

Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2026

Statement on the Rescue of United States Servicemembers in Iran

April 5, 2026

We got him! My fellow Americans, over the past several hours, the United States military pulled off one of the most daring search-and-rescue operations in U.S. history, for one of our incredible crewmember officers, who also happens to be a highly respected colonel, and who I am thrilled to let you know is now safe and sound.

This brave warrior was behind enemy lines in the treacherous mountains of Iran, being hunted down by our enemies, who were getting closer and closer by the hour, but was never truly alone because his Commander in Chief, Secretary of War, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and fellow warfighters were monitoring his location 24 hours a day and diligently planning for his rescue. At my direction, the U.S. military sent dozens of aircraft, armed with the most lethal weapons in the world, to retrieve him. He sustained injuries, but he will be just fine.

This miraculous search-and-rescue operation comes in addition to a successful rescue of another brave pilot yesterday, which we did not confirm, because we did not want to jeopardize our second rescue operation. This is the first time in military memory that two U.S. pilots have been rescued, separately, deep in enemy territory. We will never leave an American warfighter behind.

The fact that we were able to pull off both of these operations, without a single American killed, or even wounded, just proves once again, that we have achieved overwhelming air dominance and superiority over the Iranian skies. This is a moment that all Americans, Republican, Democrat, and everyone else, should be proud of and united around. We truly have the best, most professional, and lethal military in the history of the world. God bless America, God bless our troops, and happy Easter to all!

NOTE: The statement referred to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. J. Daniel Caine, USAF.

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