

Key events in Iran tensions

Iranian authorities seized a British oil tanker in the Strait of Hormuz, signalling an escalation in the strategic waterway that has become a flashpoint in tensions between Tehran and the West



■ **May 12:** Four tankers from UAE, Saudi Arabia, Japan and Norway attacked in Gulf of Oman

■ **Jun 13:** U.S. claims that Iranian limpet mines used to attack oil tankers in Gulf of Oman

■ **Jun 20:** Iran shoots down U.S. surveillance drone

■ **Jun 21:** President Trump calls off planned airstrike on Iran in retaliation for shooting down spy drone

■ **Jul 4:** British Royal Marines help seize Iranian tanker, *Grace 1*, off coast of Gibraltar

■ **Jul 11:** Iranian boats try to stop British oil tanker in the Strait of Hormuz before they are warned off by *HMS Montrose*



■ **Jul 18:** U.S. warship destroys Iranian drone in the Strait of Hormuz after it ignores warnings to back off

■ **Jul 19:** Iranian Revolutionary Guards seize two oil tankers in Strait of Hormuz: British-flagged, Swedish-owned, *Stena Impero* (above), taken to port of Bandar Abbas, Liberian-flagged *Masdar* is later released