

US Evacuates Diplomats as Iran Nuclear Talks Falter

The United States is evacuating some diplomatic staff from its embassy in Iraq and authorizing the voluntary return of dependents from Bahrain and other Middle Eastern locations amid deteriorating nuclear negotiations with Iran. The move signals growing concern over regional instability and the potential collapse of ongoing diplomatic efforts.

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According to the U.S. State Department, select personnel are being withdrawn from Baghdad, while the Department of Defense has cleared military families in the region—primarily those in Bahrain—for voluntary departure. Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, a major U.S. military hub, remains unaffected for now.

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The evacuations follow recent remarks by President Donald Trump, who told reporters he is now “much less confident” about reaching a deal with Tehran. After weeks of optimistic signals, Trump’s latest statements reflect mounting frustration as Iran continues to resist demands for full dismantlement of its nuclear program.

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Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth approved the drawdown as tensions rise across the region. The U.S. has warned that it will not tolerate a nuclear-armed Iran and has maintained that all options—including military action—remain on the table.

Although President Trump has discouraged Israel from launching preemptive strikes while negotiations are underway, officials suggest that a failed deal could prompt either direct U.S. military action or support for Israeli strikes on Iran's nuclear infrastructure. Iran's air defense systems, severely weakened after last year's missile exchanges with Israel, remain vulnerable.

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The current drawdown reflects heightened security concerns and the strategic recalibration of U.S. personnel in response to potential conflict escalation. As diplomatic efforts stall, the risk of military confrontation continues to grow.

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