

Trump wrote on social media that Washington and Tehran have had "VERY GOOD AND PRODUCTIVE CONVERSATIONS REGARDING A COMPLETE AND TOTAL RESOLUTION OF OUR HOSTILITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST" over the past several days, adding that the contacts would continue during the week.

Trump's comments sparked a sharp reversal on markets, with crude prices sinking as much as 14 percent after rising around one percent earlier in the day.



Children move a part of an Iranian missile remnant that fell in a school courtyard in the Israeli settlement of Peduel, in the occupied West Bank

The United States and Iran were holding talks on a nuclear accord through Omani mediation days before the attacks

'Very good' talks: Trump

Trump offered no immediate details on the purported new talks

UK summons Iran envoy

Britain's foreign ministry summoned Iran's ambassador to London, Seyed Ali Mousavi, criticising what it called Tehran's "reckless and destabilising actions" in the UK and overseas. "The summons follows the recent charging of two individuals, one Iranian national and one British-Iranian dual national, under the National Security Act, on suspicion of providing assistance to a foreign intelligence service," a Foreign Office spokesperson said.

Palm Beach, United States

US President Donald Trump said Monday he will hold off on attacking Iranian power plants for five days after "very good" talks with Tehran, an abrupt shift that immediately eased pressure on rattled markets.

Hours before the expiration of his two-day ultimatum -- in which he threatened to "obliterate" Iran's power infrastructure if it did not reopen the strategic Strait of Hormuz -- Trump suddenly reported with little detail that diplomacy was underway, after he earlier shunned talks.

In a social media post characteristically in all capital letters

and containing typographical errors, Trump said the United States and Iran "have had, over the last two days, very good and productive conversations regarding a complete and total resolution of our hostilities in the Middle East."

"Based on the tenor and tone" of the talks, "witch (sic) will continue throughout the week, I have instructed the Department of War to postpone any and all military strikes against Iranian power plants and energy infrastructure for a five day period, subject to the success of the ongoing meetings and discussions," Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform.

The post came just hours before Wall Street was set to open

after brutal selloffs on European and Asian markets and a further climb in the price of oil.

Market pressure immediately eased after Trump's post, including in the price of oil which has posed an increasing political headache for Trump as Americans complain of higher prices at the pump.

Trump had initially issued through social media a deadline of 2344 GMT Monday -- early Tuesday in Tehran -- for Iran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow passageway into the Gulf through which one-fifth of the world's oil transits. He has earlier insisted that Iran was asking to talk -- which Tehran denied -- but that he refused.

"We've wiped out the leadership phase one, phase two, and largely phase three. But we're dealing with the man who I believe is the most respected and the leader. We want no enrichment, but we also want the enriched uranium."

DONALD TRUMP

'Major points of agreement' Trump

Palm Beach, United States

President Donald Trump said yesterday that there are "major points of agreement" in US-Iran talks which he said must result in Tehran giving up its nuclear ambitions

and enriched uranium stockpile.

Trump said the talks -- which Iran denies are taking place -- were being conducted with a "top person" but not the country's supreme leader.

US to 'just keep bombing' if Iran talks fail: Trump



A man stands near the crater the day after an Israeli airstrike targeted the Qasmiyeh Bridge, located on a main highway linking villages in the Tyre district with others farther north, after Israel said the bridge was being used by Hezbollah, in southern Lebanon

Friendly fire

The Israeli military confirmed that its own artillery fire had killed an Israeli civilian on the northern border on Sunday, where Hezbollah had claimed an attack and that "several severe issues and operational errors took place during the incident, including both the planning and execution of the fire".

Israeli emergency workers had initially said that a man was killed in a "direct hit" on his car by a rocket from Lebanon, making him the first fatality in the country's north since the latest round of fighting with Hezbollah broke out.

S. Korea FM urges safe Hormuz transit in call with Iranian counterpart

Trump says 'regime change' underway in Iran

AFP | Palm Beach, United States

President Donald Trump said yesterday that "regime change" was effectively underway in Iran, while warning that if talks with Iranian figures contacted by the United States do not succeed then bombing will continue.

Trump made clear talks were not with Iran's new supreme leader Mojtaba Khamenei but with people he described as "very reasonable," while so many top officials had already been killed in the conflict that "there's automatically a regime

change."

If talks fail, he told reporters, "we'll just keep bombing our little hearts out."

