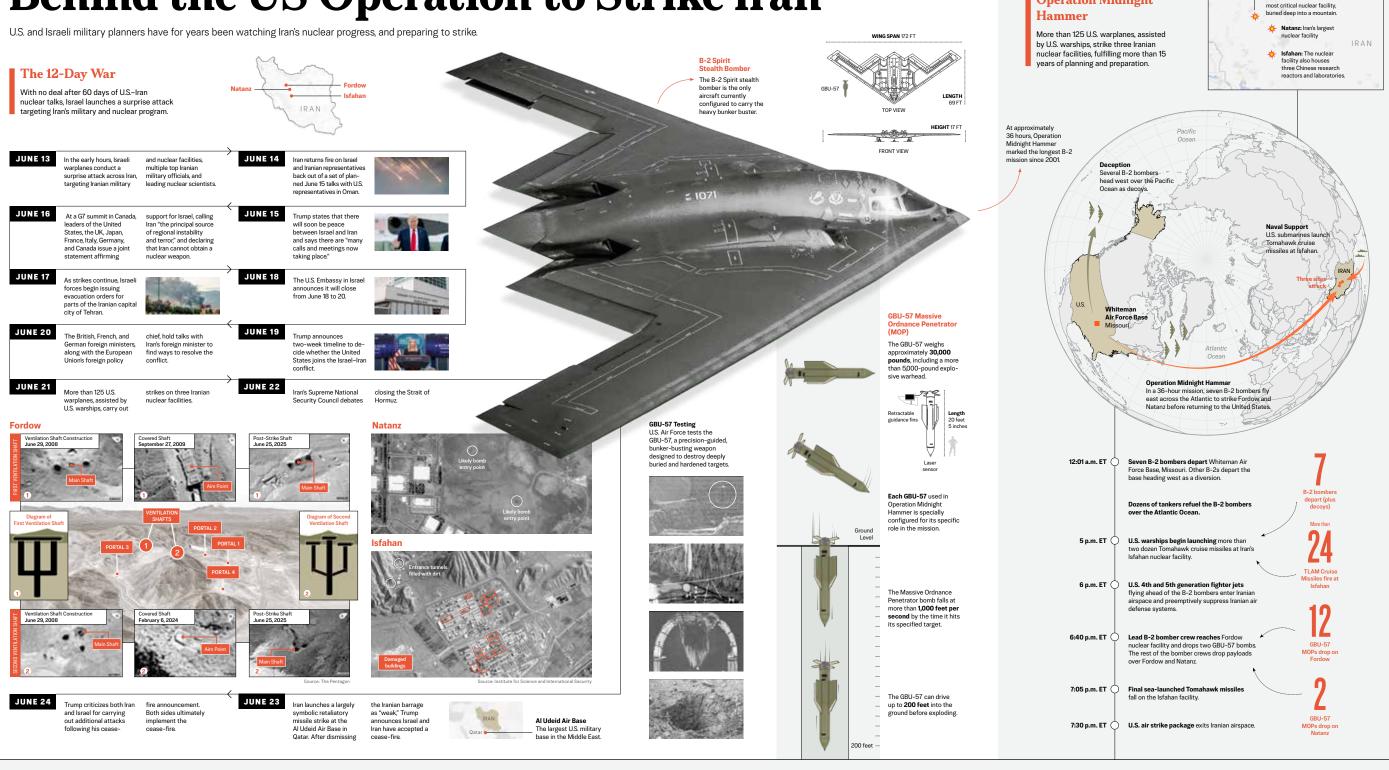
Behind the US Operation to Strike Iran



Fordow: United States dropped

bunker-buster bombs at Iran's

Operation Midnight

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D Z	February 2004	ruary 2004 2006 2009		,	July 14, 2015		May 8, 2018	2019	April 13, 2021		August and September 2023		April 12, 2025	June 13, 2025	
IRAN AI	Department of Defense begins developing the massive ordnance penetrator (MOP).	Iran begins construction of Fordow nuclear facility.	Department of Defense tasks two members of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency to study	Fordow and determine a way to destroy it. They help steer development of the MOP.	China, France, Russia, the UK, the United States, Germany, and the European Union sign onto a deal known as the Joint	Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in which Iran agrees to limit its uranium enrichment in exchange for sanctions relief.	President Donald Trump withdraws the United States from the JCPOA and renews sanctions against Iran.	Iran begins ramping up its uranium enrichment in response to rising U.S. sanctions.	Following an explosion at Natanz nuclear facility, and ahead of talks with the Biden	administration to repair the JCPOA, Iran announces it will start enriching uranium up to 60 percent purity.	In a deal the State Department said was separate from other Iran-related matters, the Biden administration	er exchange unfreezing illion in ranian	The Trump administration restarts negotiations to restrain Iran's nuclear program.	Israeli forces launch a surprise attack targeting Iran's military and nuclear program, setting in motion a 12- day conflict.	THE EPOCH TIMES, THE PENTAGON, AIR FORCE ILLUSTRATION BY THE EPOCH TIMES, THE PENTAGON, AIR FORCE TELEVISION PENTAGON/DEFENSE VISUAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SERVICE, REUTERS, GETTY IMAGES, PUBLIC DOMAIN, PNGTREE

Iran's Nuclear Program, and US Plan to Destroy It Iran claims its nuclear program is peaceful, but international observers have been concerned by Iran's continued enrichment of uranium to levels far higher than needed for civilian purposes.