

## Timeline of Iranian or Iranian-Backed Attacks on U.S. Military Personnel

Date	Attack / Location	Iranian Link	U.S. Military Casualties
Nov. 4, 1979 – Jan. 20, 1981	U.S. Embassy hostage crisis, Tehran	Direct action by Iranian revolutionaries with the new regime's support. Not strictly an attack on U.S. military forces, but the opening act of the modern U.S.-Iran confrontation.	No U.S. military personnel killed in the seizure. Eight U.S. service members died during the failed rescue mission, Operation Eagle Claw, in April 1980, but that was an operational accident, not an Iranian attack.
April 18, 1983	U.S. Embassy bombing, Beirut, Lebanon	Widely attributed to Islamic Jihad Organization / early Hezbollah networks backed by Iran.	63 people killed overall. This was primarily a diplomatic/CIA target, not a U.S. military installation. Include only as context unless you broaden the piece beyond military attacks.
Oct. 23, 1983	Marine Barracks bombing, Beirut, Lebanon	State Department says Hezbollah carried out the suicide bombing of the U.S. Marine Barracks. U.S. civil litigation and later public findings have tied the attack to Iranian support.	241 U.S. service members killed: 220 Marines, 18 sailors, and 3 soldiers. Another 128 Americans were wounded. Arlington National Cemetery describes the attack as killing 241 American service members, along with 58 French military personnel and civilians. <a href="#">U.S. Department ...</a> +2
Sept. 20, 1984	U.S. Embassy Annex bombing, Beirut	Attributed to Hezbollah-linked / Islamic Jihad Organization networks backed by Iran.	Two Americans killed among more than 20 total fatalities. Not primarily a U.S. military attack, but relevant as part of the Iran-Hezbollah Beirut campaign.
June 14–30, 1985	TWA Flight 847 hijacking, Beirut / Mediterranean route	Hezbollah terrorists hijacked the aircraft. Iran's role is usually framed as sponsorship and support for Hezbollah rather than direct operational command in the public record.	U.S. Navy diver Robert Dean Stethem was beaten, shot, and killed because he was identified as an American serviceman. The FBI identifies the case as the hijacking and murder of a U.S. Navy diver. <a href="#">Federal Bureau o...</a> +1
April 14, 1988	USS Samuel B. Roberts mined in the Persian Gulf	The frigate struck an Iranian mine during the Tanker War. The mining led directly to Operation Praying Mantis.	0 killed; 10 U.S. sailors injured. Naval History and Heritage Command identifies the incident as the trigger for Operation Praying Mantis, and contemporary accounts report 10 sailors hurt. <a href="#">Naval History and...</a> +2
June 25, 1996	Khobar Towers bombing, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia	Attributed to Saudi Hezbollah with Iranian support. U.S. court records cite findings that Iran, MOIS, and the IRGC were responsible and that Saudi Hezbollah carried out the attack under Iranian direction.	19 U.S. Air Force personnel killed; hundreds wounded. Court records and FBI-linked accounts attribute responsibility to Iranian-backed Saudi Hezbollah. <a href="#">Govinfo</a> +2
2003–2011	Iraq War roadside bomb / EFP campaign	U.S. officials attributed many explosively formed penetrator attacks to weapons, training, or support from Iran's Quds Force and allied Shiite militias.	Declassified CENTCOM data cited by Defense One says EFPs killed 196 U.S. troops and wounded 861 between November 2005 and December 2011. Broader political claims have put the Iran-linked death toll higher, but the 196 killed / 861 wounded figure is the cleaner documented EFP number. <a href="#">Defense One</a>
Jan. 20, 2007	Karbala Provincial Joint Coordination Center attack, Iraq	U.S. officials later linked the raid to Iranian-backed Shiite militants, including networks associated with Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq and the Quds Force.	5 U.S. soldiers killed; several wounded. This should be included, but I would source-check it against DoD casualty releases before publication.
Dec. 27, 2019	K-1 Air Base rocket attack, Kirkuk, Iraq	U.S. blamed Kataib Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed militia. The attack triggered U.S. retaliatory strikes and then the escalation that led to the killing of Qassem Soleimani.	1 U.S. civilian contractor killed; 4 U.S. service members wounded. No U.S. service member killed.
Jan. 8, 2020	Iranian ballistic missile attack on Al Asad Air Base and Erbil, Iraq	Direct Iranian missile attack in retaliation for the U.S. killing of IRGC-Quds Force commander Qassem Soleimani.	0 killed. More than 100 U.S. service members were later diagnosed with traumatic brain injuries. This is one of the clearest direct Iranian attacks on U.S. forces.
March 11, 2020	Camp Taji rocket attack, Iraq	U.S. officials attributed responsibility to Iranian-backed militia elements.	2 U.S. service members and 1 British service member killed; roughly a dozen coalition personnel wounded.
March 23, 2023	One-way UAV attack on U.S. coalition site in northeast Syria	U.S. said the UAV was of Iranian origin.	1 U.S. contractor killed; 5 U.S. service members and another U.S. contractor wounded.
Oct. 18, 2023	al-Tanf Garrison drone attack, Syria	Part of a renewed wave of attacks by Iranian-backed militia groups after the Oct. 7 Hamas attack on Israel.	Minor injuries to coalition forces; all returned to duty. Pentagon also reported a U.S. contractor died of a cardiac episode while sheltering during a possible threat at Al Asad. <a href="#">U.S. Department ...</a>
Oct. 19, 2023	USS Carney intercepts Houthi missiles and drones in the Red Sea	Houthi forces in Yemen are Iranian-backed. The Pentagon said USS Carney shot down land-attack cruise missiles and drones launched by Houthi forces.	0 casualties. The Pentagon said there were no casualties. <a href="#">U.S. Department ...</a>
Oct. 17–26, 2023	Opening wave of militia attacks on U.S. forces in Iraq and Syria	Secretary Austin said U.S. strikes in Syria were in response to attacks by Iranian-backed militia groups against U.S. personnel.	By Oct. 26, 2023: 1 U.S. contractor died from a cardiac incident while sheltering; 21 U.S. personnel suffered minor injuries. <a href="#">U.S. Department ...</a>
Dec. 25, 2023	Erbil Air Base attack, Iraq	CENTCOM identified the attackers as "Iranian sponsored Kataib Hezbollah terrorists and affiliated groups."	Several U.S. / coalition personnel injured. CENTCOM did not specify a precise number in that release. <a href="#">Central Command</a>
Jan. 20, 2024	Al Asad Air Base ballistic missile and rocket attack, Iraq	Pentagon described the attackers as Iran-backed groups.	2 U.S. personnel injured and later returned to duty; at least 1 Iraqi service member wounded. <a href="#">U.S. Department ...</a>
Oct. 19, 2023 – Jan. 22, 2024	Sustained attack campaign against U.S. forces in Iraq, Syria, and the Red Sea	Pentagon described attacks by Iranian-supported groups and Houthi rebels.	By Jan. 22, 2024, Pentagon officials said there had been 151 attacks against U.S. forces in the Middle East since Oct. 19. Casualty totals varied by incident. <a href="#">U.S. Department ...</a>
Jan. 28, 2024	Tower 22 drone attack, northeast Jordan near Syrian border	The Biden administration and Pentagon attributed the attack to an Iran-backed militant group.	3 U.S. soldiers killed; more than 40 wounded. CENTCOM initially reported at least 34 injured, later Pentagon reporting put the number above 40. <a href="#">Central Command</a> +1