



Iran War Update: 6/23/26

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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 23 at 9:30 am ET.

Iranian missiles and drones launched since June 14 MOU announcement: **At least 4** (0 on June 17–23)

Hezbollah projectiles fired since June 19 ceasefire announcement: **At least 176** (0 on June 21–23)

Ships transiting Strait of Hormuz since June 14 MOU announcement: **At least 110** (at least 41 between June 22–23)

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

1. Overview

- The Pentagon and State Department will [host](#) military and political talks between Israeli and Lebanese officials from June 23-25.
 - » According to Israeli media [reporting](#), the Israeli delegation will propose a pilot program in which Israel's troops withdraw from some territory in southern Lebanon, to be handed over to Lebanese military control under U.S. supervision.
- On June 23, President Donald Trump [posted](#) on Truth Social that "Iran has fully and completely agreed to highest level Nuclear inspections long into the future (Infinity!!!). This will insure (sic) 'Nuclear Honesty.' If they did not agree to this, there would be no further negotiations!"
 - » He added, "Based on this and other major concessions being made by Iran, I have agreed to allow the Hormuz Strait to remain OPEN, with no further Naval Blockade. However, all ships are remaining in place should it be necessary to reinstitute the Blockade, which seems, at this point, highly unlikely."
 - » President Trump claimed that "The Money and/or Sanctions that the U.S. Treasury is releasing goes into escrow, controlled by the U.S.A., and will be used for the purchase of food and medical supplies, exclusively from the United States, including Corn, Wheat, and Soybeans from our great American Farmers."
 - » However, on June 23, Iran's foreign ministry [denied](#) that it would allow International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors back on Iranian soil, in contradiction to U.S. leaders' claims about what Iran has agreed to.

- On June 23, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu [stated](#) that Israel needs its own “independent weapons-production system,” while expressing his appreciation for U.S. military support.
- On June 22, President Trump [reiterated](#) his commitment to ensuring that Iran does not obtain a nuclear weapon, stating, “Nuclear weapon supersedes [economic] depression,” and that “If Iran doesn’t live up to their agreement, or if they’re not behaving, I will do what I have to do.” He added that, “as long as Iran respects us, we are not going to have any trouble.”
- On June 22, an unnamed U.S. official [told reporters](#) that U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) has launched a “monitoring mechanism” to provide policymakers with accurate information on clashes in Lebanon between Israel and Hezbollah.
 - » This mechanism is separate from the new [deconfliction mechanism](#) involving the United States, Iran, Lebanon, Qatar, and Pakistan, which would allow the United States to raise concerns to Iran via Qatari officials about Hezbollah ceasefire violations in Lebanon.

2. Diplomatic Engagement

Iran

- Iran’s President Masoud Pezeshkian and Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi [arrived](#) in Islamabad on June 23 to discuss the ongoing talks with Pakistani officials.
- Speaking to Iranian state media on June 23, Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf [stated](#), “the Strait of Hormuz will never return to its pre-war conditions and will be administered by the Islamic Republic of Iran, in accordance with international law.”
- On June 23, Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmail Baghaei [stated](#) that Tehran does not plan to allow International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections of its damaged nuclear facilities, [contradicting](#) earlier [claims](#) by President Trump, Vice President JD Vance, and other senior U.S. officials.

Lebanon

- The [negotiations](#) taking place in Washington, D.C. between Israeli and Lebanese leaders on June 23-25 will reportedly involve Israeli Ambassador to the United States Yechiel Leiter, Lebanese Ambassador to the United States Nada Hamadeh Moawad, State Department Counselor Dan Holler, and Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs Dan Zimmerman.

3. U.S. and Israeli Operations

Lebanon

- On the morning of June 23, Lebanese media [reported](#) that Israeli forces opened fire in Nabatieh al-Fawqa in southern Lebanon, killing two people and injuring two others.
 - » The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) later [claimed](#) that the targets were armed Hezbollah operatives and that Israeli forces opened fire “to remove the threat” the Hezbollah fighters posed.
- On June 22, Prime Minister Netanyahu, Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir, and Northern Command chief Maj. Gen. Rafi Milo [released](#) a joint statement, emphasizing that “the IDF will continue to act decisively to thwart threats to our soldiers and civilians, destroy terror infrastructure, and continue maintaining the security zone in southern Lebanon.”
 - » They continued, stating that “the security of Israel’s civilians and IDF troops will continue to remain before their eyes without compromise.”

4. Strait of Hormuz Shipping and Blockade Status

- After a meeting in Oman between Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, chief Iranian negotiator Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, and Omani leader Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, the two countries released a statement indicating they will explore [charging fees](#) to ships traveling through the Strait of Hormuz based on "their sovereignty and sovereign rights over their territorial waters in the Strait of Hormuz."
- On June 23, President Trump [claimed](#) on Truth Social that 19 million barrels of oil passed through the Strait of Hormuz on June 22—a figure JINSA has not independently verified—and claimed it was an "all time RECORD."
- On June 22, Iran's chief negotiator, Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, [claimed](#) that, to prevent further tensions in the Strait of Hormuz, Iran will open a communication line for shipping traffic in the waterway.
 - » He also stated that the negotiating parties in Switzerland finalized the agreement to release \$12 billion in frozen Iranian assets.

5. Iranian and Proxy Operations

- CNN [reported](#) on June 23 that an American F-15 pilot shot down over Iran during Operation Epic Fury told intelligence officials that he observed a coordinated formation of Iranian drones moving together in a configuration resembling a "jellyfish."
 - » According to sources involved in the pilot's debriefing, the formation consisted of multiple interconnected drones with smaller drones positioned beneath larger ones. The article noted that the pilot's account has not been independently verified.

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:

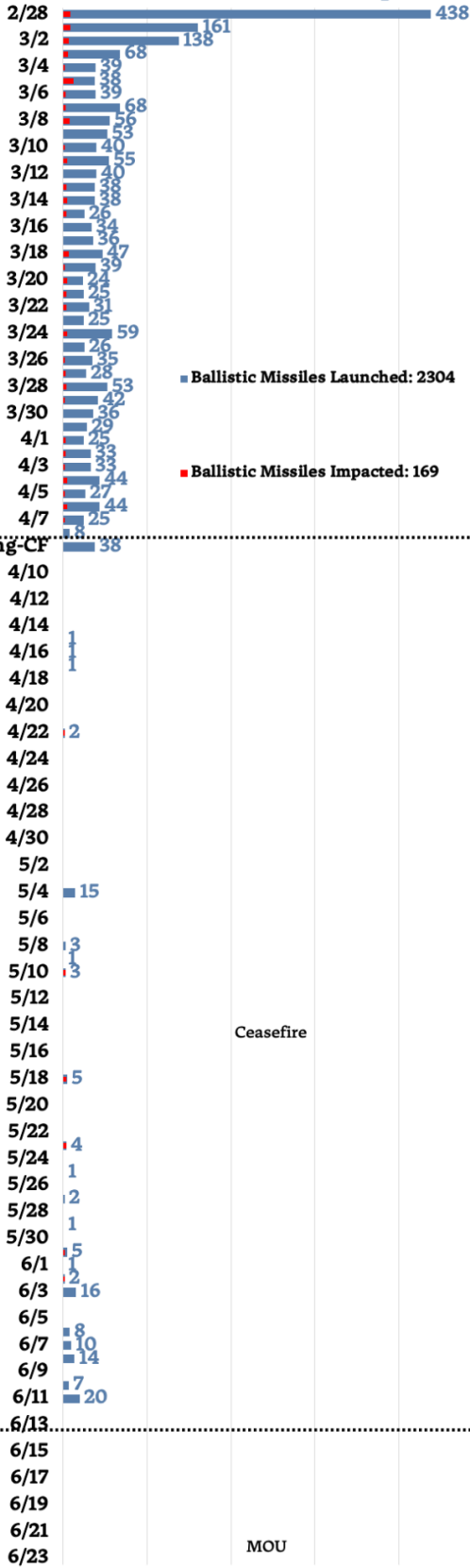
- » Iran: At least 3,636 people, including at least 1,221 military personnel, have been [killed](#), with at least 26,500 [wounded](#). *Iran International* reports that over 4,700 security personnel have been [killed](#), including members of the Basij, IRGC, and police forces.
- » Azerbaijan: Four 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 4,175 people have been [killed](#), and nearly 12,164 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. JINSA Resources

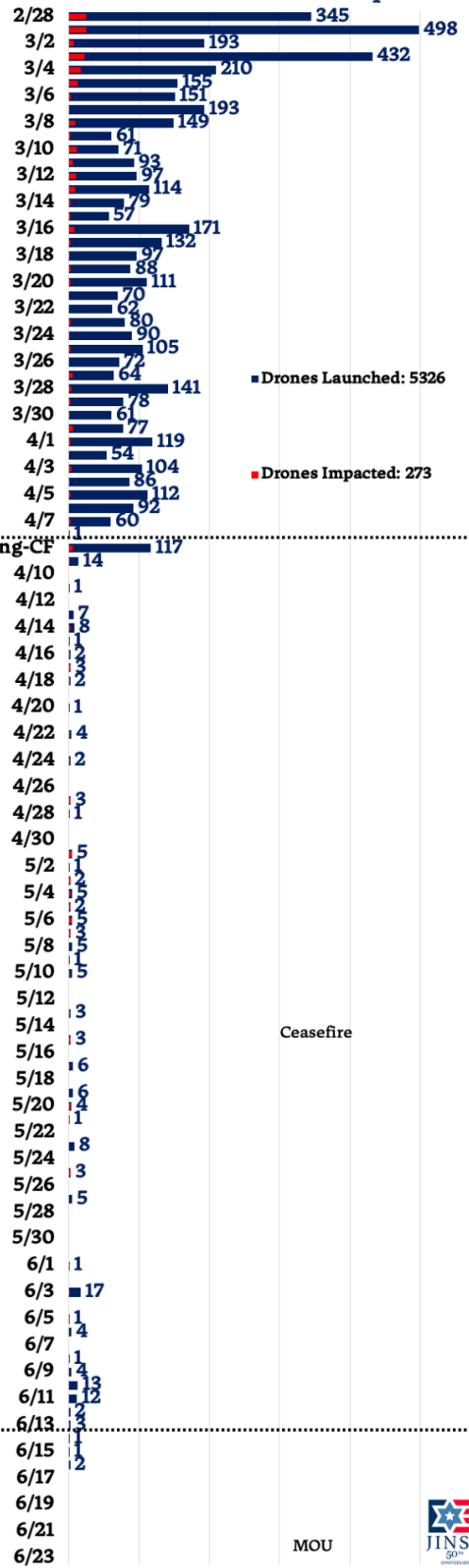
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- Michael Makovsky, PhD, "[Epic Fury Ends with a Flop](#)," *Jewish News Syndicate*, June 17, 2026
- Blaise Misztal, [Uncertifiable and Illegal, but Probably Unstoppable: Congress Must Review the Iran MOU](#), June 17, 2026
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- 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
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- 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

Iranian Projectiles Fired During 2026 War

Iranian Missiles Launched Per Day



Iranian Drones Launched Per Day



Ceasefire

Ceasefire

MOU

MOU

