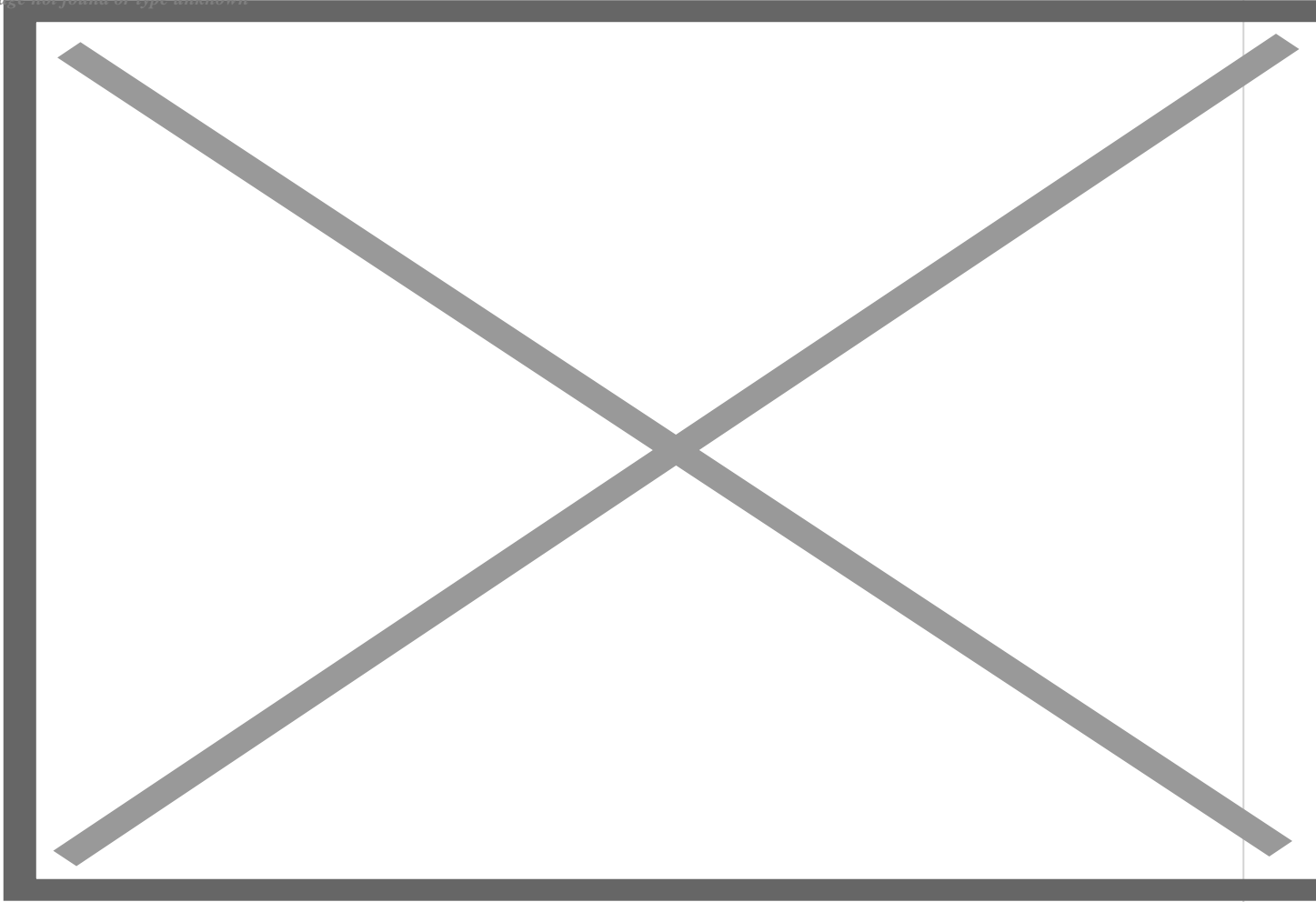


# *Israel and Iran agree to ceasefire amid waves of missiles*

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**Rescue workers carry the body of a victim from a residential building destroyed by a missile strike in Beersheba, Israel [Bernat Armangue/AP Photo]**

Tehran, June 24 (RHC)-- Iran and Israel are reported to have agreed to a ceasefire following 12 days of exchanging intense air strikes, including a "last-minute" barrage fired by Tehran.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement on Tuesday morning that Israel had agreed to the truce proposal announced by United States President Donald Trump overnight. Earlier, Iranian state

television reported that the ceasefire had begun.

The Israeli statement came not long after Trump had claimed in a post on social media that the ceasefire was already underway. "The ceasefire is now in effect. Please do not violate it!" he said.

While Netanyahu threatened that Israel would respond forcefully to any violation of the ceasefire, the agreement raises hopes for a de-escalation in a conflict that intensified dramatically in recent days, as the U.S. bombed Iran's nuclear facilities and Tehran attacked a U.S. base in Qatar.

"In light of the achievement of the objectives of the operation, and in full coordination with President Trump, Israel has agreed to the President's proposal for a bilateral ceasefire," he said.

#### Waves of missiles

A fragile peace appeared to take hold early on Tuesday, with reports of hostilities ceasing following six waves of missile launches by Iran. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi implied the strikes were launched just before a 07.30 GMT deadline announced by Trump.

"The military operations of our powerful Armed Forces to punish Israel for its aggression continued until the very last minute," he wrote on social media.

Several people were killed in the attacks, emergency services and the Israeli military said. Not long afterwards, Israelis were told they could leave missile shelters, and no further launches have been reported.

#### 'Now Gaza'

Following Netanyahu's announcement that his government had agreed to the ceasefire, Israel's opposition called for him to seal a truce to end the 20-month war with Hamas in Gaza.

"And now Gaza. It's time to finish it there too. Bring back the hostages, end the war," opposition leader Yair Lapid wrote on social media.

[ SOURCE: AL JAZEERA and ASSOCIATED PRESS ]

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<https://www.radiohc.cu/index.php/en/noticias/internacionales/385775-israel-and-iran-agree-to-ceasefire-amid-waves-of-missiles>



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