

Reports confirm Trump's plans to resume Iran war including strikes on civilian infrastructure

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Numerous media reports and statements by government officials have confirmed that the Trump administration is preparing for a renewed war against Iran after the November 3 midterm elections. The actions being prepared include reinforcement of American forces in the region and warnings sent to Gulf allies that they should prepare for an intense military campaign.

On Thursday, Connecticut Democratic Senator Chris Murphy posted on X that he received a classified briefing on the plans, confirming that the White House is assembling the means for another assault that could engulf civilian infrastructure across the region.

Murphy posted the following statement on X with an accompanying video of his remarks at the Middle East Institute:

Trump is reportedly planning to restart war with Iran after the election. Some of us have been briefed on the war plan. And while I cannot disclose any details, I can say this: the plan is insane. It will not achieve objectives and will set off a new cycle of escalation.

Speaking at the institute on Wednesday, Murphy explained that legislators had discussed what renewed military operations would entail. "You've heard a preview that it would be a short-duration plan. I'll just say this: their plan is insane," adding, "It will lead to devastating escalation and the likely destruction of our commitment to the rule of law."

He linked his post to reports about attacks on civilian infrastructure. Administration planners, he said, had been instructed to develop an operation whose result would be prolonged and escalating warfare. Murphy said the impact would be devastating even when measured against Washington's own "security interests."

Murphy's warning is significant because he has seen the classified plans. But his invocation of a threat to America's "commitment to the rule of law" treats its destruction as a future possibility; as though this aspect of the criminality of US imperialism has not been underway for more than two decades.

The record of military campaigns that violate US and international law run through successive Republican and Democratic administrations from the George W. Bush-era aggressive war against Afghanistan and Iraq, illegal detention and torture, and spying on the US public, to the overthrow and murder of Gaddafi in Libya and the expansion of targeted assassinations under Obama. This background places Trump's murderous and illegal assault on Iran within the context of bipartisan criminality since the beginning of the 21st century, not as a departure from an otherwise law-abiding foreign and domestic policy.

Like all Democrats, Murphy is not opposed to the imperialist objectives behind the Trump administration's assault on Iran. In his own words, Murphy agrees that Tehran must be prevented from obtaining a nuclear weapon and that the Islamic Republic is "responsible for the killing of thousands of Americans and unacceptable levels of support for terrorist organizations throughout the Middle East."

The *Wall Street Journal* reported that Admiral Brad Cooper, commander of US Central Command (CENTCOM), briefed Trump at the White House on Thursday on military options against Iran. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and Joint Chiefs Chairman General Dan Caine participated, alongside other cabinet members. The meeting followed a Wednesday session involving military leaders and Vice President JD Vance.

Cooper rarely briefs Trump in person. The gathering therefore marks a significant stage in the preparations. According to the *Journal*, Washington has told Gulf Arab governments to prepare for a "short, intense campaign" after

the elections. Trump himself declared last week, “We may do another little Epic Fury,” the name of the bombing campaign that began in February.

The Pentagon has dispatched additional air defenses, ammunition and supplies while relocating personnel from vulnerable bases. An additional Patriot battery is being moved to Israel amid concerns about interceptor shortages. Bomber and fighter preparations, reductions in diplomatic staffing and the withdrawal of exposed personnel all point to preparations for Iranian retaliation as well as American attack.

Reporting identifies the USS Theodore Roosevelt carrier strike group and the USS Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group as reinforcements expected by the end of November, potentially bringing the carrier total to three, indicating a campaign that will extend for weeks, not days.

An analysis by Lazar Berman, published by the Times of Israel and republished by the Middle East Forum, appeared under the headline that renewed war “seems inevitable.” Its argument combines tangible military preparations, Israeli pressure for joint operations and the gulf between American and Iranian negotiating positions.

Washington demands an end to Iranian enrichment, removal of enriched uranium and guarantees concerning Hormuz shipping before agreeing to substantial economic relief. Tehran demands an end to the blockade, sanctions relief, access to frozen assets and cessation of hostilities. Berman interprets these incompatible starting positions, together with Trump’s post-election freedom of action, as factors driving the renewed warfare.

Evidence of Israeli involvement was also reported by Berman who cited reports that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pressed for joint strikes; that Israel prepared attacks on nuclear and energy facilities for the October 10 weekend before Trump intervened; and that Israeli lobbying continued for American participation. A confrontation between Netanyahu and military chief Eyal Zamir reportedly concerned an operation capable of triggering conflict with Iran.

The political crisis facing Netanyahu, following the October 27 Israeli elections, further intensifies the pressure for military action by the Zionist regime. Coalition political bargaining could prolong Netanyahu’s caretaker premiership, leaving him with authority despite lacking a renewed parliamentary majority.

Washington Post columnist David Ignatius reported that Vice President Vance had offered in a letter on Sunday to meet Iranian security chief Mohsen Rezaei personally to discuss a negotiated settlement. The report suggests Vance sought discussion of Iran’s nuclear program while acknowledging Tehran’s interests in sovereignty and

economic reconstruction. Iranian media confirmed receipt of the letter, but reporting through October 30 indicated that no formal response had yet been given.

Reuters reported October 23 that two senior Iranian security officials described detailed contingency plans to attack Gulf undersea communications cables in response to a renewed assault by the US. One said Tehran would seek to prevent repairs, prolonging disruption. Revolutionary Guards official Yadollah Javani identified seven major cables beneath the Strait of Hormuz as potential targets if Iranian infrastructure were attacked.

The US-Israeli war against Iran began February 28 with strikes that killed Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and other leadership figures. Only the previous day, Trump had publicly maintained that he had not made a final decision on force, following negotiations in Geneva. This fact exposes the unreliability of any diplomatic efforts by Washington, including assurances from Trump that the assault would not resume before the US elections.

Subsequent ceasefire announcements were at least in part repeatedly used to manipulate oil markets. Reuters documented roughly \$500 million in oil trades shortly before Trump’s March 23 announcement delaying infrastructure attacks, followed by further suspicious trading before the April 7 ceasefire announcement. Its later investigation identified \$7 billion in advance-positioned oil bets.

As the *World Socialist Web Site* has consistently maintained, the ongoing war with Iran expresses the crisis of American imperialism and its attempt to overcome political and economic contradictions through military force. The destruction already inflicted has produced neither submission nor stability, but preparations for wider attacks. The makings of a third world war lie in the logic of the expanding crisis of world capitalism, not just in Trump’s bullying and recklessness.



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