



## Day 4 of the war of aggression against Iran (Ticker 21:00)

March 3, 2026 by [Peter F. Mayer / Jochen Mitschka](#) 18.8 minute read

**The US-Israeli war of aggression against Iran, which began on February 28, 2026, continues to escalate. From approximately 8:00 PM German time until the morning of March 3, 2026, the conflict is dominated by sustained airstrikes, Iranian counterattacks, and an expansion into neighboring regions. Here is a chronological overview of the relevant developments.**

First, a recap of the night. Israeli and US forces conduct further airstrikes against Iranian targets, including Tehran and Sanandaj. Iranian forces report retaliatory attacks on US bases in Kuwait and the UAE. Hezbollah fires rockets at Israel, and Israel [bombs](#) by Iranian drones [Beirut. Simultaneously, oil prices rise by over 10%, and the Gulf region \(including Ras Tanura in Saudi Arabia\) is attacked](#). British bases in Cyprus (Akrotiri) are [hit](#) by Iranian missiles .

### 11:00 PM on March 2, 2026

The IRGC (Iranian Revolutionary Guard) launches a new [wave](#) of attacks (" *Operation True Promise 4* ") using drones and ballistic missiles against US targets in Kuwait, the UAE, Bahrain, and the Strait of Hormuz. Reports indicate that the US base at Arifyan in Kuwait has been hit. In Israel, nine people are killed by an Iranian [missile strike](#) in Beit Shemesh. The

conflict escalates: explosions occur in Ras Al Khaimah (UAE), and [attacks](#) target ports such as Jebel Ali and airports in Dubai. US President Trump announces in a press conference that the war could last four to five weeks and that the deployment of ground troops is not ruled out.

Further Iranian missile attacks on Israel and US bases in the Gulf; Qatar reports [intercepting](#) Su-24 jets and ballistic missiles. Reports of cyberattacks on Israeli and Saudi Arabian power grids. The Hormuz dispute is declared an " *extremely dangerous zone* ," leading to [disruptions](#) in LNG transit.

## **00:00 on March 3, 2026**

The conflict continues to escalate, with Iranian attacks on Bahrain (US 5th Fleet), Kuwait (US embassy), and the UAE (Dubai airport). A US F-15 is shot down. Hezbollah intensifies rocket fire on Israel, and Israel [bombs](#) Beirut.

Global markets [are reacting](#) with rising gas prices (+22% in the EU) and disruptions in energy supplies. The IAEA reports no damage to nuclear facilities, but Iran reports hits on [Natanz](#) . [Preliminary toll](#) : Over 555 dead in Iran (as of the evening of March 2, likely much higher); 11 dead in Israel; 3–4 US soldiers killed.

The focus is on escalation in the Gulf and Lebanon, with the potential involvement of other actors. Diplomacy has stalled. Iran is refusing negotiations after it became clear that the latest proposals were used as bait by the US to eliminate the country's leadership. The Iranian leadership insists that the war continue until the US leaves the region. So far, everything is unfolding as predicted by those who warned of this war.

The German Chancellor seems to have forgotten that the Nuremberg Trials after World War II made it clear that in a war of aggression, the aggressor is also responsible for the actions of the defender. And the claim that Iran was planning an attack was refuted not only by US intelligence agencies.

## **7:30 a.m.**

After the US government came under pressure because intelligence agencies had clearly stated that no Iranian attack was imminent, and therefore the war of aggression could not be considered a "preventive war", US Secretary of State Marco Rubio responded that it had been a preventive war because... it had to be assumed that Iran would retaliate if Israel attacked.

[“ We knew that if Iran were attacked, and we knew that Iran would be attacked, it would immediately turn against us. \(‘coming after us’\). ”](#)

The **number of casualties among US soldiers** is rising: Six US soldiers were killed and others wounded in an Iranian attack at an alternate command center, according to [CNN](#) .

Iranian officials speak of over **650 US casualties** so far , including wounded. At first glance, this may seem like a wild exaggeration, but it's worth remembering that, according to official US sources, "dozens" of US soldiers were wounded with "severe brain injuries" after Iran carried out a small, one-off attack on US bases following the killing of Soleimani.



Regarding the **downing of the three F-15 fighter jets**, a [US military magazine](#) writes that the US likes to declare its losses as "friendly fire": "Since Kuwait exclusively uses NATO-standard air defense systems and fighter jets, modern friend-or-foe identification systems allow only a minimal probability of friendly fighter jets being shot down. This fuels speculation that the claim that the aircraft were shot down by friendly forces could be an attempt to deny Iran recognition for one of the most significant air defense measures of recent decades. Iranian air defense systems have proven effective in the past..."

Trump apparently requested a ceasefire several times, but these requests were rejected. The assassination of Khamenei is proving to be an extremely significant obstacle: [An author and lecturer on Islam sheds light on the issue](#) :

To understand the significance of Khamenei's assassination and why it was such a catastrophic mistake for the US, consider this: Iran had never before had an assassinated Supreme Leader. (Khomeini died of a heart attack.) The idea that the leader of the Islamic Republic was murdered by the Great Satan fits the image perfectly.

Furthermore, Khamenei was killed during Ramadan, the same month as Ali, the first Imam of Shiism.

He was also killed along with his family, which Shiites see as a parallel to the martyrdom of Husayn and his family in Karbala.

This raises Khamenei and the legitimacy of the Islamic Republic in the eyes of Shiites worldwide and increasingly also of Sunnis to a record level.

Trump made this incredible mistake because he obeyed Netanyahu and adopted the Israeli strategy of killing everyone and everything.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi warned that the Americans and Israelis had not yet grasped the consequences of Ali Khamenei's assassination. Araghchi explicitly identified US bases in the region as legitimate targets and stated that they would remain under threat even if they were not actively used for attacks against Iran.

Araghchi argued that the crucial point was that Iran distinguishes between the US and the countries where the bases are located. Iran's conflict is not with its neighbors, but with the US troops stationed there.

On March 2, 2026, thousands of people in **Mumbai, India**, participated in a torchlight procession and funeral for Ali Khamenei. The gathering included members of the Shiite and Sunni communities, prominent scholars, and representatives of the Iranian consulate.

### **08:00:**

In a renewed **attack on media and journalists**, Israel has targeted the al-Manar television station building in a southern suburb of Beirut. This is yet another attempt by Israel to silence media outlets that expose its crimes against humanity.

**Amazon Web Services (AWS)** announced that Iranian drone attacks damaged two of its data centers in the United Arab Emirates and one facility in Bahrain, disrupting cloud services across the Middle East.

Iranian media are calling for support for an armed **uprising on the Syrian coast** and for the restoration of Hezbollah's supply lines through Syria by all means.

The **US embassy in Kuwait** announced that it will remain closed until further notice.

**Statement by the Shanghai Cooperation Organization** on the situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran: ...

The member states of the SCO express their sincere condolences to the families of the victims of the attack and express their solidarity and support for the government and people of Iran.

### **9:00 AM:**

In **Bahrain, an uprising against the dictator appears** to be brewing, and for the second time in recent years, it is reportedly being suppressed by the Saudi Arabian military. Saudi military forces are said to be coming to the dictator's aid. ( [Source](#) )

[News](#) is spreading on social media that **Saudi and Qatari intelligence services have arrested Mossad agents** who were planning and/or carrying out attacks. The obvious aim was to blame Iran in order to persuade the Gulf states to enter the war. Russia is apparently trying to mediate between the Gulf states and Iran to prevent the war from spreading. Meanwhile, the EU states are adding fuel to the fire by talking about arbitrary attacks, even though the targets are clearly US interests and therefore legitimate targets for a country defending itself.

Claims that **three US aircraft** were shot down by "friendly fire" appear increasingly untenable. The likelihood that they were hit by Iranian long-range air defenses is significantly greater. The US is now suffering its heaviest air force losses in decades in this war of aggression. The loss of several high-tech drones has received little to no coverage.

### **10:00 AM:**

Reports are circulating that Donald **Trump is trying to persuade the Iraqi Kurds** to join the war against Iran. The Kurds, who already played a significant role in the overthrow of Saddam Hussein, are [now to be sent back to the front lines](#) .

Donald **Trump complains** that Britain is not rushing to help as usual and is not [participating](#) in the war of aggression . After the **German government** also apparently reconsidered its position and decided not to intervene, Israel and the **USA are increasingly isolated** as the aggressors.

In attacks on Iran today , the US and Israel the Golestan Palace [severely damaged](#) —the only **UNESCO World Heritage Site in the capital, Tehran** . Reports are mounting that the coalition in this war of aggression is increasingly bombing anything *that moves* , as if it were aiming to create a larger Gaza.

Regarding the **costs of defending against Iranian "ballistic" missiles**: Taking into account the costs of the interceptor missiles (\$7.5 million for PAC-3 and \$20 million for THAAD) and the 169 **in the UAE** Iranian missiles officially intercepted , **the costs amount to between \$2.5 and \$3.2 billion** . And that's just for three days of warfare, not even including the costs of intercepting drones.

But the Persian attacks were also repelled by the air defense systems of the **US, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, and Jordan** . And knowing the price range from the UAE example, one can easily extrapolate and calculate the total cost of air defense over three days. This could **amount to over \$100 billion** .

The US and Israeli attack on **Tehran's [Gandhi Hospital](#)** – following the **bombing of schools** and the **massacre of 171 innocent girls** in the city of [Minab](#) – occurred despite the attackers' claims of possessing state-of-the-art military equipment and precision targeting systems. The deliberate destruction of civilian infrastructure, medical facilities, schools, and media institutions by the US and Israel, with the aim of paralyzing civilian life, constitutes a **blatant war crime** and a crime against humanity.

**Spain** is refusing to provide military support for a US attack on Iran and is distancing itself from France, Germany, and Britain, [El Pais reported yesterday](#) . Washington has withdrawn its tanker aircraft from the Morón airbase in Seville after being denied permission to use them for Operation Epic Fury.

Croatian **President Zoran Milanović** strongly condemned the current military intervention in Iran, warning that the unilateral use of force without international consent jeopardizes global stability and could have serious consequences for Europe. He ordered the immediate withdrawal of troops from Iraq and Lebanon.

The Israeli army announces that it **has begun “limited ground operations” in southern Lebanon** to prevent cross-border incursions by Hezbollah’s *Ridwan* forces.

**11:30 a.m.**

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey **Lavrov** stated that there is currently no evidence that **Iran is developing nuclear weapons** . He believes the consequences of the operation against Iran will be felt throughout the region. Russia calls for an end to hostilities in the Middle East "from all sides," the minister emphasized.



**Israel announced attacks** on the office of the Iranian president, the Iranian National Security Council building and other facilities in Tehran.



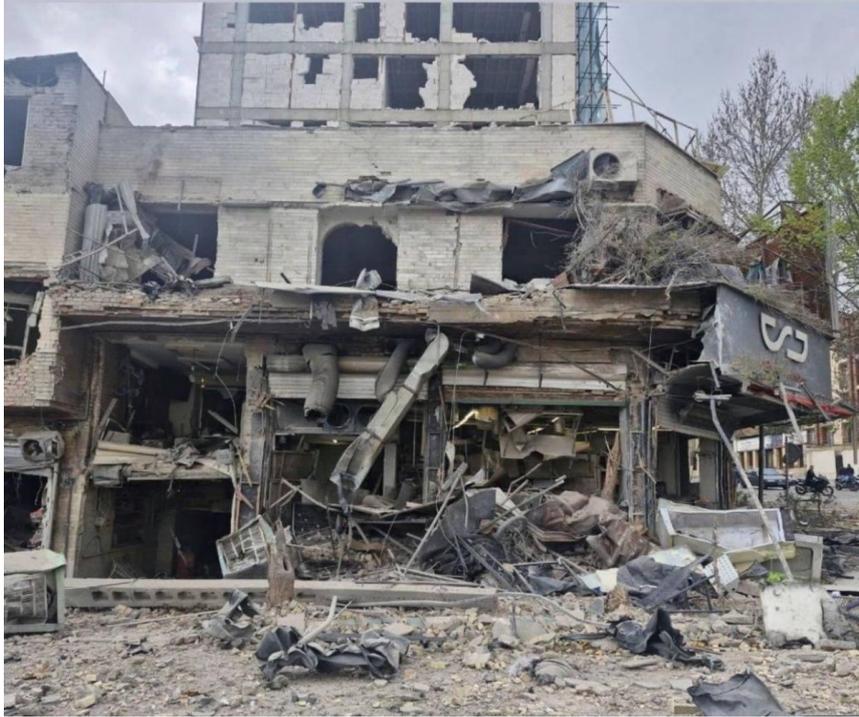
Israeli attacks in **Harouf and Al-Qatrani in Lebanon.**

The **IAEA** states that it **the recent damage to the entrance buildings of the Iranian fuel enrichment plant in Natanz .** can confirm

**13:00:**

Attacks on Jerusalem and Tel Aviv about two hours ago.

Iranian drones attacked the port of Salalah in Oman.



The USA/Israel bombed the Lamiz Café in **Tehran** , a popular meeting place for Iranian opposition members.

Downtime at **Dubai** Airport costs approximately **\$1 million per minute** .

According to Bloomberg, the **Gulf states** – including the United Arab Emirates and Qatar – are forming a broad coalition to accelerate a **diplomatic solution** to the conflict and thus prevent further escalation and a continued rise in energy prices.



The photo shows the destruction in the city of al-Kharayeb in **southern Lebanon** after the Israeli airstrike carried out on the city this morning.

Israeli **occupation forces** announced on Tuesday the expansion of their **incursion into Lebanese territory** . The army's 91st Division was deployed to several positions south of the Litani River to conduct what it described as "advancing defensive operations."

The US is blocking requests from some **Gulf states** to increase their air defense interceptor missiles as pressure mounts on them to join the US and Israel in their war against Iran, a Western official and a former US official familiar with the matter told Middle East Eye.

### **3:30 PM:**

Israel bombed the building of the Assembly of Experts in **Qom** , the body that elects the new Supreme Leader. The building was empty.

The Iranian Red Crescent Society reported that the **death toll** from the US-Israeli aggression against Iran **to 787**. has risen **On Tuesday, funeral services were held for 171 victims of the Shajareh-ye Tayyebah Girls' Primary School** in Minab, Hormozgan Province, in southern Iran. Most of the dead were young students, along with staff and parents who were present at the time of the attack.

Iran's representative **to the United Nations in Geneva** stated that Tehran had "confirmed information that Israel and the United States are attempting **to carry out terrorist attacks against civilians** in neighboring countries and then blame them on Iran," and warned that "the aim is to incite these countries against Iran."

The **Norwegian energy minister** says the crisis could reignite the debate in the EU about banning Russian gas imports. European **gas prices** have risen by 75 percent in a week, reaching a multi-year high due to tensions affecting exports from the Gulf region.

A senior **Israeli official** told the Israeli news channel Kan: "We believe that **Saudi Arabia** will soon attack Iran after yesterday's attack." It appears that Iran was right when it claimed the attack on Aramco was an [Israeli false flag operation](#) . This claim was supported by statements from Tucker Carlson, who said that Israelis were preparing false flag attacks in the Gulf.

"The second American **THAAD missile defense system** in the West Asia region was hit and disabled by precision-guided missiles from the IRGC Aerospace Force."



"Yesterday, the THAAD radar station at the **Al-Ruwais base in the United Arab Emirates** was also destroyed. With the destruction of these two systems, the missile army of the Islamic Republic of Iran now has a clear path to successfully hit targets."

Israel is attacking southern Lebanon with **Hezbollah** tanks . announces that it has scored a direct hit on a second Israeli **Merkava** tank near Kfarkila in southern Lebanon using an ATGM.

#### **4:30 PM:**

According to the WSJ, President **Trump** is prepared to support armed groups in Iran willing to fight against the government, including Kurdish factions. A final decision on arms or intelligence support has not yet been made.

Fatah missiles with cluster warheads struck several targets in **Tel Aviv** .

#### **5:30 PM:**

An Israeli airstrike targeted the Islamic Group's headquarters in **Saida, southern Lebanon**. Israeli officials portray the latest escalation as a response to the resistance movement's March 1 reprisals. However, these developments follow 15 months of reported Israeli violations, which, according to Lebanese **authorities** and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), have totaled more than **15,400 violations** reportedly **since the ceasefire took effect, with hundreds of people** by Israeli aggression over the past year **killed** .

President **Trump** : "Iran has almost no rocket launchers left."

**Spokesperson for the Iranian Ministry of Defense** : "We have prepared for a very long war, so it would be foolish to use our most effective weapons right at the beginning. The enemy has only limited supplies, and everyone is aware of this fact."

**Rosatom** is in hourly contact with the **Bushehr nuclear power plant in Iran**. Work has been suspended, and **639 Russian employees** remain at the **plant** . During breaks between attacks, Rosatom will evacuate the remaining personnel. Communication with the leadership of the Iranian nuclear industry has been completely severed. (c) TASS



Smoke clouds over Mehrabad Airport in Tehran: An Israeli missile attack destroyed a passenger plane and damaged the airport infrastructure.

**7:00 PM**

**Pakistan's Foreign Minister** : "As you all know, we have a joint defense pact with Saudi Arabia. As I have repeatedly emphasized, Iran was attacked; it is not the aggressor. However, we urge Iran to respect the defense pact. Nevertheless, we appreciate Iran's relatively restrained response to Saudi Arabia compared to other Gulf states."

Cruise missiles were fired in the direction of the **aircraft carrier group** USS Abraham Lincoln.

President **Trump** announces that the **US will sever all trade relations with Spain** because the country refuses to make its bases available for an attack on Iran.



Explosions at the **Bushehr nuclear power plant** in Iran: Attacks on it could cause a nuclear catastrophe, according to Rosatom. The Bushehr nuclear power plant, which **stores 70 tons of nuclear fuel** and **210 tons of spent fuel**, could cause a disaster of regional proportions. The attacks apparently originated in Israel.



Iran **drone equipped with electronic warfare weapons to land**. forced an Israeli Hermes-900

The **Tehran** Israeli Air Force has targeted . **The targets remain residential buildings** . No military targets were destroyed today.

"Oil production halted in **Iraq's largest oil field** ": The world's second-largest oil field has ceased operations. Local sources told Shafaq News on Tuesday that oil production at the Rumaila field has been completely halted.

American soldiers are being told by their commanders that a war with Iran "**Armageddon**" and the "**return of Jesus**, would mean "**and that Trump is "God's anointed one**," according to American journalist Jonathan Larsen. More on this in this [TKP article](#). These are the Christian Zionists and Evangelicals whom Swiss psychologist C.G. Jung has diagnosed with a severe psychosis, i.e., a mental illness.

In a televised address, **Mark Warner, US Senator** of America from the Irish and **leading Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee**, stated that "**there was no immediate threat to the United States** ."

**Rubio** : *"I was asked: Why now? One reason was that it was perfectly clear that if Iran were attacked by anyone, be it the United States, Israel or anyone else, it would strike back and turn against the United States."*

*If we had waited until this attack occurred before striking, we would have suffered much higher losses.*

*We knew there would be an Israeli action, and we knew that this would lead to an attack on American forces."*

**8:00 PM:**

Funeral of the girls murdered by the USA/Israel.

are taking place again throughout Iran . **Mass demonstrations** against the US and Israel and in support of the Iranian government



Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova:

*" The German Foreign Ministry cannot say whether the attack by the US and Israel on Iran violates international law, as Berlin does not have all the necessary information ."*

Zakharova's response: *" Germany regularly confirms the legitimacy of the Christian Democratic Union – even though it has neither complete information about Christ nor about democracy. "*

**9:00 PM**

The Israeli regime's missile attack on a **hospital in Sarpol-e Zahab in western Iran** caused significant damage and is the latest in a series of attacks on Iranian health facilities. The attack, which occurred in the early hours of Tuesday morning, struck a civilian medical center in a city still recovering from a devastating earthquake in 2017, once again violating international humanitarian law.

### European gas prices have risen by more than 100% since the US and Israeli attacks on Iran.

At the Dutch Title Transfer Facility (TTF), Europe's most liquid trading platform for gas, April futures rose to €65.50 per megawatt hour at 2:20 pm.

For comparison: On February 27, before the attacks, the closing price was €31.95 per megawatt hour. On that day, prices rose by approximately 47% compared to the previous session.

Qatar accounts for about 20% of global LNG export capacity, so the closure of Ras Laffan and Mesaieed represents one of the biggest shocks to the gas markets.

E	— EU	342.3825	29.96	-0.02 ▼
C	+ Austria	36.2221	35.94	-0.10 ▼
C	+ Belgium	2.2965	25.57	-0.09 ▼
C	+ Bulgaria	2.9497	42.11	-0.30 ▼
C	+ Croatia	0.5464	11.45	-0.27 ▼
E	+ Czech Republic	14.7062	31.25	-0.04 ▼
C	+ Denmark	2.6231	26.79	0.13 ▲
C	+ France	27.2708	21.69	0.04 ▲
E	+ Germany	52.4757	20.89	0.07 ▲
C	+ Hungary	23.5693	34.67	-0.16 ▼
N	+ Ireland			
C	+ Italy	96.3408	47.38	-0.22 ▼
C	+ Latvia	4.9034	19.72	0.00
C	+ Netherlands	15.0819	10.45	-0.10 ▼
C	+ Poland	18.3248	50.47	-0.29 ▼
C	+ Portugal	2.7390	76.72	0.00
C	+ Romania	11.1806	33.02	-0.58 ▼
C	+ Slovakia	10.3406	27.79	-0.19 ▼
E	+ Spain	20.7993	58.05	2.25 ▲
C	+ Sweden	0.0121	14.58	0.00
N	+ United Kingdom (Pre-Brexit)			

In the EU, gas storage levels have fallen to an average of below 30 percent. The Netherlands is in the worst position with only 10.45%, followed by Croatia with 11.45%, Sweden with

14.58%, Latvia with 19.72%, and then Germany with 20.89%, where the chimney of a coal-fired power plant was recently demolished. Source: [AGSI](#), March 3, 2026, 9 p.m.

**Ends March 3, 21:10**