

40 Days That Shook the Regime:
The Consequences of the US Defeat at Isfahan Province

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President Trump's frantic threats over the first week of April to target Iran's civilian infrastructure, including power plants and bridges – as well as the resulting “ceasefire” – are direct consequences of the American defeat in the [Isfahan operation](#). The US and Israel lost a significant number of aircraft, including at least one A-10 Thunderbolt II and two Black Hawk helicopters *[it turned out to be two A-10s. A genuine CSAR mission for a single pilot does not require the deployment of multiple MC-130J aircraft, Black Hawk helicopters, expensive armed drones and support planes deep into heavily defended Iranian airspace]*.

This operation had *no connection* to the claimed rescue of a downed F-15 fighter pilot, a narrative initially promoted by American officials and the press. Instead, the real objective was to infiltrate one of Iran's nuclear facilities in Isfahan; to locate and extract samples of enriched uranium from the site. Former [CIA](#) Officer Larry Johnson said that

the downed F-15E was linked to preparations for a broader ground operation targeting nuclear infrastructure, further reinforcing this interpretation. It was defeated.

The landing site for C-130 “Hercules” transport aircraft was an abandoned airstrip located dangerously close to one of these nuclear sites. The Americans miscalculated, believing that Iran's air defense would be unable to respond. The truth is that the Americans fell into a trap. As the C-130s approached their landing zone, Iranian police commando units opened fire from multiple directions, neutralizing the first aircraft before it could unload its personnel.

The Islamic Revolutionary Guards didn't react to the landing of the first C-130, which was carrying dozens of special forces commandos. Minutes later, a second C-130 aircraft approached, carrying their vehicles, several Boeing MH-6 Little Bird helicopters and other support equipment. At that moment, Iranian forces on the scene targeted the second aircraft before it could land, turning its normal landing into an emergency one.

1. The Trap

After the special forces realized they had fallen into a trap, the White House situation room made a critical decision to then claim it was a “rescue operation” for the

dozens of US commandos trapped under Iranian fire. The Americans immediately sent several smaller aircraft to extract their forces, barely managing to gather at least some men and withdraw *[official casualty figures have not been published and never will be]*.

The Iranian response forced the US to abandon their equipment, including the identification documents of an officer left behind. After the commandos were evacuated, American fighter jets established a line of fire with a three mile radius to prevent Iranian forces from approaching the abandoned C-130s at the airstrip. The jets also destroyed their own equipment to prevent it from falling into Iranian hands *[as if the C-130 is a big mystery. It was used in the 1970s, as was the Blackhawk. The Russian 5th generation fighters are ahead of the US. There's nothing to fall into their hands]*.

These [events](#) cannot be understood in isolation. On April 3, the Iranians downed an F-15E Strike Eagle over central Iran, along with an A-10 Thunderbolt II over the Persian Gulf, multiple MQ-9 Reaper drones, Hermes reconnaissance platforms and cruise missiles. The failed mission came out of that. The Americans planned what they called a “deceive and immediate escape mission,” using an abandoned airport in southern Isfahan Province as a covert staging point. Iranian intelligence had already mapped out the operation.

The Americans were unaware of the full integration of Iranian defensive assets: IRGC Aerospace Force radar and missile batteries, police special operations commando units, local militia (Basij, the Persian word means “mobilization”) familiar with the mountainous terrain and regular army air-defense units all operating under a single command structure [*Hence my thesis that enemies of the Regime are constructed, not studied*].

This was not a narrow military engagement but a national defensive mobilization. The police special units, in particular, neutralized the first C-130, demonstrating that Iranian law enforcement personnel are fully integrated into the country's layered air defenses. Local sources also reported that a refueling aircraft was shot down in southern Isfahan Province, targeted by elite police commandos.

2. The ‘Rescue Operation’

In the hours following the Isfahan debacle, President Trump claimed that a “daring and miraculous” rescue operation had successfully extracted the missing F-15E pilot with no American losses. Iranian officials quickly responded, mocking Trump's claim. The Speaker of the Iranian Parliament Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf posted an image of the destroyed C-130 wreckage on his Twitter

account, writing with sharp sarcasm: “If the United States gets three more victories like this, it will be utterly ruined.”

The IRGC Intelligence Organization highlighted the absence of any photographs or video evidence of the supposedly rescued pilot. Even if the American narrative were accepted at face value, the cost of the operation had been catastrophic: two C-130 transport planes, two Black Hawk helicopters and an unknown number of casualties, *[certainly not appropriate for a search and rescue mission]* for the extraction of a single airman who had been shot down days earlier.

The destruction of two C-130 transport aircraft and two Black Hawk helicopters on April 5 carries profound technical and strategic implications that extend far beyond the immediate defeat. Combat search and rescue, or CSAR, has been a cornerstone of American air power doctrine since the Vietnam War. The Isfahan operation has demonstrated that Iranian defensive networks can not only shoot down American strike aircraft but also systematically dismantle the very rescue architecture designed to recover them.

The C-130's destruction over Isfahan proves that the US-Israeli aggression has failed to achieve any meaningful suppression of Iran's air defense network. For American

military planners, the lesson is devastating: no US aircraft, whether strike fighter or support transport, can consider Iranian airspace survivable. The Islamic Republic's message to Washington is unmistakable: the skies over Iran belong to Iran, and any further intrusion will be met with the same fire, the same coordination, and the same divine victory that turned Isfahan into the second Tabas (Operation Eagle Claw, where C-130s were also used).

3. Trump's foul mouthed threats

Afterwards, Trump has repeatedly threatened to obliterate Iran's civilian infrastructure should the nation's leaders not heed his demands: "We have a plan because of the power of our military where every bridge in Iran will be decimated by 12:00 tomorrow night, where every power plant in Iran will be out of business, burning, exploding, and never to be used again." This echoed an Easter morning missive from Truth Social: "Tuesday will be Power Plant Day, and Bridge Day, all wrapped up in one, in Iran. There will be nothing like it!!! Open the Fuckin' Strait [of Hormuz], you crazy bastards, or you'll be living in Hell" [*Such the statesman. This is beyond vulgarity*].

Yet, US agreed to a ceasefire as this is being written. Trump wrote on Truth Social:

Based on conversations with Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Asim Munir, of Pakistan, and wherein they requested that I hold off the destructive force being sent tonight to Iran, and subject to the Islamic Republic of Iran agreeing to the COMPLETE, IMMEDIATE, and SAFE OPENING of the Strait of Hormuz, I agree to suspend the bombing and attack of Iran for a period of two weeks. This will be a double sided CEASEFIRE! The reason for doing so is that we have already met and exceeded all Military objectives, and are very far along with a definitive Agreement concerning Longterm PEACE with Iran, and PEACE in the Middle East.

[Is this how presidents and prime ministers wrote just 50 or so years ago?]

The 10 points of the ceasefire agreement are (from the Iranian point of view, it remains only a foundation, but one Trump has accepted):

1. Complete cessation of the war on Iraq, Lebanon, and Yemen;
2. Complete and permanent cessation of the war on Iran with no time limit;
3. Ending all conflicts in the region in their entirety;
4. Reopening the Strait of Hormuz [*remaining under*

Iranian control];

5. Establishing a protocol and conditions to ensure freedom and security of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz;
 6. Full payment of compensation for reconstruction costs to Iran;
 7. Full commitment to lifting sanctions on Iran;
 8. Release of Iranian funds and frozen assets held by the United States;
 9. Iran fully commits to not seeking possession of any nuclear weapons;
 10. Immediate ceasefire takes effect on all fronts immediately upon approval of the above conditions.
4. Endgame

This is called a [victory](#). The Pakistani [press](#) is calling it a “surrender,” despite being the designated mediators. The Israeli's already said they won't stop terror bombing Lebanon, but it proves to even the most dull-witted Zionist that the US is losing and has no choice but to seek talks. The deal, even if modified, allows Trump to extricate himself from what was shaping up to be a treacherous choice: either escalating the war without the resources to do so, or backing down and disappointing Israel.

[CNN](#) lied entirely, refusing to mention the 10 points, only saying “Iran's military will coordinate passage of vessels

through the critical Strait of Hormuz during the ceasefire, Iran's foreign minister said. Trump said reopening the strait was a key condition of the ceasefire deal.” The same goes for the [AP](#) and many other places. The [BBC](#) said “Iran's military has been significantly degraded,” which is odd, since most of her forces have not even been used. Of course, there's no evidence offered. It is difficult to find the “10 points” in mainstream media as of early April 8.