

IRGC... (Continued From Page One)

U.S. strikes on southern Iran, which the IRGC said included bombing a wheat storage facility in Hoveyzeh and a mineral water factory in Dehloran, Ilam.

“We have no enmity with you and we greatly love the noble people of Kuwait,” the IRGC said, urging Kuwaitis to “expel these child-killing occupiers from your land”.

In a separate statement addressed to the people of Jordan, the IRGC described Jordan as “the resting place of the prophets” and urged Jordanians to end the presence of “the army of the Great Satan” on their soil.

“This country is not a place for invaders and international criminals,” the statement said.

The IRGC statements reiterated that the Strait of Hormuz will remain closed until U.S. aggression ends, warning that “not a single drop of oil and gas will be exported from the region” as long as U.S. actions continue.

“The region’s oil and gas exports are either for everyone or for no one,” the IRGC said.

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a wheat storage silo in Hoveyzeh and another location in Dasht-e Azadegan. No casualties were reported in those attacks.

In Ilam Province, Dehloran Governor Morad Yeganeh said three projectiles struck a mineral water production plant near the border district of Mousiyan at about 2:30 a.m., damaging equipment and infrastructure but causing no casualties.

In Hormozgan Province, residents east of Bandar Abbas reported hearing several explosions late Tuesday before strikes were reported near Sirik, Bandar Abbas, Hengam Island, Qeshm Island and Hajjiabad.

Bushehr Governor Muhammad Mozaffari said three locations in Bushehr city were struck on Wednesday. Although projectiles hit the city, no casualties were reported, he said, adding that four other locations had been targeted the previous day and emergency services remained on standby.

In Sistan and Baluchestan Province, Iran’s Ports and Maritime Administration said strikes for the second time damaged the maritime traffic control center at Chabahar Port.

The administration said the civilian facility, used to manage maritime traffic and coordinate search-and-rescue operations for fishermen, sustained structural damage but no casualties or equipment losses. It added that operations at Shahid Beheshti and Shahid Kalantari ports continued without interruption.

Iran’s Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said a separate strike targeted an environmental ranger station in Seyed Jowzar village in Hajjiabad County in Hormozgan Province, killing three members of the family of ranger Javad Hassanzadeh.

“The list of U.S. crimes against the Iranian people runs longer every day, and with each passing day Washington reveals a new face of its hostility toward Iran,” Baghaei said in a post on X, describing the strike as another example of what he called U.S. war crimes.

Government spokeswoman Fatemeh Mohajerani said on X that more than 30 civilians had been martyred in attacks on southern Iran in recent days.

“In the recent attacks on the south of the country, more than 30 civilian citizens were martyred,” she wrote, expressing condolences to the victims’ families and saying the government will “stand by the people with all its strength.” Mohajerani also said explosions on Khark Island caused a number of gazelles to flee their natural habitat and seek refuge in streets and urban areas.

Army Vows Retaliation After Barracks Strike

Separately, Iran’s Army Ground Force said a U.S. missile strike before dawn targeted accommodation facilities at an army base in Bampur in Sistan and Baluchestan Province, martyring seven members of the 388th Iranshahr Brigade, including conscripts, and wounding several others.

The Army said 13 missiles struck barracks, sleeping quarters, a guesthouse and guard posts at the base, stating that the areas had been deliberately targeted while personnel were asleep.

It asserted that the United States intentionally aimed at those areas with the sole and murderous objective of causing the highest possible death toll among Iranian service members.

It said precautionary measures limited the scale of casualties.

“The revenge for the blood of the martyrs of this crime is certain and imminent,” the Army said in a statement. “The Islamic Republic of Iran’s Army, with God’s help and alongside other armed forces, will deliver a decisive response to this aggressive action by the American enemy.”

The brigade is primarily responsible for countering cross-border terrorist attacks in south-eastern Iran.

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described as Iran’s first communications satellite, developed jointly by the Ministry of Communications and the Iranian Space Research Center. He said the satellite’s initial low-Earth orbit tests were largely successful and yielded valuable operational experience.

Building on those results, Iran is now developing an upgraded version of the platform capable of providing constellation-based communications services. The project, which began

last year, will continue throughout 1405.

Salarieh also outlined progress on Nahid-3, describing it as another communications satellite designed to provide services from geostationary orbit at an altitude of about 36,000 kilometers. He said the satellite remains in the design phase while work on major subsystems, including propulsion and thrusters, is underway.

He explained that communications satellites primarily handle data transmission and may operate either individually or as part of constellations. Satellites in low Earth orbit generally require constellation deployment, while satellites positioned in geostationary orbit can provide extensive coverage individually, reducing the total number of satellites required.

Salarieh stressed that Nahid-2 and Nahid-3 are long-term strategic projects extending beyond 1405, although major milestones involving subsystem development, engineering models and prototype construction are expected over the coming year.

A major focus of Iran’s communications program is the Shahid Soleimani satellite constellation, which Salarieh described as one of the country’s flagship projects. The first phase comprises 24 satellites, including 18 operational spacecraft and six reserve satellites.

He said the first prototype of the constellation was unveiled during National Space Technology Day in Bahman 1404 in the presence of the communications and defense ministers, while subsystem development has already been completed and integration of the remaining satellites is underway.

According to Salarieh, plans for 1405 include unveiling additional satellites in the constellation and launching them once the designated launch vehicle becomes available.

He added that Iran is preparing for the simultaneous deployment of three satellites by a single launch vehicle, describing it as one of the major milestones planned for 1405. While Iran has previously conducted multiple-satellite deployments in recent years, Salarieh said the upcoming mission represents a more advanced capability.

The Shahid Soleimani constellation is designed primarily as a narrowband communications system capable of supporting Internet of Things (IoT) applications, emergency communications and transmission of small volumes of data from areas lacking terrestrial infrastructure.

Salarieh said the constellation’s second phase has been upgraded beyond its original IoT concept to include inter-satellite links (ISL), significantly enhancing its communications capability. He said the system would support disaster management, forest monitoring, wild-fire detection, leak monitoring and other applications requiring rapid transmission of critical information.

Turning to remote sensing satellites, Salarieh highlighted the simultaneous launch last year of Zafar-2, Paya and Kosar satellites, describing it as an important milestone involving cooperation between a university, a private company and a government organization.

He said development of remote sensing satellites would continue during 1405, with Pars-2 now completing final testing ahead of launch. The satellite offers imaging accuracy better than three meters and will strengthen Iran’s Earth observation capabilities.

Meanwhile, design work on Pars-3 is progressing. Salarieh said the satellite is intended to achieve one-meter imaging resolution and is being developed by the Iranian Space Research Center. Although it will not be completed during 1405, work on engineering models, prototypes and subsystem development will continue throughout the year.

Salarieh also announced the imminent unveiling of Iran’s first domestically built radar satellite, Rad-1, saying only technical considerations had delayed its introduction. He described the project as a major milestone for Iran’s space industry.

He added that Rad-2, a higher-resolution radar satellite, is also under development by the Iranian Space Research Center under the supervision of the Ministry of Communications.

Salarieh said Iran’s private sector is playing an increasingly important role in satellite development. Following the launch of the first Kosar satellite in 1403 and a second model last year, more advanced versions with higher imaging accuracy are now under development.

According to Salarieh, the Iranian Space Agency has shifted its strategy from isolated satellite projects toward integrated satellite constellations supported by indigenous launch vehicles and orbital transfer vehicles capable of placing multiple satellites into different orbital positions during a single mission.

He said orbital transfer vehicles using restartable liquid-fuel propulsion systems are being developed jointly by the Aerospace Industries Organization and the Iranian Space Research Center and are regarded as a key technology for future access to geostationary orbit.

Beyond satellite manufacturing, Salarieh emphasized expanding services based on satellite imagery and data. He said satellite data already support water resource management, environmental monitoring, agriculture, land-use planning, disaster assessment and insurance claims.

He also highlighted the “Single Land Window” platform, which uses satellite imagery from Khayyam, Paya and future domestic satellites to detect illegal land-use changes and monitor national resources. While both domestic and foreign satellite imagery are currently used, he said Iran’s long-term strategy is to steadily increase reliance on indigenous satellites.

Salarieh further announced plans to launch a national geoportal that will allow government institutions, businesses, researchers and eventually individuals to access satellite imagery, subject to security approvals.

He also invited universities and research institutions to expand cooperation with the Iranian Space Agency, saying the organization welcomes researchers seeking to process and

analyze satellite data as part of scientific and technological development.

Ghalibaf ... (Continued From Page One)

decision-making must be equally “great, complex and resilient.”

“The enemy is trying to compensate for its defeat by increasing pressure, but Iran, relying on its own power, will not allow the enemy to impose its will,” he said.

Ghalibaf said Iran has acted correctly by closing the Strait of Hormuz during what he referred to as the 40-day war, stating that the waterway has become a source of threats to Iran’s national security.

“Today our national security lies in preserving the Iranian arrangements in the Strait of Hormuz and ensuring the maximum safe and harmless passage of commercial vessels through this waterway so that it serves Iran’s security,” he said.

He said Iran’s Armed Forces established control over the strategic waterway at the start of the third imposed war and that, during subsequent negotiations, Tehran succeeded in enshrining the “Iranian arrangements” for the Strait in Article 5 of a memorandum of understanding.

According to Ghalibaf, the provision serves as leverage for securing the implementation of the agreement’s other commitments, while the United States, lacking legal and diplomatic grounds, is now attempting to weaken those arrangements through military pressure.

“We must stand by the achievements obtained in the memorandum so that the rights of the Iranian nation are realized,” he said.

Ghalibaf said Iran’s approach should combine military strength and diplomacy, stating that the two are complementary instruments for safeguarding national interests rather than opposing choices.

“We should neither fear war nor negotiations. War and negotiations are two methods of protecting national interests,” he said.

He stressed that negotiations at the present stage should not be interpreted as compromise but rather as part of Iran’s broader strategy of resistance and protection of national interests alongside military preparedness.

“Separating these two approaches or choosing only one of them as the sole solution would constitute a strategic mistake,” he said.

Ghalibaf described Iran as being engaged in an existential conflict with the United States, stating that Washington’s long-standing objective remains the overthrow of the Islamic Republic and the fragmentation of Iran.

“This strategy has not changed,” he said, adding that the United States will continue seeking to undermine Iran regardless of whether relations are characterized by conflict or negotiations.

He said Iran therefore has no alternative but to rely on its own capabilities and strengthen its national power.

According to Ghalibaf, the resistance shown by the Iranian people and the Armed Forces during the 40-day war thwarted the enemy’s plans and compelled it to seek a ceasefire and negotiations without altering its broader strategy toward Iran.

He reiterated that Iran has never sought war but must always remain prepared to defend its national security and interests while simultaneously employing diplomacy whenever it serves those objectives.

Addressing the recently signed memorandum of understanding, Ghalibaf said any agreement is meaningful only if all of its provisions are respected and implemented.

“If the Islamic Republic of Iran does not benefit from the memorandum, then based on the policy of ‘an eye for an eye,’ we have no reason to remain committed to such an understanding,” he said, adding that Iran’s Armed Forces currently possess full operational freedom to respond to enemy aggression.

Ghalibaf said the distinction between war and negotiations should always be determined by national security and national interests, while decisions regarding the appropriate use of either instrument rest with the Leader of the Islamic Revolution and Commander-in-Chief.

He called on all political groups and segments of Iranian society to preserve unity and follow the guidance of the Leader during what he described as a sensitive period for the country.

“We have a difficult road ahead,” he said. “The enemy has threatened us before with naval forces, air strikes and ground attacks, and it has already seen the results. We should not fear its threats.”

Ghalibaf also urged Iranians not to be influenced by reports that, he said, are intended to create disappointment, distrust and division within society.

“The enemy covets despair, fear, discord and mutual distrust,” he said, adding that continued public support for those serving in Iran’s defense, diplomatic and public service sectors would strengthen the country’s position.

He said Iran’s ability to speak “from a position of strength” regarding the Strait of Hormuz stems directly from the military power created through national unity and public support.

Ghalibaf further declared that Iran remains determined to avenge the blood of “our martyred leader,” saying the enemy should have no doubt that Tehran would pursue all of its demands.

“It is certain for us that we will bring the revenge for the blood of our martyr to fruition,” he said.

Ghalibaf addressed the people of southern Iran, describing them as being on the front line of the war and praising their sacrifices.

“We have pledged our lifeblood for the defense of this country,” he said. “Be assured, by the grace of God, that victory for dear Iran is near and your historic resistance will endure.”

He added that Iran wild neither fear threats

nor war and, under the guidance of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, will deliver a certain response to the enemy’s crimes.

Senior... (Continued From Page 2)

Speaking to Lebanon’s Al Mayadeen television, Rahim Safavi said the Axis of Resistance extends from Iran to Lebanon and across the Mediterranean Sea, the Strait of Hormuz, Bab el-Mandeb and the Red Sea.

“The resistance will continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the region’s political and security equations without the presence of foreign powers,” he said.

Rahim Safavi also described Lebanon’s Hezbollah as the guardian of the country’s sovereignty and territorial integrity and said Iran and the resistance front will “undoubtedly emerge victorious” in the face of any U.S.-Israeli aggression.

Iran... (Continued From Page 2)

as “deliberate, calculated, and continuing violations” that “have jeopardized regional stability, threatened international peace and security, and demonstrated the United States’ blatant disregard for its international legal obligations”.

Among the breaches, Iran cites “repeated military attacks against Iran’s sovereignty and territorial integrity,” the unlawful revocation of licenses for Iranian oil sales, and interference with Iran’s arrangements for the Strait of Hormuz

Tehran states that Paragraph 5 of the memorandum explicitly affirms Iran’s responsibility for determining safe passage arrangements through the strait.

Iran says that Washington violated this provision by promoting a parallel maritime route under U.S. military protection, which the letter describes as “blatant interference in Iran’s implementation of the necessary arrangements concerning the Strait of Hormuz” that has “caused the return of insecurity to the Strait and disrupted international commercial navigation.”

The letter also references continued Israeli military aggression in Lebanon, which Iran says the United States failed to prevent despite obligations under the agreement.

The documented violations include a chronological record of incidents between June 18 and July 13, citing military aggression, threats of force by senior U.S. officials, new sanctions, and restrictions on Iranian oil exports and frozen assets.

U.S. President Donald Trump has announced Washington is “reinstating” a blockade on Iran in the Strait of Hormuz and suggested the United States will charge transit fees for ships passing through the waterway.

Iran’s letter criticizes “the Security Council’s failure” to respond adequately, stating that inaction has emboldened Washington.

Iranvani said the United States “by using the territory and facilities of countries located on the southern shores of the Persian Gulf to prepare for its military aggression against Iran, has effectively turned these countries into a battleground for its illegal and criminal war against the Iranian people.”

On Monday, the Security Council adopted Resolution 2826, extending for six months a mandate to report on Red Sea attacks, with China and Russia abstaining. Russia’s representative said the resolution offered “no added value” given recent regional escalations.

China had previously expressed support for the Islamabad accord, saying it sent a “positive signal” and should be “jointly safeguarded and implemented”.

Iranvani’s letter also rejects U.S. allegations that Yemen’s Ansarullah movement acts on behalf of Iran, calling the claim “entirely unfounded”.

The letter states that “the Sana’a authorities represent a substantial segment of the Yemeni people, and make their decisions independently and in accordance with what they consider to be the interests of the Yemeni people.”

It adds that “attempts to portray their actions as directed by Iran are misleading, politically motivated, and unsupported by any evidence.”

Tehran has warned it “will resolutely safeguard its national interests, protect its sovereignty, and defend its territorial integrity against any aggression”.

Senior... (Continued From Page 2)

the strategic waterway. “Our proposal was that neither the northern route nor the southern route be used, and that vessels instead pass through this new route so that security is maintained, tensions and confrontation are avoided, and all parties can return to fulfilling their obligations,” he said.

Gharibabadi said Iran’s position was shaped by what it considers wartime conditions and concerns that the Strait of Hormuz could be used in ways that threaten Iranian national security.

“The Strait of Hormuz must not become a platform for actions that endanger Iran’s national security,” he said, arguing that international maritime law recognizes the need to safeguard the security and sovereignty of coastal states.

Addressing recent tensions with Washington, Gharibabadi said the United States is violating the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding, adding Washington’s actions have effectively destroyed the agreement.

“America, through its recent action, has violated all of its commitments under this memorandum of understanding,” he said.

“In my view, even the word ‘violation’ is insufficient to describe what the United States has done. By its latest announcement, the United States has set aside all of its commitments under the Islamabad understanding and has effectively dismantled it.”

He said the foundation of the agreement had been an immediate and lasting halt to military operations against Iran and an end to hostilities on other fronts, including Lebanon.

“When this fundamental commitment is not respected by the United States, the legal and operational basis of the Islamabad understanding no longer exists,” he said.

Gharibabadi also stressed that Iran’s response to any future U.S. military aggression should go beyond a proportional response.

“Why should our response only be proportional?” he said. “The response of the Islamic Republic of Iran must be such that it makes the other side regret repeating its aggression.”

“Our response should not merely be proportional; it should be regret-inducing,” he added.

The deputy foreign minister said Iran would not be the party to seek renewed talks with Washington following U.S. aggression.

“The Islamic Republic of Iran will not be the first country to request negotiations with the United States after these criminal actions,” he said. “We will never ask for negotiations with America.”

“If the United States believes that by increasing pressure and military measures it can force the Islamic Republic to request negotiations, it is gravely mistaken,” he added. “The Iranian nation is a resistant nation, and such calculations will yield no result.”

Gharibabadi said calls by some foreign officials for Iran to “return to the negotiating table” are misplaced because, in Tehran’s view, Iran has not abandoned diplomacy.

“Iran did not leave the negotiating table,” he said. “It was the United States that, through its actions, dismantled the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding.”

Malicious... (Continued From Page 2)

The Army touched on the dark history of Israel, the United States and European governments backing terrorist groups to advance their objectives.

“Such reckless actions by the UK Parliament come at a time when Britain — the old colonial power — has a long and dark history of creating divisions, fostering sectarianism, and supporting terrorism in the West Asia region,” it said.

“Alongside European governments and the United States, the Zionist regime is regarded not only as one of the world’s largest supporters of terrorism but it has also advanced its sinister objectives by backing terrorist groups in the region.”

Reaffirming solidarity between Iran’s regular Army and the IRGC, the statement said the two forces remain united under the command of the country’s commander-in-chief in confronting what it called threats and aggression against Iran.

“While condemning the UK Parliament’s recent action against the devoted personnel of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Public Relations Office of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran emphasizes the solidarity of the Army and the IRGC, under the command of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, in confronting the threats, dangers, and aggression of the sworn enemies of the Iranian nation and the sacred establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran,” it said.

The statement followed an announcement by British Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood that the IRGC would be designated a national security threat under powers in the National Security (State Threats) Act, making support for the force a criminal offence punishable by up to 14 years in prison.

Iran’s Foreign Ministry on Tuesday also condemned the British move, describing it as an “unjustified and irresponsible” measure that it said violated international law.

Three... (Continued From Page 3)

and uplifting moments. Bahram Afshari, best known in recent years for comedic roles, plays the lead in a dramatic performance that earned him the Crystal Simorgh for Best Actor at the Fajr Film Festival.

Maral Farjad received the Crystal Simorgh for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in the film, which also stars Shabnam Moghadami, Hamed Behdad, Amir Jafari, Sara Bahrami, Roya Javidnia, Sadaf Espahbodii, Alireza Ara, Muhammad Valizadegan, and Touraj Alvand.

Directed by Kazem Daneshi, The Death Bath also won awards for Best Director, Best Original Score, and the Audience Award for Best Film at the Fajr Film Festival.

The third new release, “Lebas-e Shakhshi” (Personal Clothes), reached cinemas after obtaining a screening permit seven years after its completion. The political drama depicts figures associated with the Tudeh Party during the early years following Iran’s Islamic Revolution.

The film marked the feature debut of director Amirabbas Rabbiei, who has since directed “Zed” (Against) and “Ahmad”. It stars Mehdi Nosrati, Keyvan Mahmoudnejad, and Toumaj Daneshbehzadi.

Meanwhile, the comedy “Khabnamā” (Dream Seer), directed by Reza Maghsoudi, began screening on July 10. Its cast includes Javad Razavian, Bahareh Kianafshar, Bijan Bonafshekhan, Naimeh Nezamdoost, Kamand Amirsoleimani, and Yousef Sayadi.

According to the latest figures released through midday on July 15, Iranian cinemas have generated 148.75 billion toman in ticket sales since March 21, with 1.265 million admis-

sions.

New... (Continued From Page 3)

century BCE, depicts an enthroned ruler receiving attendants in a formal court setting.

Although the scene should not be viewed as an exact equivalent of the Achaemenid royal audience, Edalat argues that it shares the same fundamental structure: a ruler seated on a throne, figures approaching in gestures of respect, and ritual elements reinforcing royal authority.

Several centuries later, the audience reliefs of the Apadana, commissioned by Darius the Great and completed during the reign of Xerxes I, portray the Achaemenid king seated on a throne while court officials and delegation from across the empire approach bearing tribute and gifts.

The study argues that both works employ the same core visual principles. In each, the ruler occupies the central position, the throne symbolizes political legitimacy, and the orderly arrangement of figures expresses social hierarchy and royal authority.

Gestures of reverence, including bowing and carefully prescribed body language, form part of a symbolic vocabulary that later Greek writers described as proskynesis, the formal act of paying homage before the Persian king.

Gift-bearing also serves a symbolic rather than merely economic function. On both the Arjan Bowl and the Persepolis reliefs, offerings signify loyalty, submission and recognition of royal power. At Persepolis, however, these motifs are expanded to an imperial scale, with representatives of the empire’s many peoples presenting tribute to a single monarch.

Rather than viewing Achaemenid art as a direct imitation of Elamite models, the study argues that Persian artists selectively adopted and transformed earlier traditions into a new imperial visual language.

Edalat also highlights the strategic importance of the Arjan region, situated between Susa, the historic Elamite capital, and Anshan, one of the early Persian centers.

Citing the work of scholars including Walter Hinz, François Vallat and Matt Waters, the study notes that the area may correspond to the Neo-Elamite region of Hidalu, potentially making it a key zone of cultural interaction between Elamite and early Persian societies.

If that interpretation is correct, the study concludes, the Achaemenid Empire emerged within a landscape already shaped by centuries of Elamite political organization and ceremonial tradition. In that context, the royal audience reliefs at Persepolis represent not the creation of an entirely new artistic language, but the imperial reinterpretation of an older visual tradition rooted in Elamite southwestern Iran.

Reimagining... (Continued From Page 3)

Moroccan architectural ornament finds a place beside techniques whose origins he traces back some five millennia.

The images may travel across cultures, but the making does not.

Each composition is redesigned for engraving, adapted to the language of hammered metal and executed using techniques that have changed little over generations.

“We brought these global designs into the medium of metal engraving,” he explains, “and connected them with the spirit and authenticity of Iranian art.”

Collectors appear to agree. According to Ghahremaninejad, foreign visitors respond to the familiarity of the imagery, while younger Iranian buyers are drawn to works that feel both contemporary and unmistakably handmade. Produced in small numbers because of the lengthy design and engraving process, the pieces often sell before completion.

His approach reflects a wider question facing craftspeople across the world. As handmade traditions confront shrinking tourist markets, digital commerce and changing aesthetics, many artisans are negotiating the space between preservation and reinvention.

The challenge is no longer simply keeping a craft alive, but ensuring it remains culturally relevant without becoming detached from the knowledge that defines it.

Economic realities add another layer of pressure. Ghahremaninejad describes Iran’s handicrafts sector as heavily dependent on tourism, while rising metal prices have pushed production costs sharply higher.

Silver and copper, the foundation of his practice, have become dramatically more expensive in recent years, increasing the price of finished work and narrowing its market.

Yet he remains optimistic that innovation, rather than repetition, offers one route forward.

For him, the future of qalamzani does not lie in abandoning tradition or freezing it in time. It lies in recognizing that a living craft has always absorbed influences, adapted to new audiences and responded to changing tastes.

If authenticity resides in the hand rather than the image, then perhaps tradition is less fragile than it first appears.