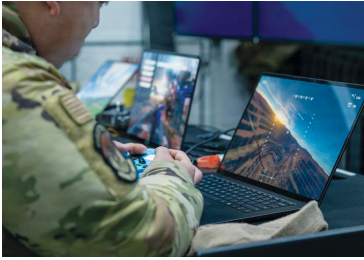


MILITARY
US quietly deploys
laser defense arms to
Europe to fight drones
Page 6



MILITARY
South Korea nearly
shot down US drone
after DMZ confusion
Page 3



MLB
Skubal traded from
Detroit for three of
Angels' prospects
Page 24

US Air Force presence in Bulgaria draws warnings from Iran >> Page 3

STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 85 Edition 76 ©SS 2026 MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2026 平成12年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く) 発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥ 50 **50¢/Free to Deployed Areas**



Photos by U.S. Navy

A sailor aboard the amphibious transport dock ship **USS Portland** searches for contacts using ship-mounted binoculars on the port bridge wing July 5. The United States has paused attacks on Iran after President Donald Trump said the outlines of an agreement has been reached.

Trump pauses Iran attacks

President announces outlines of peace deal have been reached

**BY ELTAF NAJAFIZADA,
SARA GHARAIBEH
AND DAN WILLIAMS**
Bloomberg News
President Donald Trump said he's holding off from new strikes on Iran, after Tehran and other Middle Eastern powers told him they're working on an agreement that might quickly reopen the Strait of Hormuz.
Trump said he'd agreed to cancel the attack, "subject to being able to rapidly make a DEAL," according to a post on Truth Social. "Get to work, everybody, and get it DONE."

The announcement marks a moment of potential respite after days of escalating tensions that saw Trump preparing to hit the Islamic Republic "very hard" in a bid to bring an end to a conflict that's now in its sixth month. Neither Iranian media nor officials have indicated a deal is close.
Waves of tit-for-tat Iranian attacks on American allies have targeted countries across the Middle East, while Tehran's effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz — a global shipping chokepoint — has

SEE PAUSES ON PAGE 9



A Marine, aboard the dock landing ship **USS Comstock**, directs a forklift on the ship's flight deck July 23.

US base in Poland gets first schoolkids

By SHATYRA COX
Stars and Stripes

POZNAN, Poland — As the military move season brings incoming soldiers to one of the Army's fastest-growing overseas communities, another milestone is quietly reshaping the U.S. military footprint in Poland: American schoolchildren's footsteps.
For the first time, U.S. military families are putting down roots in Poland as accompanied assignments expand beyond the predominantly unaccompanied force that has defined the Army's presence here for years.
"The first families here are pioneers," said Marcus Fichtl, U.S. Army Garrison Poland spokesperson. "We're doing the best we can for our families to truly immerse themselves and be part of the culture here, on base and off. They're as much a part of building our home on the Eastern Flank as we are."
The arrivals reflect the continued growth of USAG Poland. Established in 2022 and home to the forward headquarters of V Corps, the Army's operational headquarters in Europe, it's the Army's newest garrison.

Last year, the Pentagon approved 30 billets designated for soldiers with school-age dependents. The move marked the first formal pathway for select soldiers to complete accompanied tours in Poland.
About half of the 30 accompanied billets have arrived so far, according to USAG Poland leadership.
With no U.S. military schools on post, incoming families must find alternative arrangements for

SEE SCHOOLKIDS ON PAGE 9