

Tehran's new definition pegs strait width at 200-300 miles, and not 20-30 miles Iran expands Strait of Hormuz operational area by ten times

Agencies

Iran has expanded its definition of the Strait of Hormuz into a 'vast operational area' far wider than before the Iran war, according to a senior officer in the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Navy.



Akbarzadeh said the strait is now defined as a strategic zone stretching from the city of Jask in the east to Sirik Island in the west, describing it as 'a vast operational area'.

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UAE secretly launched military strikes on Iran: Report

Dubai: The United Arab Emirates (UAE) carried out military strikes on Iran, making it the only other country to join the US and Israel in their war against the Islamic Republic, according to a report on Monday.

The strikes included an attack on a refinery on Iran's Lavan Island in the Persian Gulf, the Wall Street Journal reported.

US has ample arms for Iran war: Hegseth

AP

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth faced tough questions Tuesday from Republican and Democratic lawmakers about the Trump administration's end game for the Iran war, the cost of the conflict and its impact on diminishing US weapons stockpiles.



For his part, the Pentagon chief softened his tone from hearings before Congress nearly two weeks ago, notably avoiding the same pointed criticism of lawmakers in his opening remarks as he outlined the Trump administration's efforts to ramp up production of weapons and other military capabilities.

Even so, Hegseth insisted that the military has plenty of missile defense systems and other munitions for the Iran war or future conflicts, as both Republicans and Democrats hammered him with those concerns.

"I take issue with the characterization that munitions are depleted in a public forum," Hegseth said. "That's not true."

Israel lawmakers allow death for 2023 attackers

Jerusalem

Israeli lawmakers approved a bill on Monday setting up a special tribunal that would try and have the authority to sentence to death Palestinians convicted of taking part in the 2023 Hamas-led attack that triggered the war in Gaza.

It makes the death penalty too easy to impose while also doing away with procedures safeguarding the right to a fair trial. Defendants can appeal their sentences but the appeals have to be heard by a separate, special appeals court rather than regular appeals courts.

100 civilians killed in Nigeria military strike?

Abuja

Nigeria's military on Tuesday denied a rights group's claim that an airstrike killed 100 civilians in a market over the weekend, as attention turned again to a long-running fight against armed groups in the country's volatile north.

Amnesty International in a statement on Monday said a military airstrike on Sunday hit a market in Tunda in Zamfara state. A Red Cross official in the state, Ibrahim Bell Garba, confirmed the strike to the Associated Press and said "multiple civilians" were killed.

Lens on Zelenskyy's ex-aid in graft case

AP

Two national agencies fighting corruption in Ukraine have named Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's former chief of staff as an official suspect in a major graft investigation. Ukraine's National Anti-Corruption Bureau and the Specialised Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office announced late Monday that Andriy Yermak is suspected in an alleged 400-million-riivnitsya (USD 105 million) money-laundering scheme.

Investigations said in an announcement on the Telegram messaging app that the investigation is ongoing. The move is a step short of formally charging Yermak, who resigned in November. He was the country's lead negotiator in talks with the US and left during the scandal but brought the biggest thrust to Zelenskyy's government since Russia's full-scale invasion.

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Financial statement table for AD-MANUM FINANCE LIMITED, showing Particulars, Quarter Ended, and Year to Date (YTD) figures for 2025 and 2026.

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Mystery deepens over sinking of Russian ship with N-links

Agencies

A Russian cargo ship likely carrying two nuclear reactors for submarines, possibly destined for North Korea, suffered a series of explosions and sank in unexplained circumstances, about 60 miles off the coast of Spain, a CNN investigation has found.

The extraordinary fate of the Urso Major has been shrouded in secrecy since it sank on December 23, 2024. But it may mark a rare and high-stakes intervention by a Western military to prevent Russia from sending an upgrade in nuclear technology to a key ally, North Korea, CNN reporting suggests.

Kim Jong Un had sent troops to assist with Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. A flurry of recent military activity around its remains has deepened the mystery around its cargo and destination. US nuclear "sniffer" aircraft have flown over the sunken ship twice in the past year, according to public flight data.

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