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Iran offers plan to reopen strait, resume nuclear talks with U.S.

Tehran says proposal can be implemented if Washington meets conditions

The Associated Press

Iran said it had a two-day plan to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and resume nuclear talks with the U.S. if Washington meets its demands.

The announcement came as the region braces for possible renewed fighting, even as Iran's top diplomat said Sunday that he hoped the U.S. would choose "diplomacy over other paths."

Iran previously said the plan could be implemented within a week if the U.S. met seven conditions, including lifting its blockade of Iranian ports. Iran now says ships passing through the reopened strait would have to follow a route agreed upon by Iran and Oman and travel under Iranian supervision. Separately, Iranian officials have said the U.S. must lift sanctions on Iranian oil sales and agree to a ceasefire that would include Lebanon.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said the plan remained the basis for negotiations with Washington through mediators, despite the shorter implementation timeline. "This once again demonstrates Iran's good-faith approach," he added.

Baghaei gave no indication that Tehran had changed its demands or that Washington had accepted its proposal.

President Donald Trump has alternated between pursuing diplomacy and threatening heavy bombing of Iran in his public comments.

Meanwhile, two Israeli airstrikes killed two men in southern Gaza early Monday, according to Nasser Hospital, where their bodies were taken. One strike killed a man in his home; the other killed a man in a tent.

The Israeli military did not respond to a request for comment.

Major fighting between Israel and Hamas largely halted under the October 2025 ceasefire. Israel continues to launch near-daily strikes on Gaza that it says target militants, though the strikes regularly kill or injure women and children. Israel says Hamas uses civilians as human shields.

Crews work to extinguish a burning car following an Israeli strike in Gaza City Monday. Major fighting between Israel and Hamas has largely halted under an October 2025 ceasefire, but Israel continues to launch near-daily strikes on Gaza. Yousef Al Zanoun/ The Associated Press
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About 1,580 Palestinians have been killed since the ceasefire began, bringing the overall death toll to more than 74,500, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. The ministry, part of the Hamas-run government, does not distinguish between civilians and militants.

Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi rebels on Monday accused Saudi Arabia of striking the port of Ras Isa in the western province of Hodeida, along Yemen's Red Sea coast, setting fire to ships and commercial freight trucks. Earlier, the Houthi-run health ministry said explosives hit a bustling market in southwestern Yemen, killing two children and one other person.

Netanyahu pushes

for strikes on Iran

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Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is pushing for another wave of strikes on Iran after Tuesday's midterm elections in the United States, according to two regional officials and a third person familiar with the matter. The two officials said diplomatic efforts have made progress. The two officials said the mediators are trying to advance a framework for Iran to cease its attacks in the strait in return for the U.S. lifting its blockade on Iran's ports. They said more talks are planned for this week. The two officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were discussing classified briefings they had received from American officials and one Israeli official.

Netanyahu pressed for strikes during a call over the weekend with Trump, who would not commit to taking military action, according to a person who was briefed on the call.

Other U.S. allies in the Middle East are warning against more strikes, saying it would destabilize the region, a third regional official said.

The Israeli government did not immediately comment. The White House did not directly respond to questions about Netanyahu and Trump's discussion of potential new strikes during the weekend call.

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