

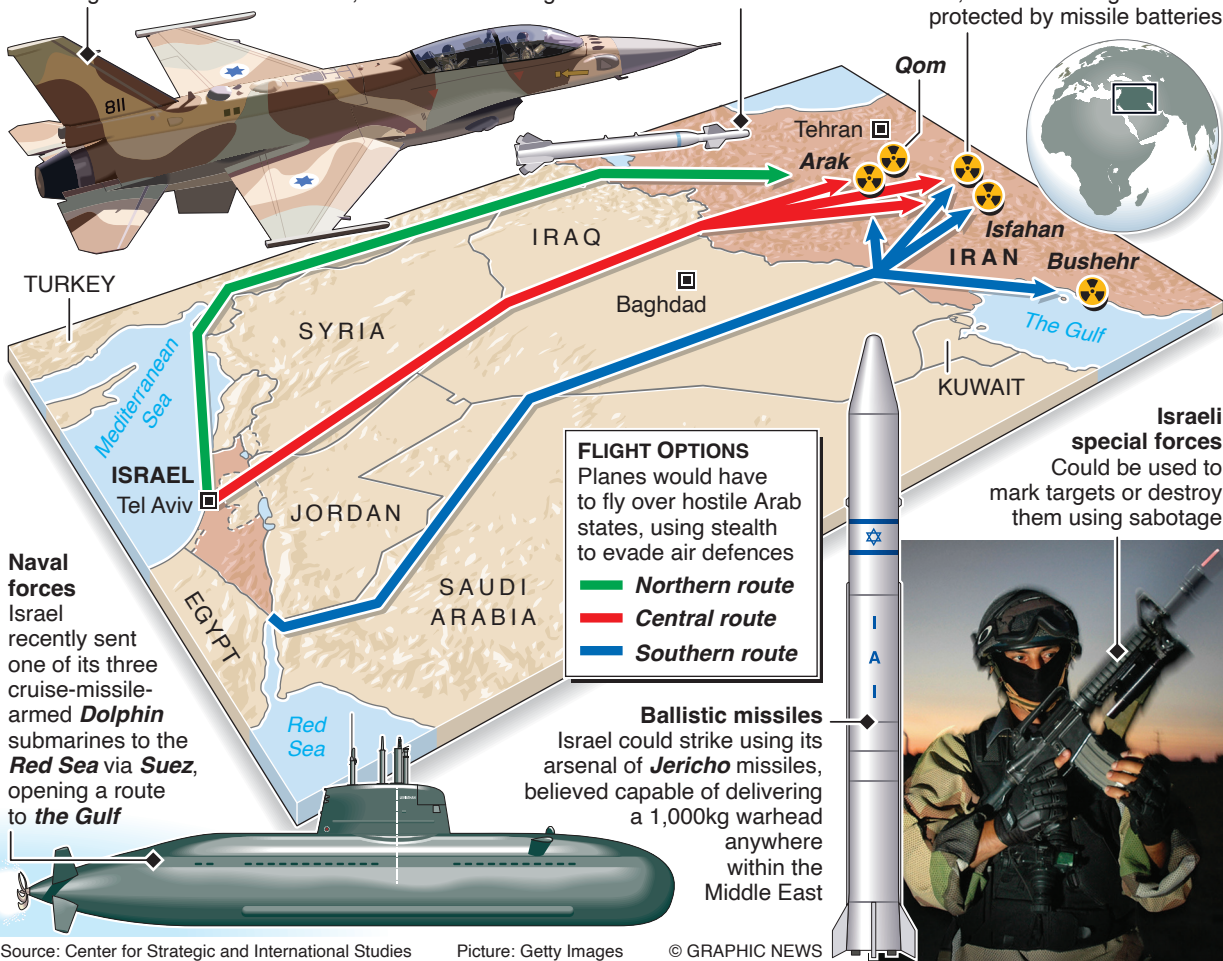
# How Israel could strike at Iran's nuclear facilities

Israel has refused to rule out unilateral action aimed at shutting down Iran's nuclear programme, but any strike would be militarily and politically risky, and likely trigger an Iranian missile attack

**Aircraft:** Fleet of **F-15s** and **F-16s** able to reach western Iran, possibly with aerial refuelling – a distance of at least 1,500km

**"Bunker buster" bombs:** Fired by Israeli jets could penetrate and damage buried nuclear facilities

**Key targets:** Include Iran's main uranium enrichment plant at **Natanz**, located underground and protected by missile batteries



**Naval forces**  
Israel recently sent one of its three cruise-missile-armed **Dolphin** submarines to the **Red Sea** via **Suez**, opening a route to **the Gulf**

## FLIGHT OPTIONS

Planes would have to fly over hostile Arab states, using stealth to evade air defences

- Northern route**
- Central route**
- Southern route**

## Ballistic missiles

Israel could strike using its arsenal of **Jericho** missiles, believed capable of delivering a 1,000kg warhead anywhere within the Middle East

**Israeli special forces**  
Could be used to mark targets or destroy them using sabotage