VADM Mark Fox, USN (ret.), VADM Robert Harward, USN (ret.), LTG Karen Gibson, USA (ret.), VADM John Miller, USN (ret.), VADM John Bird, USN (ret.), Blaise Misztal, Jonathan Ruhe, and Ari Cicurel, [Epic Fury II: Securing U.S. Objectives in Iran](#), May 8, 2026
- Michael Makovsky, PhD, and Blaise Misztal, "[The U.S. Blockade of Iran Is a Means, Not an End](#)," *The National Interest*, May 8, 2026

Iranian Projectiles Fired During 2026 War

