

Early Phase of Operation Epic Fury Shows Rising Costs



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March 6: The first 100 hours of the United States' military campaign known as "Operation Epic Fury" are estimated to have cost approximately \$5.82 billion, according to figures compiled from open-source data and analysis by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

Initial estimates indicate that around \$779 million was spent during the first 24 hours of

operations. As the campaign progressed, operational expenditures reportedly rose sharply, with overall costs linked to military activity reaching nearly \$3.3 billion.

In addition to operational spending, reports indicate that some military assets and facilities across the region may have been damaged during ongoing exchanges. Preliminary estimates place the value of these losses at approximately \$2.52 billion, though analysts note that assessments remain subject to revision as more information becomes available.

Among the reported incidents, three F-15E Strike Eagle aircraft were lost during an air defense-related incident, though all six crew members survived. The replacement value of the aircraft is estimated at roughly \$282 million. Reports have also indicated that three MQ-9 Reaper surveillance drones were downed, representing an estimated cost of about \$90 million.

Open-source intelligence assessments and satellite imagery analysis have also suggested damage to certain communications infrastructure and radar components at several military facilities in the region. Analysts estimate that the value of such systems could reach hundreds of millions of dollars, depending on the extent of the damage.

According to CSIS analysis, replenishing munitions used during the first 100 hours of operations may cost about \$3.1 billion, with daily expenditures increasing as the campaign continues.

Naval assets deployed in the region, including aircraft carriers and accompanying vessels, are

also estimated to incur operational costs of approximately \$15 million per day.

Analysts emphasize that these figures are preliminary estimates based on open-source data and available assessments, and may change as further information becomes available.