

QUOTE OF THE DAY

WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE THE LIFE I LIVE? I KNOW I'M NOT PERFECT -AND I DON'T LIVE TO BE- BUT BEFORE YOU START POINTING FINGERS... MAKE SURE YOUR HANDS ARE CLEAN!
BOB MARLEY

Iran Guards target Kurdish area

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said Monday their forces had struck groups linked to the United States and Israel in the western Iranian province of Kurdistan, near the border with Iraq.

'Do the impossible'

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun said he would do the "impossible" in order to stop the war with Israel, after a ceasefire and direct talks between the countries failed to end the fighting.

"northern Iraq and acting on behalf of the US and the Zionist regime were attempting to smuggle a large shipment of American weapons and ammunition" into Iran. They said the groups were hit in the Iranian city of Baneh in the Kurdistan region.

"My duty, based on my position and my responsibility, is to do the impossible, and to choose what is least costly, in order to stop the war against Lebanon and its people," he said.

Hezbollah targets Israel

Hezbollah said it fired a drone at a military target in northern Israel, as Israel continued launching strikes on south Lebanon despite an extension of the truce between the countries.

In a statement, Hezbollah

said it launched the drone at "an Iron Dome platform belonging to the Israeli enemy army" in a military encampment in northern Israel, in response to an Israeli "violation" of the ceasefire.

Israeli strikes in Lebanon

An Israeli missile strike on an apartment in eastern Lebanon killed an Islamic Jihad commander and his 17-year-old daughter, Lebanese state media said Sunday. Emergency workers were searching the rubble for survivors of the blast on the outskirts of the city of Baalbek.

Meanwhile, Israeli strikes on towns in southern Lebanon

killed five people, including two children, and left at least 15 people wounded, the Lebanese health ministry said.

Israeli attacks since the start of the war have killed more than 2,900 people in Lebanon, including more than 400 since the truce began on April 17, according to Lebanese authorities.

New body formed to manage strait

Iran's Supreme National Security Council announced the formation of a new body to manage the strait.

On its official X account, the Supreme National Security Council shared a post from the Persian Gulf Strait Authority (PGSA) saying it would provide "real-time updates" on operations and developments in the strait.

The PGSA account later said in a post that it was "the legal and official representative authority" and that "navigation within the designated jurisdictional area of the Strait of Hormuz" required "full coordination" with the authority and that passage without authorization would be considered illegal.

THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ

A NARROW PASSAGE. A CRITICAL LIFELINE.

The Strait of Hormuz is a narrow waterway between Iran and Oman that connects the Arabian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. It is one of the world's most important oil chokepoints.

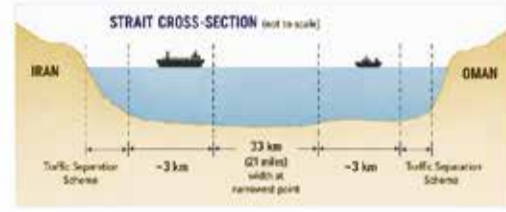
BY THE NUMBERS

- 20% of the world's daily oil consumption
- ~20 MILLION barrels of oil flow through daily (= 1 out of every 5 barrels consumed globally)
- 2,000+ vessels transit the Strait each month



KEY FACTS

- CRITICAL OIL CHOKEPOINT**
Around 20% of the world's daily oil consumption—about 20 million barrels—passes through the Strait of Hormuz.
- VITAL FOR GLOBAL TRADE**
Carries crude oil, LNG, and other energy exports from the Arabian Gulf to global markets.
- NO VIABLE ALTERNATIVE**
There is no comparable alternative route for oil exports from the Arabian Gulf.
- GEOPOLITICAL FLASHPOINT**
Tensions in the region pose a constant risk to one of the world's most strategic waterways.

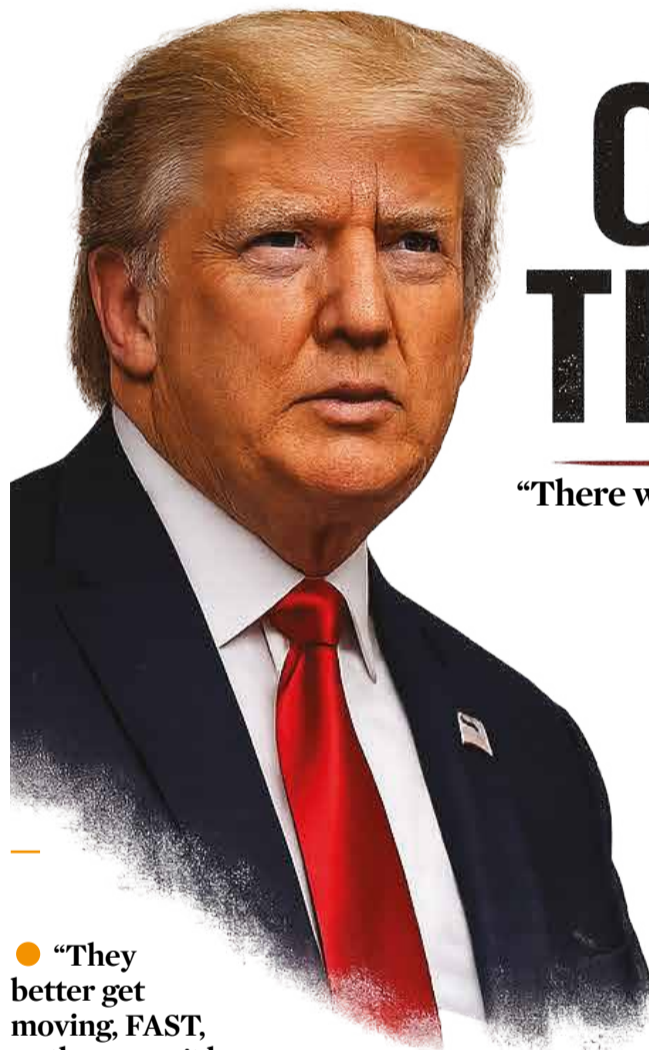


WHY IT MATTERS

Any disruption in the Strait of Hormuz—whether from conflict, blockades, or attacks—could significantly impact global energy markets, drive up prices, and disrupt the world economy.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Strait of Hormuz has been a vital trade route for centuries.
- It is monitored 24/7 by regional navies and international forces.
- Even a short-term disruption could remove millions of barrels of oil from global supply.



Trump warns: CLOCK TICKING

"There won't be anything left"

on Iran



● "They better get moving, FAST, or there won't be anything left of them"

AFP | Washington, United States

President Donald Trump threatened "there won't be anything left" of Iran if no peace deal is reached, as their truce came under further strain with drone attacks on US allies in the Gulf.

"For Iran, the Clock is Ticking, and they better get moving, FAST, or there won't be anything left of them," Trump wrote on

his Truth Social platform Sunday. "TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!"

The two sides have been communicating via mediator Pakistan but have failed to reach a lasting agreement amid a shaky temporary truce, which was tested again on Sunday by fresh strikes on Gulf nations.

Iranian-backed armed groups equipped with drones are based in Iraq, while Tehran's allies in Yemen -- the Houthi rebels -- also possess combat-grade UAVs.

Iran's proxy in Lebanon, the armed group Hezbollah, has also been launching attacks against Israel, drawing Lebanon into the war. Israel has responded with air strikes and a ground invasion in south Lebanon. A ceasefire is in place between Israel and Lebanon, but the fighting with Hezbollah has not stopped.

Russian drone hit Chinese cargo ship overnight in Black Sea: Ukraine



Aftermath of a Russian drone strike on a Chinese-owned cargo vessel in the Black Sea. (Source: Ukrainian Navy)

AFP | Kyiv, Ukraine

A Russian drone hit a Chinese cargo ship in the Black Sea overnight, Ukraine said Monday, a day before Russian President Vladimir Putin heads to Beijing to meet Xi Jinping.

Kyiv routinely announces Russian attacks on civilian vessels near the port of Odesa -- a vital maritime hub for Ukrainian agricultural exports.

But Monday's attack comes just ahead of Putin's two-day trip to Beijing where he and Xi are set to deepen bilateral ties between the friendly nations.

"Drones struck Odesa ... and one of the UAVs hit a vessel owned by China," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said in a post on social media.

"The Russians could not have been unaware of what

vessel was at sea," he added.

A spokesman for Ukraine's navy told AFP that none of the crew -- all Chinese citizens -- were wounded and that the Chinese-owned vessel continued on its journey.

"The ship was entering for loading. After it was hit at night by a Shahed, the crew coped with the consequences on their own. Fortunately, no one was injured, and the vessel continued on its way to its port of destination," navy spokesman Dmytro Pletenchuk said.

The Ukrainian navy named the ship as KSL Deyang. It posted a photo showing part of the upper deck blackened after the apparent hit.

Zelensky said Russian forces had attacked Ukraine overnight with 524 attack drones and 22 missiles, including ballistic and cruise missiles.

Iran says it responded to latest US peace proposal

Iran said yesterday it had responded to a new US proposal aimed at ending the war, adding that diplomatic exchanges continue despite Iranian media reports describing Washington's demands as excessive.

"As we announced yesterday, our concerns were conveyed to the American side," foreign ministry spokesman Esmaeil

Baqaei told a news briefing, adding that exchanges were "continuing through the Pakistani mediator".

Baqaei defended Iran's demands, including the release of Iranian assets frozen abroad and the lifting of long-standing sanctions. "The points raised are Iranian demands that have been firmly defended by the Iranian negotiating team in every

round of negotiations," he said.

He also defended an Iranian stipulation that the US pay war reparations, describing the conflict as "illegal and baseless".

On the possibility of another military confrontation, Baqaei said Iran was "fully prepared for any eventuality".

On Monday, Iran's Tasnim news agency, citing an unnamed source close to the Iranian ne-

gotiating team, said "contrary to previous texts, the Americans agreed in a new text to waive oil sanctions during the negotiation period." Fars said that the Iranian proposal had emphasised that Tehran would continue to manage the strategic Strait of Hormuz, a vital energy conduit which Iran has largely kept closed since the start of the war.