

# TARGET

## Intelligence Report

VOLUME XXVIII No. 78

W E D N E S D A Y

April 29, 2026

### Viewsletter

#### MASS. SPACE AND TIME

##### *The So Very Little We Know: Man Has Much To Learn*

*It is well accepted, today, that mass, space and time are related to one another.*

*It is one of the essential rules that has been found, tested, and fully accepted in respect of aspects of the universe, thanks to the work of Albert Einstein's theory of general relativity.*

*Scientists, today, are attempting to discover much more of that which must be the rules of the universe — for they must exist, it is well accepted.*

*Today, it is well known that the collapse of formerly giant stars in the universe, for one reason or another, is one or more of the reasons for the creation of black holes in regions of space.*

*A black hole is defined as being regions in space that gravity, just beneath its surface — named formerly as 'event horizon,' is sufficiently strong that nothing — not even light — can escape.*

Printed by: TARGET Newspapers Ltd

Suite 2905, 29th Floor, Bank of America Tower, Number 12, Harcourt Road, Central, Hongkong.

Telephone Number: 2573-0379 Facsimile Number: 2838-1597 E-Mail Address: editor@targetnewspapers.com

TARGET Website Address: www.targetnewspapers.com

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED IN ANY FORM OR MANNER IN PART OR AS A WHOLE WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN LICENCE OF THE PUBLISHER

*At the centre of a black hole — it has been given the nomenclature, 'singularity,' — but scientists, the world over, have little information of this point, being infinitively small and infinitively dense.*

*Scientists are well aware that they know very little about the universe, how stars are created and, seemingly, how stars 'die,' and why and how, try as they may, it might be many billions of eons for them ever to learn how giant stars were — and are — created — as we know them, today — and what, if any, there are life forms — as we know them in man's thinking, today — on some or the many millions of stars, about which they know absolutely nothing.*

*Many of the aspects, mentioned above — and there must be many more aspects, of course — might be likened to that which many world-be loquacious scientists and economists try to make seemingly determinations which, to some degree, seem to have quintessential aspects, whereas that which they make claims that, to a very great degree, are, at best, garrulous.*

*The following are some of the aspects about which man acknowledges in that which are thought to be today's great pool of man's simplicity knowledge, compared to that of the empty void of the universe yet to be understood.*

## Part Eighteen

Following the Iranian Revolution, on or about March 7, 1979, a revolutionary Islamist regime came to power in Iran.

Conservative clerical forces determined to establish a theocratic clerical system of Government, with ultimate political authority vested in a harsh religious scholar, known as the 'Supreme Leader.'

Supreme Leader Ali Hoseini-Khamenei has held his present position for the past 36-plus years, since June 4, 1989.

One of the many new Iranian Governmental implacable addictions was the introduction of a mandatory dress code for all women: It took effect on or about March 7, 1979.

This was a very inexorable decree, especially in the rigid assertion of authority in the exercise of discipline.

Supreme Leader Ali Hoseini-Khamenei decreed that all women should wear the hijab, a headscarf to be worn by all Muslim women in order to cover their hair and neck as a symbol of modesty and religious observance.

Also, Supreme Leader Ali Hoseini-Khamenei decreed that all women would not be permitted to enter a Governmental Office without the wearing of a hijab — as they would be deemed to be 'naked.'

As an example, one that was made by a member of The Guidance Patrol, the Religious Morality Police of the Government of Iran, was of a young woman who was found not wearing the hijab in accordance with Iranian Governmental standards.

In accordance of The Law Enforcement Command of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a member of The Guidance Patrol arrested this 22 year-old lady of Kurdish-Iranian descent, named Mahsa Amini, also known as Jina Amini, for allegedly refusing to wear the hijab in accordance with the law.

This young lady was said to have been severely beaten by members of The Guidance Patrol (and/or others) and, since she seemingly continuously refused to accept the wearing of the hijab, she, eventually, was transferred, in a semi-unconscious condition, to a hospital where, after being found to be in a deep coma, died of her beatings.

It was found that that which she had suffered had been due to brutal beatings from which she had been forced to suffer by a member, or members, of The Guidance Patrol.

The assertions of the brutality, caused by a member and/or members of The Guidance Patrol (and/or others), was denied by the Iranian Governmental Authorities, but it was believed that Mahsa Amini/Jina Amini had suffered a cerebral haemorrhage due to injuries received after her arrest.

### **The Official Statistics of Iran**

The estimated population of Iran is, today: 88,386,937.

The Ethnic Groups of Iran are Persian, Azeri, Kurd, Lur, Baloch, Arab, Turkmen and Turkic tribes.

The religions of Iran are: Muslim (official) 98.50 percent; Christian 0.70 percent; Baha'i 0.30 percent; Agnostic 0.30 percent; and others (includes Zoroastrian, Jewish, Hindu 0.20 percent).

### **Geography**

Area Total of Iran: 1,648,195 square kilometres.

### **Economy**

Traditional State-controlled economy, but reforming State-owned financial entities: Strong oil/gas, agricultural, and service sectors, recent massive inflation due to rate depreciation, international sanctions, and investor uncertainty; and increasing poverty.

### **Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**

\$US1.486 trillion (2024: estimate)

### **Exports**

\$US100.031 billion (2024 estimate)

### **Exports – Partners**

The People's Republic of China 35 percent,  
Turkey 16 percent,  
India 8 percent,  
Pakistan 7 percent,  
Armenia 5 percent.

### **Imports**

\$US117.176 billion

## **THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES**

On Sunday, June 22, 2025, The United States Air Force and Navy attacked three nuclear facilities in Iran as part of the Iran–Israel War, under the code name: ‘*Operation Midnight Hammer*.’

The Fordow Uranium Enrichment Plant, the Natanz Nuclear Facility, and the Isfahan Nuclear Technology Centre were targeted with fourteen Guided Bomb Unit Massive Ordnance Penetrator (GBU-57A/B MOP) 30,000-pound (14,000 kilogramme) ‘*bunker buster*’ bombs, carried by Northrop B-2 Spirit Stealth Bombers, and with Tomahawk missiles, having been fired from a submarine.

This Sunday attack was The United States of America’s only offensive action in the Iran–Israel war, which began on June 13, 2025, with surprise Israeli strikes, ending with a ceasefire on June 24, 2025.

President Donald Trump said the strikes ‘*completely and totally obliterated*’ Iran’s key nuclear enrichment facilities; a final bomb damage assessment of the strikes was still ongoing as of July 3, 2025.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi admitted, openly, that the nuclear sites sustained severe damage.

Congressional Republicans largely supported President Donald Trump’s action, while most Democrats, as well as some Republicans, indicated concern about the constitutionality of the move, its effects, and the likely Iran’s response.

World reaction was mixed, as some world leaders welcomed the move to incapacitate Iran’s nuclear programme, while others expressed concern over escalation, or otherwise, condemned the strikes.

Iran responded by attacking a U.S. base in Qatar.

The next day, President Donald Trump announced a ceasefire between Iran and Israel.

On Wednesday, July 2, 2025, Iran suspended cooperation with the **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**.

### **Iran’s Nuclear Programme And American Relations With Iran**

Four years after The United States of America and other Western nations that had helped engineer the 1953 Iranian coup d’état against Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh, also known as Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and The Eisenhower Administration had agreed to help develop the Iranian nuclear programme, part of the effort of The United States of America to promote the peaceful pursuit of nuclear science through the ‘*Atoms for Peace*’ programme.

In 1968, Iran signed the **Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)**.

With profits from the 1973 oil crisis, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi decided to increase Iran’s civil nuclear programme.

Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi dispatched Iranian students to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in order to learn about nuclear engineering.

With the endorsement of The United States of America, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi began a plan to build 23 nuclear power plants, which would enable Iran to supply electricity to neighbouring countries.

It became a leader in the region; and become a modern state.

When the then-Secretary of State, Mr Henry Kissinger, attempted to limit Iran's ability to weaponise the nuclear reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel into fissile material through safeguards, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi handed nuclear-construction contracts to Germany and France.

In 1979, the Iranian Revolution overthrew Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

After the Iran-Iraq war concluded in 1988, Iran's Islamic leaders launched a nuclear programme in order to produce electricity for its burgeoning population, and to serve as a deterrent, of kind.

In 2015, Iran, The United States of America, now under President Barack Obama, and other countries, negotiated the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)** to manage Iran's nuclear programme in order to function at a limited level for 15 years, in return for removal of economic international sanctions against Iran.

In 2018, President Donald Trump – who had, always, maintained since at least 2011, that Iran should not be permitted to acquire nuclear weapons – unilaterally broke the agreement by withdrawing The United States of America from the JCPOA, costing Iran the negotiated sanction relief while implementing even more sanctions that effectively cut off (JCPOA-facilitated) European trade with Iran.

Under President Donald Trump's Government, it was maintained that the JCPOA was not preventing Iran from developing nuclear weapons.

At that time, the **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)** reported that Iran was still in compliance with the agreement.

On Tuesday, February 4, 2025, Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited Washington, D.C. and reportedly reminded President Donald Trump that Iran had planned to assassinate him.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a detailed slide-deck presentation, showing how Iran was increasing its uranium stockpile as well as advancing its centrifuge technology, which he (Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu) said showed Iran was close to crossing the nuclear threshold.

President Donald Trump wanted to attempt diplomacy, and so his team decided on a 60-day outline to settle on an agreement.

On Saturday, May 31, 2025, the IAEA reported that Iran had sharply increased its stockpile of uranium, enriched to 60 percent purity, just below weapons-grade, reaching more than 408 kilogrammes (899 pounds), a nearly 50-percent rise since February.

The agency warned that this level was sufficient for multiple nuclear weapons – if further enriched.

Iran said that it increased its uranium enrichment to levels beyond that which is required for civilian use as a response to the 2018 American withdrawal from JCPOA.

The IAEA reported that Iran was not meeting its obligations per its 2019 agreement by secreting its development of nuclear material.

The IAEA voted to censure Iran on June 12, 2025.

Iran responded to the IAEA censure by declaring it would create a new uranium-enrichment facility at an unknown location. It had consistently claimed that it was developing nuclear energy – and not nuclear weapons.

Before Israel attacked Iran in June, the Israelis had given the U.S. information that it thought very concerning.

The intelligence agencies of The United States of America were not convinced that the information, actually showed Iran was getting closer to crossing the nuclear threshold.

One of the major Iranian nuclear sites was Fordow Uranium Enrichment Plant, estimated to be 80 to 90 metres underground.

Because of its deep location, The United States military officials had proposed the use of GBU-57A/B MOP ‘*bunker buster*’ bombs, which can only be carried by B-2 Bombers, to destroy Fordow (The United States of America is the only nation to possess either of these capabilities).

There was an extended debate about whether or not the bunker buster bombs would actually be able to destroy Fordow.

Multiple advisors to President Donald Trump, including Mr Steve Bannon, and The Director of National Intelligence, Ms Tulsi Gabbard, warned against war with Iran, claiming the intelligence community does not consider Iran to be building nuclear weapons.

After President Donald Trump called Ms Tulsi Gabbard ‘*wrong*,’ stating that he ‘*did not care what she said*.’

Ms Tulsi Gabbard, then, changed her position and said that Iran could have a nuclear weapon ‘*within months*.’

President Donald Trump, also, said in response to these comments, that, ‘*my intelligence community is wrong*.’

### **Prelude**

In the weeks, leading up to Sunday, June 22, 2025, The United States of America evacuated its citizens, issued travel warnings, and withdrew non-essential personnel from embassies in the region.

On June 16, 2025, Iranian facilities interfered with the ship position reporting, causing a nuisance to shipping in The Strait of Hormuz.

On June 16 and 17, President Donald Trump made several posts, hinting at something ‘*much bigger*’ than a peace deal coming.

On June 17, President Donald Trump called on Iran to ‘*unconditionally surrender*.’

U.S. Secretary of State, Mr Marco Rubio, told U.S. allies that Washington would prefer to see a diplomatic solution.

President Donald Trump sent U.S. officials to Tehran in support of an acceptable nuclear deal.

In the days before the attack, Iran increased its oil exports, fearing a U.S. attack on its oil facilities.

Iran had made the claim that nuclear material had already been evacuated from Fordow and Natanz, and moved elsewhere.

Iran attempted to cover the ventilation shafts at Fordow with concrete caps, days ahead of the bombing strike.

Meanwhile, the Yemeni Houthis, also, declared their readiness to fight and, in response, the U.S. warned of a devastating retaliation should American interests be threatened.

Axios, a popular open-source JavaScript library, used to make Hypertext Transfer Protocol requests from web

browsers or Node.js environments, reported that the top Democrats on the Senate and House Intelligence panels were not given advance notice of the attack, while the top Republicans were, though that Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer was given a *'perfunctory notice shortly before.'*

### **U.S. Military Preparation**

The Fordow nuclear facility is fortified and located about 80–90 metres (260–300 feet) deep inside a mountain, meaning that any conventional aerial bombing would require heavy *'bunker buster'* ordnance, such as the GBU-57A/B MOP (Massive Ordnance Penetrator), to damage it.

The GBU-57 had never been used in combat before and, due to its heavy weight, the munition can only be delivered by B-2 stealth bombers, which only the United States of America possesses.

It was reported that the U.S. and Israeli militaries had conducted a practice run of the attack, during a training exercise in mid-2024 at the time of the Biden Administration.

In March 2025, the Israeli and U.S. Air Forces ran a joint exercise which The Times of Israel reported was *'seen as a warning message to Tehran'* amidst speculation of a possible strike.

According to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Air Force General Dan Caine, two unidentified officers from the Defence Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) had studied the Fordow nuclear site for about 15 years and their work contributed to the development of a bunker-buster bomb that was made specifically to penetrate fortifications such as Fordow; computer modelling, simulation and hundreds of tests were conducted during development of the weapon.

According to General Dan Caine, the two DTRA officers *'literally dreamed about this target as they slept'* and heavily monitored *'the vent shaft, the exhaust shaft, the electrical systems, the environmental control systems, every nook, every crater, every piece of equipment going in and every piece of equipment going out'* of Fordow since 2009.

*'You do not build a multilayered, underground bunker complex with centrifuges and other equipment in a mountain for any peaceful purpose,'* General Dan Caine observed.

On June 16, 2025, three days after Israel launched airstrikes against Iran, it was reported that The United States of American was moving forces east over the Atlantic Ocean, including at least 31 air tankers to Europe, an unusually large number.

On June 19, 2025, President Donald Trump issued a statement via White House Press Secretary, Ms Karoline Leavitt, saying:

*'Based on the fact that there's a substantial chance of negotiations that may or may not take place with Iran in the near future, I will make my decision whether or not to go within the next two weeks.'*

According to sources, on the same day, Israeli officials (including President Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, Messrs. Israel Katz and Eyal Zamir) contacted the Trump Administration, saying that they could not wait two weeks; they thought they only had a small opportunity window.

The telephone call, also, included Mr James David Vance, The Vice President of The United States of America, who pushed back against the Israelis, citing concerns about direct United States of America involvement and being pulled into war; Mr Peter Brian Hegseth, The United States Secretary of Defense, was, also, on the call.

According to The Jerusalem Post, it took President Benjamin Netanyahu and Mr Ron Dermer, Minister of Strategic Affairs of Israel, a week to convince President Donald Trump to bomb Iran with Messrs. Trump and Netanyahu, speaking almost daily.

According to sources, President Donald Trump and senior U.S. officials, had been impressed by Israel's achievements.

President Donald Trump had only planned to bomb Fordow, but President Benjamin Netanyahu and Mr Ron Dermer convinced him to attack the other sites as well.

Final mission preparation was reportedly underway by June 20.

President Donald Trump's prior announcement of a two-week time frame was, in actuality, deception in order to obfuscate the impending attack.

On June 21, 2025, the United States of America deployed B-2 stealth bombers westward over the Pacific Ocean towards Guam on a decoy mission, reportedly due to fears that President Donald Trump's social media posts from June 16 and 17 might have tipped off Iranian defenders.

According to Air Force General Dan Caine, the misdirection and secrecy was intended to '*maintain tactical surprise*' and that only '*an extremely small number of planners and key leaders*' knew the acute details of the operation.

A crew member told General Dan Caine that preparation for the operation '*felt like the Super Bowl, the thousands of scientists, airmen, and maintainers all coming together.*'

### Strikes

In an operation, called '*Midnight Hammer*,' on June 22, 2025, The United States Air Force and Navy attacked three Iranian nuclear facilities: Fordow; Natanz; and Isfahan.

Seven B-2 bombers of the 509<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing departed from Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri and flew eastwards towards the Middle East continuously, for 18 hours, with minimal communication and with refuelling mid-air, three times.

The B-2s were preceded into Iranian airspace by fourth-and fifth-generation American fighter aircraft to draw any surface-to-air defensive fire; according to President Donald Trump they were F-35 and F-22 stealth fighter jets.

No Iranian defensive fire was detected, which was attributed to previous Israeli attacks against Iranian air defences since June 13, 2025.

According to the U.S. military, little to no resistance was observed from the Iranians during the mission.

At 6:40 pm, Eastern Time Light (2:10 am, an Infrared Search and Track), six B-2s began dropping twelve GBU-57A/B MOP bombs on the Fordow facility, and the seventh B-2 dropped two MOPs on Natanz.

At Fordow, the 12 bunker buster bombs were dropped sequentially on two ventilation shafts to penetrate deeply into the mountain.

According to General Dan Caine, four of the five bombs went down each of the two ventilation shafts after the

first removed a defensive concrete cap: The cap was forcibly removed by the first weapon, and the main shaft was uncovered.

Weapons two, three, four, five were tasked to enter the main shaft, move down into the complex at greater than 1,000 feet per second and explode in the mission space.

A submarine, also, fired 30 Tomahawk missiles at the Natanz and Isfahan sites.

U.S. officials did not name the submarine, but the USS Georgia had been in the region since September 2024.

Natanz and Fordow were struck at about 2:30 a.m. local time (23:00 the previous day Coordinated Universal Time.) The entire bombing lasted almost 30 minutes, with the Tomahawk strikes being the final attack.

### Damage

Satellite images of the Fordow site, taken after the strikes, showed two clusters of apparent bomb entry points, as well as grey-blue ash, covering the area.

General Dan Caine stated that the Iranian nuclear sites had sustained '*severe damage*' from the strikes, but said that damage assessment would take time.

Although a leaked early report from the U.S. Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA) reported that the strikes set back Iran's nuclear programme by months, and that the sites targeted were significantly damaged, but not destroyed, the Pentagon has since stated that it set back Iran by one to two years.

The initial assessment was rejected by (some of) Trump Administration officials.

The Director of National Intelligence, Ms Tulsi Gabbard, and CIA Director, Mr John Ratcliffe, both said '*new intelligence*' revealed that the Natanz, Fordow and Esfahan sites were severely damaged and would require years to rebuild.

On June 25, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman, Mr Esmail Baghaei, said that Iranian nuclear facilities '*have been badly damaged.*'

On June 26 and July 1, Iranian Foreign Minister, Mr Abbas Araghchi, said that the nuclear facilities had sustained '*significant and serious damages.*'

IAEA Director General, Mr Rafael Grossi, said the sites suffered '*severe damage*' but not '*total damage.*'

\*

\*

\*

*While targetnewspapers.com makes every attempt to ensure accuracy of all data published, targetnewspapers.com cannot be held responsible for any errors and/or omissions.*