



Iran War Update: 6/25/26

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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 25 at 9:45 am ET.

Iranian missiles and drones launched since June 14 U.S.-Iran MOU announcement: **At least 4**
(0 Since June 17)

Hezbollah projectiles fired since June 19 Israel-Lebanon ceasefire announcement: **[At least 176](#)**
(0 Since June 21)

Ships transiting Strait of Hormuz since June 14 MOU announcement: **At least 196** (at least 73 between June 24–25)

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

1. Overview

- On June 25, Commander of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) Admiral Brad Cooper will [travel](#) to Israel amid Israeli and Lebanese negotiations in Washington, D.C. that day.
- On June 25, Secretary of State Marco Rubio [noted](#) progress in Israel-Lebanon talks from June 23–25 in Washington, D.C., stating that “I think we are very close in our hopes of getting a commitment of intent between the two countries.”
 - » However, an official who spoke with *The Times of Israel* on June 25 claimed that talks have been “[the least productive](#)” of all four recent rounds of negotiations because discussions about a phased, partial Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon have reportedly gone nowhere in the current round.
 - In addition, both delegations reportedly are frustrated about the U.S. decision to let Iran have a say in Lebanon's future security situation, which is impeding progress in the Israel-Lebanon negotiations, *The Times of Israel* reported.
- On June 25, the price for Brent crude oil [dropped](#) to \$72.44 per barrel, which was below the closing price on February 27, the day before the launch of Operation Epic Fury.
- On June 24, President Donald Trump [stated](#) that “It would be unacceptable to me,” if Iran pursued a final deal with the United States that would allow Tehran to charge shipping fees in the Strait of Hormuz.

- President Trump [said](#) on June 24 that Turkey had “stayed out of” the Iran war at his urging. He stated that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan “was a prime candidate to go into the war with Iran—maybe on the Iran side, because he’s not a big fan of Israel... I asked him to stay out.”
- On June 24, a war powers resolution was [rejected](#) in the Senate after a similar resolution was passed the previous day, with two Republican Senators switching their position in the vote following a harsh rebuke from President Trump. This measure does not [affect](#) the outcome of the previous day’s vote.
 - » President Trump [praised](#) the rejection of Wednesday’s war powers resolution on Truth Social, noting that “This vote puts Iran on notice!”

2. Diplomatic Engagement

Iran

- On June 25, Iran’s chief negotiator Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf [posted](#) on X that “America falsely claims our unfrozen assets will buy their agriculture... apparently the US only exports GMO soybeans, broken promises and trash talks.”
- Responding to criticism of the U.S. decision to remove some sanctions on Iran as part of the MOU, Secretary of State Marco Rubio [told](#) reporters on June 24 that “anytime you enter into a negotiation, it’s a process of give and take. This is a temporary measure. It’s for 60 days. As a result, we expect them to live up to the commitments they made in Switzerland. If they don’t...the president has a lot of options at his disposal.”
 - » Secretary Rubio also announced that the U.S. and Iranian delegations will meet in Switzerland next week to hold their next round of diplomatic talks, but that he will not be participating.

Lebanon

- On June 25, Secretary Rubio [claimed](#) that “one of the issues that’s been discussed in these negotiations [between Israel and Lebanon] is the creation of pilot zones—specific, defined areas where the Lebanese Armed Forces can go in, take control, and secure that territory, and then move on to the next pilot zone.”
 - » He continued by discussing Israel’s security zone in southern Lebanon, stating, “the more of that area that the Lebanese armed forces is able to secure, the less of it is in Hezbollah’s control, the less Israel will be in Lebanon. But that’s the process we’re working to right now with these talks.”

3. U.S. and Israeli Operations

Iran

- On June 24, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu [asserted](#) that he did not ask the United States for permission to strike Iranian regime targets in the 12-Day War in 2025.
 - » Netanyahu stated that he told President Trump at the time that “we are going into Iran, because I am not going to sit around waiting for our enemies—enemies who openly declare, at the top of their lungs, that they want to destroy us, and you [America] too, by the way.”
 - » He continued, saying, “I am not going to let that happen. And that is why we are acting. I did not ask for permission. I simply informed [President Trump] of our plan,” and added that “I was pleased that he ultimately joined in toward the end of this very important action.”

Lebanon

- Periodic Israeli strikes against imminent Hezbollah threats have continued in Lebanon, though Israel has largely paused other military activity there.
 - » On June 25, Lebanese media [reported](#) that the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) had carried out a drone strike on a motorcyclist traveling between Mayfadoun and Zawtar al-Sharqiya in southern Lebanon.
 - » On June 24, the IDF [confirmed](#) that its forces had bombed a suspicious vehicle traveling in southern Lebanon near the Ali Taher ridge after it had crossed into the Israeli security zone and “posed a threat to IDF troops.”
- On June 25, Israeli officials [denied](#) claims by Reuters that Israeli forces had withdrawn from some positions in southern Lebanon.
- On June 25, *The Times of Israel* [reported](#) that the IDF delayed plans to destroy several Hezbollah sites throughout southern Lebanon, including a tunnel in Majdal Zoun and a subterranean facility underneath Ali Taher ridge to uphold the ceasefire.
- On the evening of June 24, an IDF reservist [died](#) during an operational accident in southern Lebanon when a truck overturned, killing the reservist and moderately wounding a combat soldier.

4. Strait of Hormuz Shipping and Blockade Status

- On June 25, Omani Foreign Minister Badr Albusaidi [stated](#) in a meeting between foreign ministers of Gulf countries and Secretary Rubio that “future arrangements regarding the strait do not entail the imposition of any transit fees.”
- An evacuation plan for ships stranded in the Persian Gulf carried out by the United Nations (UN) International Maritime Organization, in coordination with Oman, has [resulted](#) in the safe transit of 57 ships through the Strait of Hormuz since June 23.
 - » JINSA has assessed that 103 total ships have transited the Strait since June 23.

5. Iranian and Proxy Operations

- On June 24, *The Times of Israel* reported, citing Israel’s *Kan* news outlet, that “a foreign intelligence agency” [assesses](#) that “Qatar has aided Iran economically and militarily for years, including by providing rocket fuel and material to build drones.”
 - » It is not clear which foreign intelligence service made the assessment, which concluded that Qatar has provided specialized hydrogen for missile fuel and dual-use components for constructing drones dating back several years.
- According to reporting from *The Wall Street Journal*, digital wallets [linked](#) to Iran transferred over \$3.84 billion through CoinEx, a crypto exchange, since 2019.

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.

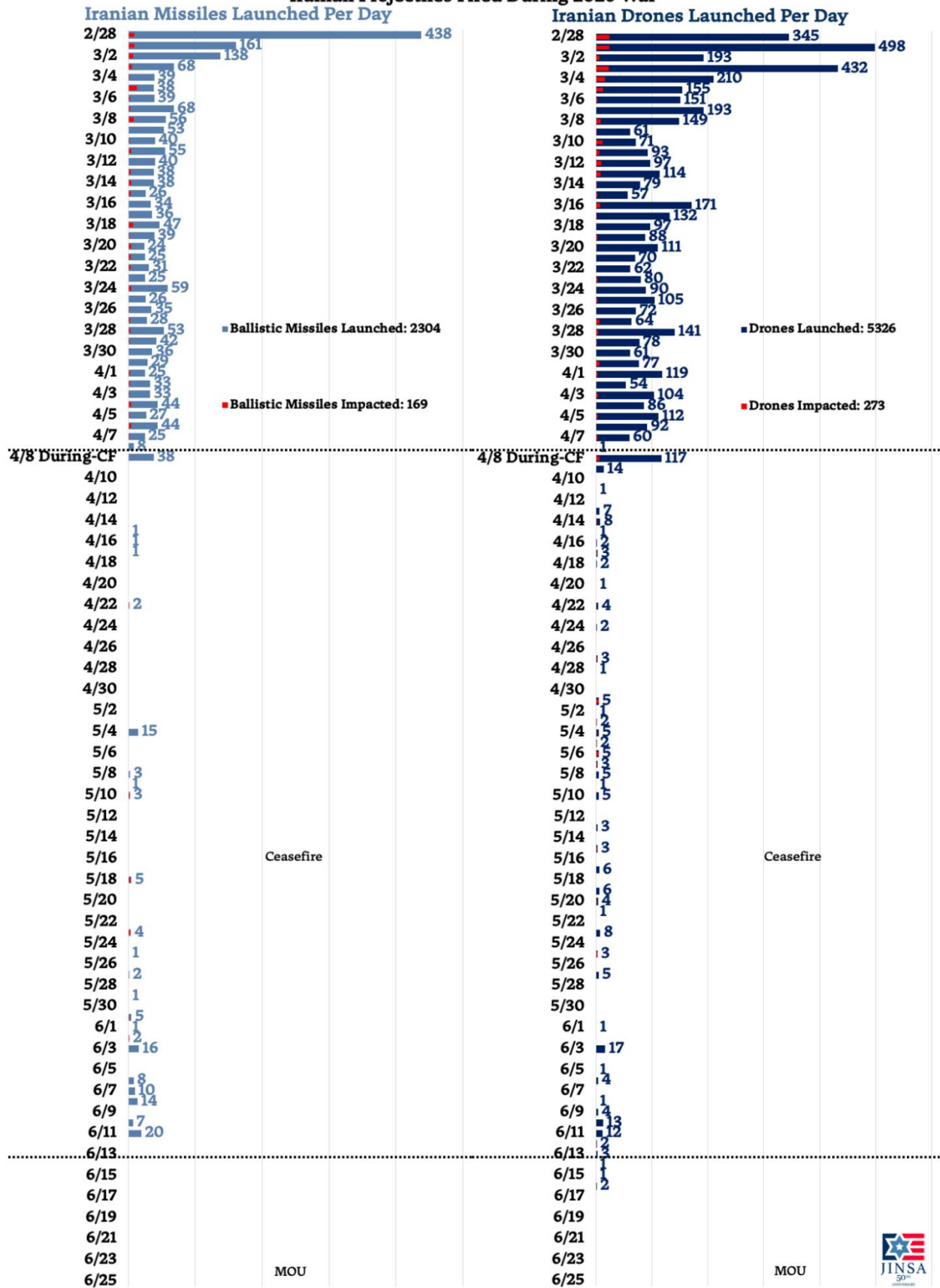
- At least 400 members of the U.S. military have been [injured](#) thus far in the war.
 - » Ten have been seriously [wounded](#), and at least 354 of the injured have reportedly returned to duty.
 - » At least 15 Americans were [hurt](#) in an Iranian drone strike on Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait 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. service-members were [injured](#), including two who were seriously wounded.
- Since the war began, [at least 65 people have been killed in Israel](#), while over 7,795 have been [injured](#). At least 35 of these [casualties](#) include Israeli soldiers and one defense contractor killed while fighting Hezbollah.
 - » On the evening of June 24, an Israeli reservist was [killed](#), and an Israeli combat soldier was moderately wounded when their truck overturned in southern Lebanon.
- 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, Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (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. Threats, Condemnations, and Statements from Iranian Officials

- On June 25, IRGC Quds Force Commander Esmaeil Qaani [demanded](#) that Israeli forces leave Lebanese territory on their own or be “forced to flee in defeat.”
- On June 25, the IRGC [threatened](#) to act against ships traveling through the Strait of Hormuz that refuse to comply with Iranian guidelines by taking other routes in the waterway, adding that ships must coordinate with Iran to guarantee safe transit.

- On June 24, Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei [criticized](#) North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary General Mark Rutte for indicating that “country after country, ally after ally after ally, have made their bases available for Epic Fury.”
 - » Baghaei [responded](#) to Rutte on X, writing, “This is a clear and damning admission of NATO’s active complicity in an unlawful war of aggression against a sovereign UN Member State—a flagrant violation of peremptory norms of international law and the core principles of the UN Charter.”
 - » He added that “The Organization and its individual member States that participated in such decision-making must be held accountable for all the consequences.”

Iranian Projectiles Fired During 2026 War



8. JINSA Resources

- Jonathan Ruhe, [How the MOU's "Nuclear Status Quo" Negates a Good Iran Deal](#), June 24, 2026
- Michael Makovsky, PhD, John Hannah, Blaise Misztal, and Jonathan Ruhe, [Reversal of Fortunes: The U.S.-Iran Memorandum of Understanding](#), June 23, 2026
- Ari Cicurel, ["Trump Went to War to End Iran's Missile Threat. Now He Endorses It,"](#) *Jewish News Syndicate*, June 23, 2026
- [Infographic - The Iran MOU: Did the U.S. Understand the Assignment?](#), June 18, 2026
- 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
- 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