

Special Update

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Situation Report: Epic Fury (US-Iranian Conflict) as of March 06, 2026

Executive Summary

As of the morning of March 6, 2026, the US-Israeli joint operation against Iran, Operation Epic Fury (US) / Operation Lion's Roar (Israel), has entered its seventh day (marking one week since initiation on February 28). Overnight and early morning developments (March 5-6) include continued heavy airstrikes on Tehran and other Iranian sites (e.g., 11th-12th waves targeting infrastructure, Basij headquarters, missile launchers), a sharp 90% drop in Iranian ballistic missile attacks attributed to B-2 bomber strikes on buried launchers, US/Israeli claims of near-complete air superiority and destruction of 80% of air defenses, sinking of over 30 Iranian vessels (including a drone carrier on fire), and fresh Iranian retaliatory strikes on Gulf states (e.g., intensified drone/missile attacks on Bahrain refinery causing massive damage) and Israel. Iran has not yet formally announced a new Supreme Leader, with Mojtaba Khamenei remaining the frontrunner amid delays due to security concerns and external pressures (e.g., Trump stating opposition to his selection). US casualties stable at six; Iranian death toll rises to at least 1,230-1,332. Strait of Hormuz traffic near-total halt, oil prices surging further, and regional spillover widens (e.g., drone strikes on Azerbaijan, European warships deploying). Officials warn bombardment will "surge dramatically"; no de-escalation signals as conflict escalates across multiple fronts.

Key Changes Overnight

Developments emphasize air/naval dominance gains, reduced Iranian missile output, leadership uncertainty, and broadening retaliation:

- **Military Actions:** US B-2 bombers struck buried ballistic missile launchers (contributing to 90% drop in attacks); additional waves on Tehran (Basij, defense systems, logistics); Israel claims 2,500+ total strikes, 80% air defenses destroyed, near-complete air superiority. Over 30 Iranian ships sunk/neutralized (including drone carrier ablaze); transition to dismantling missile production base announced.
- **Iranian Retaliation:** Intensified strikes on GCC nations (e.g., major damage to Bahrain refinery); missile/drone barrages on Israel (sirens in Tel Aviv/Jerusalem, limited impacts); attacks on US bases (e.g., reports of Shahed drones on Kuwait's Al-Salem base); threats of more severe responses.
- **Leadership/Succession:** No announcement; Mojtaba Khamenei frontrunner but delayed over fears of targeting (Israel vows strikes on successor) and opposition to "hereditary rule." Trump insists US role in selection, rejects Mojtaba.
- **US Statements:** Hegseth/CENTCOM: "Winning decisively," operations accelerating; more assets incoming; Senate upholds no limits on actions.
- **Casualties:** Iranian deaths 1,230-1,332+ (state/media/rights groups); US at 6 killed; regional rises (e.g., Lebanon, Gulf incidents).
- **Economic/Global:** Hormuz near-total halt (no oil shipments past 24 hours); oil/gas disruptions; US grants India Russian oil waiver; European nations (e.g., France, UK) deploy warships; CNN reporter in Tehran reports heavy smoke/plumes.
- **Other:** Hezbollah attacks (38 in past day); proxies active; IAEA no nuclear material damage; conflict spreads (Azerbaijan drone strike, distant naval actions).

These reinforce prior dominance (naval/air degradation, leadership decapitation) while highlighting persistent Iranian asymmetric responses.

Updated Timeline of Key Events (Focus on Overnight)

- March 5 Evening - March 6 Morning: Fresh US/Israeli strikes on Tehran/Beirut (11th+ waves); B-2 hits on launchers; CENTCOM reports 90% missile drop, 30+ ships sunk. Iran intensifies GCC strikes (Bahrain refinery hit); missile waves on Israel. Trump weighs in on succession; no new leader named. Hormuz traffic halts; oil impacts felt globally.
- March 6 Morning: Reports of ongoing exchanges; European deployments; warnings of surging bombardment; satellite visuals show Gulf damages.

Updated Casualties and Humanitarian Impacts

- US: 6 service members killed (stable); injuries from base incidents.
- Iran: 1,230-1,332+ killed (includes civilians at military-adjacent sites); mourning for Khamenei postponed; infrastructure/cultural damage (e.g., Tehran plumes/smoke).
- Israel and Region: Injuries from missiles; rising in Lebanon (Hezbollah clashes); Gulf civilian/energy impacts. Humanitarian: Mass evacuations; displacement in Lebanon/Iran; internet restrictions in Iran; travel chaos persists.

Updated Economic and Global Impacts

Strait of Hormuz near-complete halt (no oil past 24 hours); oil prices surge (Americans feeling impacts); markets slide; US waivers for allies (e.g., India Russian oil); energy supply fears intensify; European warships to region.

International Reactions and Statements (Updates)

- US: Hegseth: "Decisive progress," "total dominance"; Trump: Demolishing Iran ahead of schedule, wants say in leadership (rejects Mojtaba).
- Israel: Near-total air superiority; vows to target any successor.
- Iran: FM Araghchi: Confident against ground invasion, no negotiations/ceasefire requests; vows to destroy regional infrastructure.
- Others: IAEA no nuclear damage; Gulf states affected; Europe deploys assets; global calls for restraint amid economic fallout.

Conclusion

Overnight shifts highlight coalition air/naval supremacy (90% missile reduction, 30+ ships sunk, 2,500+ strikes) and Iranian persistence (GCC intensification, proxy actions), but succession delays and Hormuz halt amplify risks of prolonged war, energy crisis, and wider involvement. With Iranian casualties over 1,300, US deaths at six, and bombardment set to surge, core objectives advance yet escalation potential remains high. Situation highly fluid as of March 6 morning.

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