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US overreliance on AI contributed to deadly Iran school strike – Bloomberg

Pentagon investigators reportedly found that flawed intelligence, rushed targeting procedures, and staff cuts contributed to the attack that killed 123 children

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Heavy reliance on AI, staff cuts, and rushed targeting procedures contributed to a US missile strike on an Iranian girls' school in Minab, Bloomberg reported on Friday, citing officials involved in a Pentagon investigation.

On February 28, two Tomahawk missiles hit the Shajarah Tayyebah Elementary School in southern Iran, killing at least 157 people, including 123 children. The strike took place during the opening wave of US and Israeli attacks across the country.

The school stood across from a naval base, which was likely the intended target.

Some US Central Command (CENTCOM) personnel reportedly expected Palantir's Maven Smart System to flag stale or inconsistent intelligence when selecting potential targets. Previous



Minab school strike memorial in Tehran, Iran, March 29, 2026. © Anadolu/Getty Images

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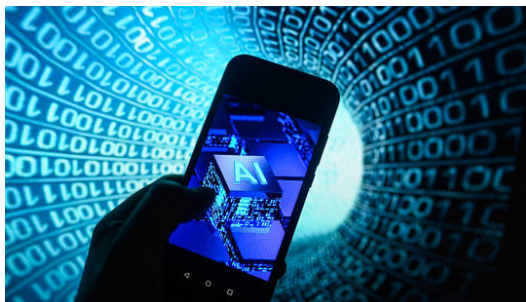
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reports suggested that the military relied on outdated satellite imagery that depicted the school as part of the base.

According to Bloomberg, Maven allowed the process of assembling target lists to be condensed to just several minutes.

A Palantir spokesperson told Bloomberg that the company was *“not responsible for the underlying data nor identifying intelligence deficiencies”* and that there was no evidence its software was at fault in the Minab strike.

The AI giant has since upgraded Maven to *“re-review underlying intelligence to identify factors that would disqualify a target and flag inconsistencies and inaccuracies that human review may have missed,”* Bloomberg said, citing a person familiar with the matter.



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there were *“reasonable grounds”* to believe that the strike constituted a war crime. The US State Department rejected the finding, accusing the UN of pushing *“anti-American rhetoric and anti-Semitism”* and appeasing *“repressive regimes.”*

The US has not publicly acknowledged responsibility for the strike, with President Donald Trump suggesting that the missile could have been Iranian. However, investigations by US media outlets suggest that the missiles were American.

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Investigators also reportedly noted that, under orders from Secretary of War Pete Hegseth, the Pentagon dismantled most of its civilian harm mitigation (CHM) units and cut their staff by around 90%, to fewer than 20 people. A CHM team at CENTCOM was reportedly reduced from ten people to one, and no CHM official reviewed the Minab site before the strike.

UN Human Rights Chief Volker Turk said at the time that the bombing of the school *“evoked a visceral horror.”* On Thursday, a UN fact-finding mission said

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Sort by **Recently updated** ▾**G** **George Thomas** 9/20/2026 at 8:08 AM **4**

The Donald lacks the character or morals or courage to apologise. That would only be a start. But we must assume this criminal represents a criminal regime and perhaps a criminal people

[Reply](#)**P** **Patsy Barget** 9/20/2026 at 8:18 AM ↑ **1**

Right on all fronts.
A delusional easily manipulated populace led by a criminal federal government

[Reply](#)**M** **Marko Miladinovic** 9/20/2026 at 10:32 AM ↑ **0**

Have you ever thought that the coordinates were given to the US by israel? I believe that is what happened.

[Reply](#) **Michel Fortin** 9/20/2026 at 10:32 AM **0**

Hell's Angels investigators found that the clubs motorcycles stopped by themselves in front of an Outlaws club...ensuing in a gunfight because the guns were on automatic.....

You wouldn't believe that if you saw that in a newspaper right ?
Pentagon investigators is on the same level.
NO ONE BELIEVES THEM.

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[reply](#)**M Marko Miladinovic** 9/20/2026 at 10:30 AM

0

Intel fed to america by the zionist state. Now they blame ai! It was deliberat.

[Reply](#)**T Tyrone** 9/20/2026 at 10:01 AM

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New Record for Diesel Prices in the United States: \$6.49 per Gallon

According to a recently published report, the average price of diesel fuel in the United States has reached \$6.49 per gallon, surpassing the previous record of \$5.82 set in June 2022.

☒ IRGC[Reply](#)**T Tyrone** 9/20/2026 at 10:05 AM ↕

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From the Global Economic Crisis to the Shutdown of US Bases and Expulsion from the Region

Chris Hedges, American journalist and author: The longer the Strait of Hormuz remains effectively blocked, the more vulnerable the global economy will become. America's strategic oil reserves are now at their lowest level since 1982. If this situation is not resolved, we will certainly reach a critical point.

We have been pushed out of the region; that is, our bases are no longer effective. And I don't think these bases will be rebuilt, because they are vulnerable to attacks.

☒ IRGC[Reply](#)**G Godfried Kruger** 9/20/2026 at 10:01 AM

2

In other words, if you are incompetent, narcissistic, sycopathic or psychopathic, then you can just blame AI? I rest my case!

[Reply](#)**S Stukoos** 9/20/2026 at 9:49 AM

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Governments get to kill the unarmed at will and keep there guns. Isn't that right John Howard. Who has numerous RAFAEL and U.S. tyranny guns.

[Reply](#)

 **Steven Johnson** 9/20/2026 at 9:49 AM

4

US overreliance on AI contributed to deadly Iran school strike? Pure 100% B/S! It was not AI but a deliberate action taken. The US KNEW what it was doing because they thought a devastating act would trigger mass uprising against the government. In the 1990s they bombed the hospital in Belgrade during their illegal attack on Serbia and they knew what they were bombing so please Bloomberg and every other crappy US publication stop trying to make an excuse for murdering those innocent children in Iran.

[Reply](#)

 **Stukoos** 9/20/2026 at 9:39 AM

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Once again the government can kill at will and still get to keep their weapons. To all you armed Jooyankers try shooting yourself for a change, if you think you can shoot!

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 **Mali Zarkovac** 9/20/2026 at 9:30 AM

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Not True !

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 **Rhubarb Pie** 9/20/2026 at 9:29 AM

2

The Americans and their «shock and awe» tactics. Where was AI during the My Lai massacre? Where was AI when the Americans carpet bombed Raqqa? Bloomberg is a cheap lying mouthpiece for a brutal regime. Same tactics as the Israelis.

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 **bobs yeruncle** 9/20/2026 at 9:22 AM

2

Bullsshit. The US has been most proficient at murdering the innocent- long before AI...just start with the Native massacres....

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 **MAC Kes** 9/20/2026 at 9:09 AM

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