

Trump declares Israel-Iran cease-fire

Iranian strike on Be'er Sheva homes kills 4 just before cease-fire takes effect; Trump rebukes Israel, orders it to call planes back from Tehran; airport, schools to return to normal as emergency restrictions lifted

Ben Samuels
and Jonathan Lis

Israel said on Tuesday it had agreed to the "complete and total" cease-fire between Israel and Iran announced by U.S. President Donald Trump, ending the 12-day conflict that had threatened to engulf the Middle East.

Iran and Israel traded final blows in the hours leading up to the 7 A.M. cease-fire and also after it was due to begin. Multiple Iranian missile barrages targeted Israel at 5 A.M. Later that hour, an unintercepted missile directly struck the safe rooms of two Be'er Sheva apartments, killing four people sheltering inside and damaging other residential buildings nearby.

As of Tuesday evening, all emergency restrictions on Israel's home front were lifted as the cease-fire appeared to be holding. As such, the Israel Airports Authority announced that Ben-Gurion and Haifa airports are resuming full operations. In addition, schools are now permitted to reopen, and will do so based on the level of preparedness of local authorities and individual institutions.

Families of Israelis being held in Gaza, meanwhile, called on Israel to take advantage of the cease-fire agreement to end the war in the Strip and to return all hostages.

Around 8 A.M. Israel time, Trump posted on his social media platform, Truth Social, that the cease-fire was officially in effect, warning:

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The aftermath of Iran's Tuesday morning strike on Be'er Sheva that killed four people sheltering in safe rooms. Three floors of the residential building collapsed.

Eliyahu Hershkovitz

Soldier, mom, girlfriend killed in safe room

Eden Solomon, Yaniv Kubovich, Josh Breiner, Ido Efrati and Bar Peleg

Four people were killed Tuesday morning in Be'er Sheva from an Iranian ballistic missile that hit an apartment building.

The fatalities include Noa Boguslavsky, from the town of Arad; her boyfriend, Corporal Eitan Zacks, 18, who began combat training to join the army's Multidimensional Unit, also known as Unit 888; and his mother, Michal Zacks, who was a nail salon owner.

Naomi Sha'anani, in her 70s, was also killed in the strike on the building. She was active in the protest movement calling for a deal to free the hostages held in Gaza.

Eitan Zacks is the first and so far only fallen soldier from Israel's war with Iran, while Boguslavsky was a fresh graduate from an Arad high school. The two family members are survived by the father and one sister, Aliana.

Arad's Mayor Yair Mayan said that Noa was "part of the Arad family, a young girl at the start of her path, and the pain from her passing is felt in every corner of town."

Twenty-six other people

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Amos Harel

Chaim Levinson, Jonathan Lis and Liza Rozovsky

Ben Samuels

New balance of deterrence

As with much else in the extraordinary war between Israel and Iran, the announcement of the cease-fire on Tuesday morning came in the spirit and style of Donald Trump. The U.S. president posted in the middle of the night, Israel time: "Israel and Iran came to me, almost simultaneously, and said: 'PEACE!' ... Both Nations will see tremendous LOVE, PEACE, AND PROSPERITY in their futures."

Once again, real life is lived like

reality TV. If not for the tragic context – including the deadly direct hit on a building in Be'er Sheva that took the lives of four people during one of Iran's final barrages – the moment might have been laughable.

For nearly two hours, until shortly after 7 A.M., when the cease-fire went into effect, Iran continued to fire limited salvos of missiles at Israel. The

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No written agreement: Inside J'lem side of the truce

There is no formal written agreement outlining the cease-fire terms between Israel and Iran. Instead, both sides have reached verbal understandings to halt attacks, while the United States pledged to push for renewed nuclear talks, according to diplomatic sources who spoke with Haaretz on Tuesday.

U.S. President Donald Trump's sharp public demand that Israel refrain from retaliating against Iran's cease-fire violation reportedly caught Israeli lead-

ers off guard. Following his statement, Israeli Air Force jets were ordered to return from Iranian airspace, and the planned strike was scaled back.

"The president is running the world through social media, marking a new era in diplomacy," said an Arab diplomat from a neighboring country of Israel, commenting on Trump's accusation that Israel had breached

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Trump drops an angry verbal bombshell on Israel

WASHINGTON – U.S. President Donald Trump's extraordinary broadside against Israel on Tuesday, on one hand, marks a perhaps unprecedented moment of candor from an American president concerning the U.S.-Israel relationship.

While countless presidents have undoubtedly been privately willing to vent about Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his efforts to circumvent forced diplomacy, these conflicts

have never been aired so crudely for the entire world to see in real time.

On the other hand, Trump's frustration over his big, beautiful cease-fire coming undone proves what has been largely overlooked throughout much of his decision-making since Israel began its military campaign against Iran: For Trump, all politics are local.

It has been well-established that

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Death toll in war exceeds 56,000

44 Gazans waiting for aid said killed by Israeli forces, drones

The Associated Press
and Reuters

Israeli forces and drones opened fire toward hundreds of people waiting for aid trucks in central Gaza early Tuesday, killing at least 44 people, Palestinian witnesses and hospitals said.

Responding to an Associated Press inquiry, the military said it was reviewing reports of casualties from Israeli fire after a group of people approached troops in an area adjacent to the east-west Netzarim corridor, which bisects Gaza.

In its strongest remarks yet on the new model of aid distribution that began last month, the UN human rights office said that the "weaponization" of food for civilians in Gaza constitutes a war crime.

"Desperate, hungry people in Gaza continue to face the inhumane choice of either starving to death or risk being killed while trying to get food," Thameen Al-Kheetan, a spokesperson for the office said.

Over 410 people have been killed by gunshots or shells fired by the Israeli military while trying to reach distribution sites of the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, he said, adding that the number was verified by his office.

The Al-Awda hospital in the urban Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza, which received Tuesday's victims, said the Palestinians were waiting for the trucks on the Salah al-Din Road south of Wadi Gaza.

Witnesses said that Israeli forces opened fire as people were advancing eastward to be close to the approaching trucks.

"It was a massacre," said Ahmed Halawa. He said tanks and drones fired at people, "even as we were fleeing. Many people were either martyred or wounded."

Hossam Abu Shahada, another eyewitness, said drones were flying over the area, watching the crowds first, then there was gunfire from tanks and drones as people were moving eastward. He described a

"chaotic and bloody" scene as people were attempting to escape.

He said he saw at least three people lying on the ground motionless and many others wounded as he fled the site.

The hospital said another 146 Palestinians were wounded. Among them were 62 in critical condition, who were transferred to other hospitals in central Gaza, it said.

The Al-Aqsa Martyrs hospital in Deir al-Balah said it received the bodies of six people who were killed in the same incident.

The Palestinian Health Ministry said that Israel's military operation in Gaza has killed more than 56,000 people and wounded over 131,000 others since the start of the war.

Meanwhile, Hamas and Israel plan to conduct indirect cease-fire negotiations in the next two days, Qatar's Prime Minister Al Thani said. He added that he hoped Israel would not take advantage of the situation with Iran to attack Gaza.

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Trump ended this war
Now the Saudis can do the same for Gaza

Ex-hostage Eli Sharabi's memoir is best-seller



Lev Radin/ZUMA Press Wire via Reuters

haaretz.com

What are the legal implications of a war with a sovereign state?

Yaniv Kubovich
and Chen Maanit

Israel's war with Iran was unlike any campaign it fought in recent decades. That's not only due to the heavy damage to civilian buildings here and the long-range fighting, but also because – unlike past confrontations with Hamas, Hezbollah and the Houthis – Israel was battling a sovereign state with defined borders, a standing army and a clear separation between civilian and military infrastructure.

"This makes the complex legal issues we faced in Gaza and Lebanon simpler for both sides," a legal and security source told Haaretz. "When striking bases and military targets in Iran, the issue of uninvolved civilians is almost irrelevant, as there are no civilians at those sites, which are located away from population centers."

While the military tends to frame the issue in black-and-white terms, international law experts offer a more nuanced perspective – one that comes into focus when theory meets reality. Such a moment occurred last



Smoke rising after an Israeli strike on Tehran Monday.

Elyas / Middle East Images / AFP

week, when Israel struck the headquarters of Iran's state broadcaster in Tehran.

"A television station, even if it airs propaganda or incitement, isn't automatically a legitimate military target," says Prof. Eliav Lieblach of Tel Aviv University, questioning the military's justification for the

strike. "After all, there are media outlets in Israel that also broadcast propaganda and incitement."

According to Lieblach, however, Israel's strike on the state broadcaster could be lawful under certain conditions, specifically if the station was being used for military purposes.

"The issue here is that although the military claimed there was such use, the defense minister, prime minister and the IDF spokesperson all argued that the reason for the strike was the propaganda broadcasts," he says. "In my view, that casts

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