

The US-Israel War On Iran is Unjustified

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The ongoing attacks in Iran launched by United States and Israeli forces in late February have killed more than 2,000 Iranians and injured over 2,400, along with over a thousand casualties in Iraq and Lebanon. Death, injury, national tensions and economic depression have been the result of President Trump's "Operation Epic Fury" plan to eliminate Iran's supply of missiles, annihilate its navy, prevent nuclear weapon acquirement and support from "terrorist" proxy countries. But no promise of safety on our behalf could ever be justifiable for the murders of thousands of innocent people.

In an address to the U.S. on April 1, Trump claimed Iran's navy is gone, with most of their leaders dead and weapon production actively being destroyed.

Both governments have significantly harmed Iranian civilians and consequently led its own people into economic despair and nationwide panic. Following their alliance, Iran retaliated through the bombings of several countries including Israel, Kuwait and Syria.

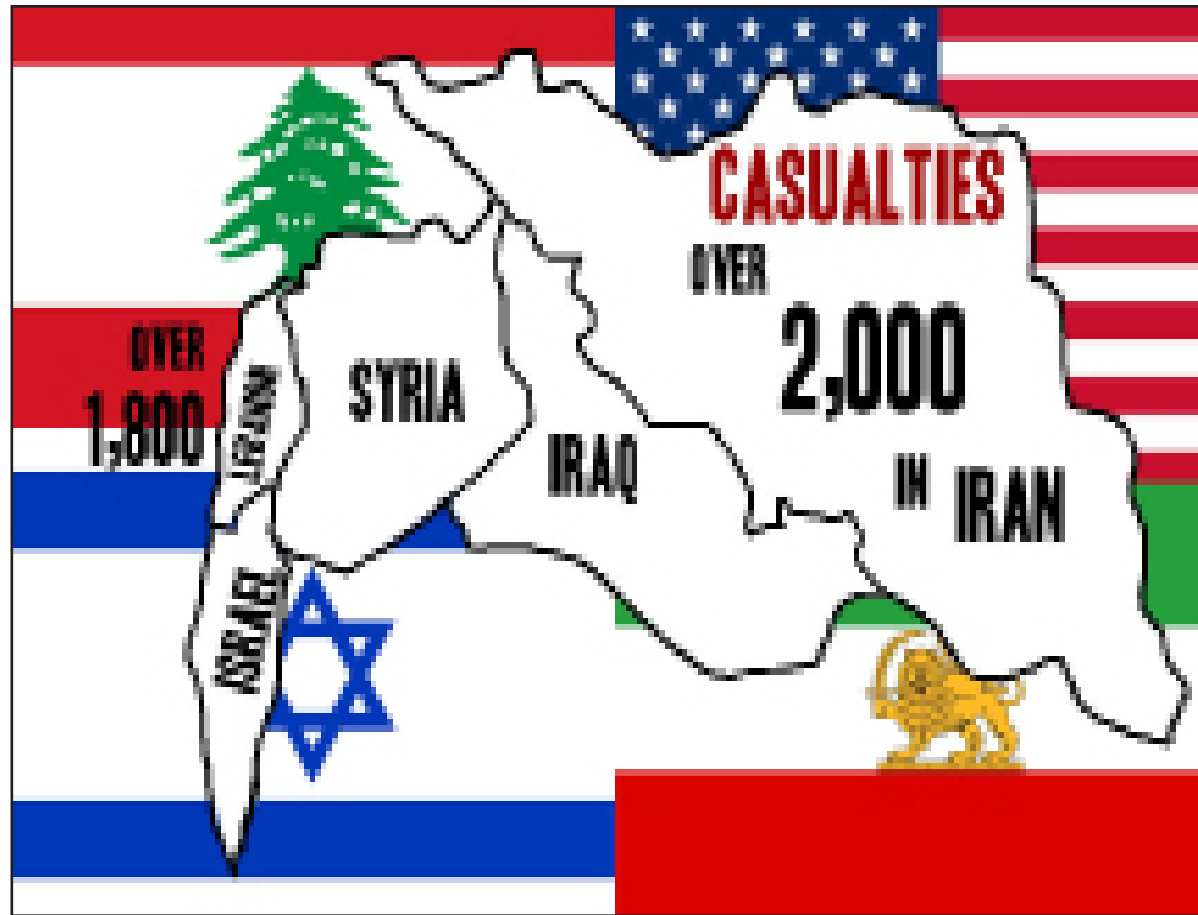
The attacks have since created a domino effect following each event progressing since the bombing. After the killing of Iranian supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who Trump said "had the blood of hundreds and thousands of Americans on his hands," the Iranian supported group Hezbollah launched a strike in northern Israel. Israel then retaliated by striking Lebanon, beginning the Lebanese casualties.

With U.S. support in accordance with Israeli forces, erasure and displacement has increased among the people in Lebanon, who struggle to avoid air strikes and find safety.

The recent events of the past month and a half would be completely preventable without the poor leadership and dictation from our administration and its allies. Instead of the sense of security they tried to justify, I feel disgust knowing how much this has further proved where our current administration's priorities really lay.

These attacks, based on the Trump administration's singleminded paranoia and disregard for human life, have threatened the safety of America and contradicted its intentions countless times.

One of the first casualties was the bombing of an all girls school next to an Iranian navy base in Minab. The strike killed over 150 people, the majority being children. Following this attack, Trump denied responsibility and



A MAP OF THE COUNTRIES WITH THE MOST CASUALTIES WITH LEBANON, ISRAEL, UNITED STATES AND IRAN FLAGS IN THE BACKGROUND. GRAPHIC BY MILEY ARAUJO.

passed the blame onto Iran, concluding that it bombed itself with a Tomahawk missile, a U.S. weapon.

While the Iranian government has inflicted many atrocities among its own people, our administration isn't any better if our own president is preaching freedom among Iranians while simultaneously killing them.

Neither Trump or his administration have considered the lives of innocent civilians being lost. In fact, it seems they would rather focus all their energy preventing a war with war. When the objective is to protect American lives, it's contradictory to subject the U.S. to retaliatory hits from Iran and deploy U.S. troops in an attack so severe it borders on the line of waging war—a power only granted by a constitution-abiding Congress.

U.S. companies like Apple, Microsoft and Google were among a list of 18 released in a statement by Tasnim news agency that were openly threatened by Iran's Revolutionary Guard. Among American military troops, 13 soldiers have been killed and 200 have been injured following the Iranian attacks.

On Truth Social, Trump gave justification that the fallen patriots sacrificed their lives for this "righteous mission" and that "there will likely be more."

While the U.S. troops are at the command of Trump,

so is the economic crisis of our country.

Not only is Trump sending us into the war he claimed Kamala Harris would start just a year ago, he's not meeting his promised affordability plan.

One of Trump's biggest concerns was the affordability of gas and this said concern is rapidly worsening in his efforts.

But in Iran's attempt to hold off the US-Israel attacks, they've blocked accessibility to move oil through the Strait of Hormuz, a passageway between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. With oil prices increasing, gasoline prices have reached an average of \$4 a gallon nationwide and an average of \$5.9 in California.

Trump gave Iran multiple deadlines to either propose a deal or open the Strait of Hormuz otherwise he would bomb power plants and

bridges.

"A whole civilization will die tonight, never to be brought back again. I don't want that to happen, but it probably will," Trump said on Truth Social on April 7.

This resulted in a two-week ceasefire on the condition that Iran would reopen the Strait of Hormuz but charge fees on ships in transit.

Not only are people struggling to afford gasoline, but we're at the mercy of a president who continues to further threaten Iran with prospects of attacking and accusing our NATO allies of being foolish to not support the U.S. military presence in Iran.

As far as retaliation goes, it wasn't the death of U.S. soldiers that drew the limit for Trump, it was the limitation of oil production. I suspect probably because that would turn a portion of his own people against him, finally.

The Trump Administration never valued American lives and safety, and they never will. They know they're capable of anything when all anyone is worried about is how much we're paying for our next tank fill.

The bombing in Iran has led us into a war from both sides, and the apathy towards it makes me sick.

INCREASE IN GAS PRICES HAVE PROPELLED STUDENT STRUGGLE

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Last month we were living normally paying the usual \$3 to \$4 per gallon for gas. Little did we know one impact would have us paying almost \$5 to \$8 per gallon for gas one month later.

Gas prices in the U.S. have increased by 30% since the conflict of the Iran war began in late February. So far, the highest amount per gallon of gas is at the price of \$8.

In February, a conflict between the U.S. and Iran had started. The U.S. and Israel completed a joint attack on Iran which caused the conflict to start between the two.

The conflict caused the gas prices to drive up primarily due to a significant disruption in global oil supply by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz. The Strait of Hormuz is where roughly 20% of the world's oil passes.

According to AAA Gas Prices, for the first time since August 2022 gas prices have surged topping \$4 a gallon. California holds the most expensive gasoline market at \$5.89.

This raise in gas prices has affected many individuals, including myself. As a college student having to drive 30 minutes to school each day, \$5 per gallon of gas is a lot of money.

A student at Fresno City College said, "I limit myself to going places to have enough gas to

make it to school and back home."

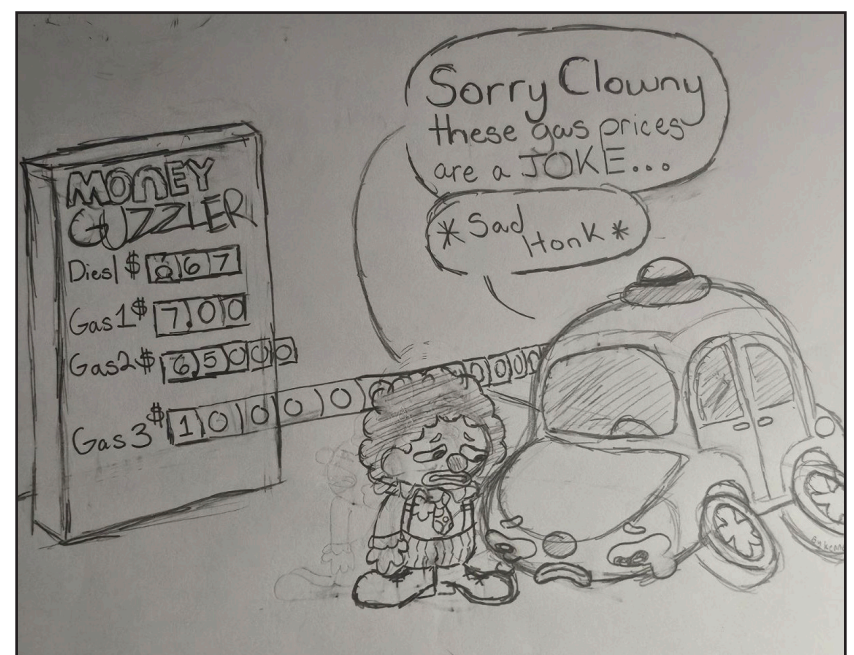
Having to limit driving places due to the raise in gas prices is really ridiculous.

College students often struggle to make money due to jobs running slow or just having a lot of bills and needing to constantly buy necessities. Most students don't just live five or 10 minutes away from campus so having to pay over \$5 per gallon of gas is a lot for students who have to drive more than 15 minutes to school.

Some effective alternatives that could help save gas is to take the FAX bus. Students at FCC are able to use their student ID for a free ride to the campus.

For students who live closer to campus they can walk to school, use a scooter or bike, or carpool with friends who don't mind driving or possibly have an electric vehicle.

Another alternative is to find a gas station that doesn't have such a high price for gas. As of right now, the cheapest gas price close to campus is located at 2171 W Shaw Ave, Fresno, CA 93705 priced at \$5.27 per gallon.



Clutz car cant go to clow car school due to Ridiculous gas prices. graphic by Kenneth Fulton.