



Cost of Iran war forces US military to cut training budgets at home

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The cost of the unprovoked US war on Iran is limiting routine training and maintenance at home. The military's usual practice flights, training exercises, and the upkeep of equipment have all been affected as the American empire strains under the demands of [the failing war](#) [CNN](#) [reported](#)

The Navy's top officer, Adm. Daryl Caudle, told House Armed Services Committee lawmakers earlier this month that his 2026 budget "didn't bake in [Operation] Epic Fury" and that the Navy faces impacts on "routine operations" as a result.

That includes having to limit training exercises, flight training hours and training for new recruits, he said.

Caudle [said](#) recruitment and basic training has been affected:

My record recruiting is going to be thwarted without additional funding to [move] those individuals from boot camp and to pay enlistment and reenlistment bonuses.

CNN [said](#) it had seen evidence that one armoured formation had has nearly \$300mn cut from its budget as a result of the war:

The Army's III Armored Corps, a Texas-based headquarters that oversees roughly 70,000 troops and hundreds of tanks, saw a nearly \$292 million cut to its training budget in late April, according to an internal document reviewed by CNN.

Iran: US has costs in the tens of billions

CNN reported that US military medical staff had suffered cuts to "dozens of courses" while funding was entirely "eliminated" some training.

And, sources [said](#) in April 2026 that the cost of the war in Iran could be up to \$50bn:

when accounting for the costs of rebuilding US military installations and replacing destroyed assets.

US-Israel attacked Iran first on 28 February without provocation. Iran was offering [unprecedented concessions](#) in negotiations at the time. The Pentagon has since [stated](#) there was no imminent threat from Iran. And the UN's atomic watchdog, the IAEA, has said there is [no evidence](#) Iran was developing a nuclear weapon.

The US has achieved none of [its original war aims](#) Iran [predictably closed](#) the Straits of Hormuz, a vital oil channel, once attacked a global energy crisis. Iran has [said](#) the war will continue until "the enemy's inevitable and permanent capitulation, disgrace, regret, and surrender". Trump came to power on an anti-war "America First" platform but now faces worldwide humiliation.

Meanwhile, peace talks are currently underway. Donald Trump [recently demanded](#) many Muslim countries recognise Israel as a condition of any deal. Trump's demands have been bizarre at times "and quite out of step with the reality that the war is failing.

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