



IT'S A TOUGH WORLD.

MENA Executive SITREP

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**MAX
INTELLIGENCE**



Executive Brief: US – Israeli Operations Against Iran and Regional Implications

Explainer: This daily report provides an executive summary of major developments related to the ongoing war in the Middle East. It complements MAX Security's more in-depth Situation Update reports. If you haven't yet received our situation updates and other reporting amid the current escalation, or would like to receive more details, join our [WhatsApp community](#). For operational support, please contact our Protection Division at operations@max-security.com.

Operational Overview

The joint US-Israeli military operations in Iran continued through April 5-6, including an IDF aerial wave against targets in Tehran during the early hours of April 6. Israel assassinated Majid Khademi, the head of intelligence at the IRGC.

On April 6, Israel targeted the South Pars Petrochemical Plant as well as a power plant and another petrochemical plant in Shiraz. Israeli Defense Minister Katz confirmed the attack on South Pars. He stated that the attack derailed around 50 percent of Iran's petrochemical output and that together with the complex attacked last week, around 85 percent of Iran's petrochemical output is severed. The previous time Israel targeted Iran's South Pars complex, Iran launched its extensive attack on Qatar's Ras Laffan gas complex, disrupting Qatar's LNG output substantially. The latest attack will likely push Iran to attempt an attack of similar or even greater magnitude, which will significantly increase threat perception in the Gulf in the immediate term.

Parallel to these kinetic actions, President Trump extended his previous ultimatum to the overnight hours of April 7-8, threatening strikes on Iranian bridges and power plants unless the Strait of Hormuz is reopened or Iran reaches a deal. Despite this rhetoric, the President indicated to US media that a deal remains possible by April 6, noting that negotiations are currently active. Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf dismissed the threats, warning that "reckless moves" would drag the US into a "living hell" and destabilize the entire region.

Amidst this tension, reports suggest a final diplomatic effort is underway. The US, Iran, and international mediators are discussing a two-phase ceasefire, starting with an initial 45-day truce. During the afternoon of April 6, Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Esmail Baghaei stated that Tehran has formulated its diplomatic response to the US and will release it at the appropriate time without caving in to deadline pressures. However, deep-seated mistrust and significant outstanding disputes remain.

Consequently, and especially following the latest Israeli attacks, the stakes are going to be extremely high in the region.



Iranian actions

On April 5, the IRGC announced conducting attacks against "Zionist and US economic interests in countries in the region" in response to prior US/Israeli strikes on the B1 bridge on April 2 and a petrochemical complex in Mahshahr on April 4.

Meanwhile, Iran continued to launch missiles and UAVs toward several Gulf states on April 5-6. The Kuwaiti MoD announced that during the overnight hours and early morning hours, the air defenses actively engaged several UAVs and missiles. The Qatari MoD announced that Qatari forces had intercepted two cruise missiles and several UAVs launched from Iran on April 5. In Bahrain, state media reported that Iranian UAVs targeted several Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) facilities on the morning of April 5. Simultaneously, state-owned BAPCO Energies confirmed that authorities extinguished a fire caused by a UAV attack on a storage tank. In the UAE, on April 6, an Iranian UAV targeted the Du Telecommunications company in Fujairah, and in Abu Dhabi, falling debris from an intercepted projectile wounded one foreign national at the Raneen Systems office in the Musaffah industrial area. On April 5, Emirati forces engaged 50 UAVs and ten missiles.

Iran continued to launch missiles toward Israel as well. Between April 5-6, multiple Iranian missiles impacted several areas in Israel. On April 5, a ballistic missile started disintegrating in the air, prompting the Israeli interceptor to miss it. It directly impacted and collapsed a building in Haifa, killing four individuals. A ballistic missile also landed in southern Israel's Neot Hovav Industrial Zone. On April 6, additional cluster-warhead munitions impacted Haifa in northern Israel, as well as Petah Tikva and Ramat Gan in central Israel. Four individuals were wounded in Haifa, while two others sustained injuries in central Israel.

Other notable developments

Israel-Lebanon: The IDF and Hezbollah continued to clash in southern Lebanon on April 5-6. Hezbollah continued to launch rockets and UAVs into Israel, some of them simultaneously with Iran. Shrapnel from an intercepted rocket fired from Lebanon lightly wounded six people in northern Israel's Deir al-Asad on April 5. Meanwhile, a Hezbollah-launched UAV hit a residence in northern Israel's Shomrat.

Israel continued its strike, targeting Hezbollah headquarters and facilities. Furthermore, on April 5, the IDF announced that its 91st and 36th Divisions are expanding ground operations in southern Lebanon and that the IDF is stabilizing a defensive frontline to reinforce security and eliminate the threat to northern Israeli communities. Israel strikes were conducted and led to casualties in Beirut's Jnah Neighborhood and other areas in the Dahiyeh.

Persian Gulf/Strait of Hormuz: On April 5, Tehran announced a "new protocol" barring adversary like the US and Israel from the Strait of Hormuz. Under this policy, Iran demands compensation for war



damages through transit fees as a condition for reopening. The IRGC Navy confirmed it is finalizing operational preparations for this "new order," asserting the waterway will not return to its previous status.

Regarding transit through the Strait, Iranian media reported that 15 authorized vessels passed through the Strait in the last 24 hours. Despite these movements, security risks remain high. On April 5, the UKMTO reported projectiles landing near a vessel at the UAE's Khor Fakkan Port, where intercepted shrapnel caused a fire near the site.

Iraq: According to an unconfirmed April 5 report quoting an official from Iraq's North Oil Company, authorities have completed transferring about 90,000 barrels of oil from Basra to pumping stations in northern Iraq's Kirkuk. The crude is slated for export via the Kirkuk-Ceyhan pipeline. Meanwhile, the first oil tanker carrying Iraqi crude reportedly safely transited the Strait of Hormuz. This comes against the backdrop of Iran's reported exemption given to Iraq.

During the past 24 hours, the "Islamic Resistance in Iraq" claimed 19 operations against US bases in Iraq and the region, including two strikes on the US diplomatic logistics center at Victory Base near Baghdad International Airport. In parallel, Iranian missile and UAV attacks targeted Kurdish party headquarters and civilian infrastructure in Sulaymaniyah and near Erbil's Koya.

Jordan: On April 5, the Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF) announced that its air defense systems had intercepted two missiles and two UAVs launched from Iran over the past 24 hours.

Travel & Security Aspects

- Regional travel conditions remain highly volatile, with most states in the region exposed to extreme risk due to repeated and unpredictable missile and UAV attacks.
- Evacuations outside of certain countries and safe havens within countries should be considered as part of contingency planning, especially if power and desalination plants will potentially be targeted and cause utility-related threats.
- Airspace restrictions are broadly being alleviated, and commercial traffic is picking up in several Gulf states.
- Extraction routes are still most viable through **Oman, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt.**
- **Egypt and Turkey broadly** remain outside direct hostilities and are assessed as medium-risk environments compared with other regional states. Turkey is exposed to risks in its southeastern border areas near Iran and around its NATO bases.
- **Oman** remains comparatively less affected and continues to function as a key transit point for evacuations and regional travel adjustments.
- **Israel's** national carrier, El Al, announced an extension of its flight cancellations until April 18. Israeli authorities increased the capacity of outbound flights from 50 to 100 passengers per flight. Israeli authorities are planning to ease some Home Front Command (HFC) restrictions in the



coming days. This includes increasing gatherings from 50 to 100 individuals, returning to educational systems within protected areas, and other considerations. Such alleviations may take effect on April 12.

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