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VOLUME 17 • NO. 4650 • MONDAY JUNE 23, 2025 • PRICE 2 YUAN

人民日报社主管 环球时报社主办 出版



People in Miami, Florida, watch news on TV on June 22, 2025 where US President Donald Trump addresses the nation following the US attack on Iran's nuclear sites. Photo: VCG

► Iranian FM warns 'everlasting consequences,' to meet Putin

China condemns US attacks on 3 nuclear sites in Iran

By GT staff reporters

US President Donald Trump declared in a social media post on Saturday US local time that the US had completed "very successful" attacks on three nuclear sites in Iran, Fordow, Natanz and Esfahan, with Fordow being widely seen as "the crown jewel" of Tehran's nucle-

ar program.

According to media reports, the US Air Force's B-2 Spirit stealth bombers were involved in the strikes. Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi warned of retaliation on X, saying that "the events this morning are outrageous and will have everlasting consequences."

"In accordance with the UN Charter and its provisions allowing a legitimate response in self-defense, Iran reserves all options to defend its sovereignty, interest, and people," Araghchi wrote in the post.

Chinese analysts approached by the Global Times on Sunday said the US' attacks on Iran's nuclear facilities are

unlikely to quickly end the conflict. The conflict will further spill over, potentially leading to greater turmoil in the Middle East and moving further away from the "day of peace," they warned.

In a speech on Saturday evening US local time, Trump defended Washington's

Singapore PM visits China, 1st non-ASEAN trip since taking office

By Li Yawei

Singapore's Prime Minister Lawrence Wong arrived in Beijing on Sunday, CGTN reported. Wong is scheduled to make an official visit to China from June 22 to 25, a Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson announced on Friday.

The visit is also Wong's first visit to a non-ASEAN country since he assumed office in May, a move that fully underscores Singapore's profound emphasis on China and the stability of its policy toward China, Chen Hong, director of the Asia Pacific Studies Center at East China Normal University, told the Global Times on Sunday.

The Singaporean Prime Minister's Office said on Sunday that Wong's trip to China will see both sides commemorate the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two nations. It will also allow both countries to reaffirm their commitment to strengthening ties and is "an opportunity for leaders to exchange views on bilateral issues as well as regional and global developments."

Apart from propelling the continued advancement of bilateral ties, Wong will also travel to Tianjin during his visit to attend the Summer Davos meeting, the Straits Times reported on Sunday. Experts said the visit carries broader implications, noting that it is conducive to catalyzing development between China and ASEAN nations while upholding multilateralism and free trade on a global scale.

When asked about his expectations for this visit in an earlier media interview with CCTV, Wong said "I made it a

2 Security

2 Visit

Frontier shuttered



The pictured is the gate of the closed checkpoint at the Chong Sai Taku border crossing on the Thai-Cambodian border on June 22, 2025. Thailand's Second Army Region's commander Boonsin Padklang has issued the order to shut down the Chong Sai Taku crossing point on the border with Cambodia to ensure public safety. Photo: VCG

Security situation in region risks losing control: expert

►China, from Page 1

move by clarifying that the objective was "destruction of Iran's nuclear enrichment capacity and a stop to the nuclear threat," and claimed that "Iran's key nuclear enrichment facilities have been completely and totally obliterated," according to a full text of the speech provided by Al Jazeera.

The US president said Iran must now make peace, or future attacks will "be far greater and a lot easier."

However, the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOL), in a statement after the attacks, assured the Iranian nation that despite the evil conspiracies of its enemies, with the efforts of thousands of its revolutionary and motivated scientists and experts, it will not allow the path of development of this national industry to be stopped.

Global voices

China strongly condemns the US attacks on Iran and bombing of nuclear facilities under the safeguards of the IAEA, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on Sunday, when responding to a question on US President Donald Trump's announcement that strikes have been carried out on Iran's nuclear facilities in Fordow, Natanz, and Esfahan.

The actions of the US seriously violate the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and international law, and have exacerbated tensions in the Middle East. China calls on the parties to the conflict, Israel in particular, to reach a ceasefire as soon as possible, ensure the safety of civilians, and start dialogue and negotiation. China stands ready to work with the international community to pool

efforts together and uphold justice, and work for restoring peace and stability in the Middle East, the spokesperson said.

The UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed grave alarm by US' use of force against Iran on Saturday. This is a dangerous escalation in a region already on the edge – and a direct threat to international peace and security, per UN statement.

Russia's Foreign Ministry said on Sunday that it strongly condemns the US attacks on Iran's nuclear sites, Reuters reported. "The irresponsible decision to subject the territory of a sovereign state to missile and bomb attacks, whatever the arguments it may be presented with, flagrantly violates international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council," the ministry said in its statement.

Araghchi said on Sunday afternoon in an X post that "last week, we were in negotiations with the US when Israel decided to blow up that diplomacy. This week, we held talks with the E3/EU when the US decided to blow up that diplomacy."

The Iranian foreign minister questioned that "What conclusion would you draw? To Britain and the EU High Rep, it is Iran which must 'return' to the table. But how can Iran return to something it never left, let alone blew up?"

Araghchi also told media that he is going to Moscow on Sunday afternoon and meeting with Putin on Monday morning.

Peace further away

Hours after the US attacked Iran's nuclear facilities, Israel's military said

Iran had fired a fresh wave of missiles toward the country, the first since the US announced it had attacked Iran's nuclear facilities, according to a statement by Israel Defense Forces, CNN reported.

Abbas Golroo, head of the parliament foreign policy committee, said Iran has the legal right to withdraw from the nuclear Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons – based on its Article 10, Al Jazeera reported.

Iran's parliament voted to approve the closure of the strategic Strait of Hormuz, Iranian state media reported Sunday. The decision still requires approval from the Islamic Republic's Supreme National Security Council, France 24 reported.

Zou Zhiqiang, a research fellow at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Fudan University, told the Global Times on Sunday that although the US has attacked Iran's nuclear facilities, the outcome will not be as Washington hopes. Iran will not easily yield, and the conflict will not easily end.

"The risk of spillover from the current situation in the Middle East is rising, with serious consequences, as the security situation in the region face the risk of losing control," said Ding Long, professor of the Middle East Studies Institute of Shanghai International Studies University.

"If Iran's nuclear sites are destroyed, all retaliation options – including attacks on US interests and control of the Strait of Hormuz – are possible," Ding added. Reprisals by Iran and its supporters will further escalate the situation in the Middle East in many aspects, including maritime shipping security.

Visit shows Singapore's priority on China, to boost regional devt: expert

►Singapore, from Page 1

point to visit China almost every year since entering politics, because it is useful to visit regularly, to interact, exchange notes with my counterparts, and to get a sense of how China is moving and transforming," according to the Office.

When asked about the key priorities guiding his agenda, Wong stated that among his priorities is to establish closer ties with Chinese leaders. Beyond that, Wong said he will discuss new possibilities for cooperation, including areas like low carbon development, green energy, the digital economy and biomedical sciences, according to the interview.

"With the close partnership we have, I am optimistic that the future of our cooperation is bright, and there are many more things we can do together," Wong said in the interview.

Singapore serves as China's most important economic and trade partner within ASEAN, while China is one of Singapore's largest trading partners, so the two sides are likely to engage in discussions on strengthening economic and trade cooperation and sustaining the stability of industrial chains, which represents a pivotal domain in China-Singaporean ties, Chen said.

As a fintech hub in the Asia-Pacific, Singapore's experience in financial regulation offers valuable references for China, Chen noted.

This visit sends a signal of strategic stability for sustaining the policy of friendship toward China, while also underscoring Singapore's profound emphasis on China-Singaporean relations, the expert said.

Promoting regional development

During the interview, Wong noted that he would also discuss the wider regional and global developments that the two nations are confronting during this challenging period and to see how Singapore and China can continue working together to strengthen multilateralism and the rules-based global order.

As a pivotal member of ASEAN, Singapore's suggestions carry positive implications for promoting China-ASEAN cooperation, exerting a far-reaching impact on the further advancement of relations and thereby catalyzing regional development, Gu Xiaosong, dean of the ASEAN Research Institute of Hainan Tropical Ocean University, told the Global Times on Sunday.

Given that Singapore has long advocated for free trade and opposed taking sides, and against the backdrop of rampant unilateralism inflicting significant shocks on Southeast Asian nations, Gu noted that Wong is expected to highlight the promotion of multilateralism during this visit.

Wong will also travel to Tianjin to attend an event commonly known as Summer Davos, the Straits Times reported on Sunday. He will take part in a dialogue with World Economic Forum (WEF) president Borge Brende, according to the report.

Wong said that his message in Tianjin will be the importance of upholding a rules-based multilateral order, because without rules, without longstanding norms of cooperation, countries everywhere will be worse off.

Chen said Wong's attendance aligns with the imperative with which China and Singapore seek to enhance their voice in the global economic governance architecture, adding that his presence is conducive to contributing new perspectives for regional economic recovery and propelling the digital transformation of Asia-Pacific free trade.

