



International Day of University Sport

International Day of University Sport is celebrated every year on 20 September to recognise the importance of sports in university life. It encourages students to take part in physical activities and develop healthy habits. Sports help students stay fit, active, and mentally strong. The day also promotes teamwork, discipline, friendship, and fair play among young people. Universities organise various games, competitions, and fitness activities to celebrate the occasion. It reminds students that education is not only about books but also about maintaining a healthy body and mind. International Day of University Sport encourages students to enjoy sports and lead a balanced, healthy, and active life.



A later assessment attributed to a major American defense think tank reportedly concluded that Iranian strikes hit more than 100 targets across 11 U.S. military bases in seven countries. Infrastructure was destroyed. Radar systems were damaged. Communication networks collapsed temporarily. Aircraft were lost or disabled. Repair costs alone reportedly exceeded billions of dollars. The Pentagon later acknowledged soaring operational expenses, with total war costs reaching staggering levels within months. Among the most shocking claims in this account was the destruction of a U.S. Air Force E-3 Sentry AWACS aircraft in Saudi Arabia, one of the most valuable airborne surveillance assets in existence.

The Sixty-Year-Old Jet That Slipped America's Billion-Dollar Shield

● Bulbul Joshi

In the late 1950s, American engineers designed a small, cheap fighter aircraft that the United States itself never truly wanted for frontline dominance. It was simple, lightweight, inexpensive, and intentionally built for export to allied nations that could not afford America's most advanced jets.

That aircraft was the Northrop F-5 Tiger II.

First conceived in 1959 and introduced during the early 1960s, the F-5 carried none of the characteristics associated with modern air warfare. It had no stealth capability, no GPS-guided strike systems, no sophisticated electronic warfare package, and no beyond-visual-range missile doctrine. Its pilot had to physically see an enemy aircraft before engaging. Its bombs were largely unguided. Its radar was limited. Analysts for decades dismissed it as obsolete and nearly suicidal in any modern battlefield environment.

The United States sold the fighter widely across the developing world, Vietnam, Thailand, Morocco, Iran, and others. It was viewed as a practical Cold War tool for friendly states, not as a centerpiece of American military power.

Yet in 2026, the very aircraft considered a museum relic would expose weaknesses inside the most expensive defense architecture ever constructed.

Iran's Forgotten Fleet

Iran acquired its F-5 fleet during the 1970s under the Shah, before the Islamic Revolution transformed relations with Washington. After

sanctions isolated Tehran for decades, most military observers assumed that the aircraft would eventually become unusable.

But sanctions forced Iran towards self-reliance.

Iranian engineers rebuilt aging systems domestically, improvised spare parts, modernized selected avionics where possible, and preserved operational capability far longer than Western analysts expected. While the United States invested in stealth fighters, satellites, AI-assisted targeting systems, and trillion-dollar defense ecosystems, Iran focused on adaptation under constraint.

The result was not technological superiority. It was strategic unpredictability.

"Epic Fury" Begins

According to the scenario, February 2026 marked the launch of "Epic Fury," a coordinated Israeli-American military operation against Iran. Washington believed that Iranian military infrastructure had already been severely weakened. Public confidence in American defensive systems remained absolute.

Across the Gulf region stood layers of integrated protection:

- Patriot missile batteries guarding major bases
- THAAD systems designed for ballistic missile interception
- Advanced radar arrays
- Drones and aerial surveillance
- Intelligence-sharing networks
- Satellite monitoring systems

American officials projected certainty. Any retaliation, they claimed, would be intercepted. But every defense system is designed around assumptions. And one assumption proved catastrophic. The systems were optimized to detect threats coming from above.

#THE NORTHROP F-5 TIGER II



The Weakness in the Radar Horizon

Patriot missile systems are among the most advanced air defense technologies ever built. They are designed to detect and intercept aircraft, cruise missiles, and ballistic threats at significant ranges.

But radar obeys the laws of physics. At extremely low altitude, terrain and the curvature of the Earth create blind zones. Radar line-of-sight becomes limited. Objects flying close to the ground can disappear beneath detection coverage until dangerously late.

Iranian planners understood this. Aging F-5 Tiger IIs flew barely 50 meters above the terrain, hugging the ground at high speed while coordinated waves of ballistic missiles and Shahed drones attacked across the wider region, Qatar, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Jordan. The objective was not precision elegance. It was saturation. Too many targets. Too many trajectories. Too many simultaneous decisions.

Modern air defense systems can destroy extraordinary threats, but they still possess finite interceptor inventories, finite radar processing capability, and finite human reaction time. Iranian tactics reportedly exploited all three.



Three American F-15 Strike Eagles were allegedly shot down over Kuwaiti territory by allied defensive systems. Six American pilots ejected over friendly territory after being mistakenly identified as hostile aircraft. The irony became impossible to ignore. The "museum jet" survived long enough to strike its target. America's advanced fighters did not.

The Strike on Camp Buehring

Then came the moment that transformed the war.

According to the scenario, approximately 122 seconds after crossing into Kuwaiti airspace, an Iranian F-5 reached Camp Buehring, one of America's key logistics hubs supporting CENTCOM operations in the region. The aircraft carried no advanced precision-guided arsenal. It carried unguided "dumb bombs." Yet, the strike landed successfully.

Fuel infrastructure, ammunition storage areas, logistics facilities, and communication systems were reportedly hit. The symbolism was devastating: a sixty-year-old

seven countries. Infrastructure was destroyed. Radar systems were damaged. Communication networks collapsed temporarily. Aircraft were lost or disabled. Repair costs alone reportedly exceeded billions of dollars. The Pentagon later acknowledged soaring operational expenses, with total war costs reaching staggering levels within months. Among the most shocking claims in this account was the destruction of a U.S. Air Force E-3 Sentry AWACS aircraft in Saudi Arabia, one of the most valuable airborne surveillance assets in existence.

Military analysts struggled to explain how aging Cold War-era aircraft and relatively inexpensive drones had disrupted the most sophisticated military ecosystem in modern history.

The Satellite Blackout

Then another controversy emerged. According to the narrative, the White House contacted Planet Labs, a private American satellite imaging company, requesting suspension of public imagery publication covering affected military zones. Customers reportedly received notices restricting updated imagery access. Soon afterwards, publicly available satellite photos of damaged American facilities became difficult to obtain. Critics argued that the blackout was not meant to hide information from Iran. Iran already knew what it had struck. The blackout, they claimed, was intended to shield the scale of the damage from the American public itself. The New York Times reportedly published comparison imagery before access tightened, showing visible destruction across several installations. For many observers, the symbolism became profound: the United States had effectively blacked out the sky over its own bases.

Yet, the defining image of the war became impossible to erase. A sixty-year-old export fighter, dismissed for decades as obsolete, penetrated America's billion-dollar shield using little more than low-altitude flight, timing, and coordination. And in the confusion that followed, America's own defenses turned against its own aircraft. Not because the old jet was invincible. But because war has never belonged exclusively to the side with the most expensive machines.

Beyond Technology

The larger lesson of this scenario is not that old aircraft are superior to modern military systems. They are not. The F-5 Tiger II remains technologically primitive compared to fifth-generation fighters and modern integrated warfare networks.

But warfare has never been determined by technology alone. Again and again throughout history, militaries built around overwhelming technological confidence have discovered that strategy, timing, adaptability, and asymmetry can expose vulnerabilities that no amount of money can fully eliminate. Physics still governs radar. Human beings still make mistakes. And expensive systems can still become victims of their own assumptions.

The Final Image

America entered this conflict with unmatched military spending, advanced stealth technology, layered missile defense systems, satellite surveillance, and global logistical reach.

Iran entered under sanctions, economic isolation, and technological limitations accumulated over forty years.

Today, they are brothers. The weapons children learn to use for the family can one day be turned against it. The marble courtyard looks civilized. It is a training ground. Alma-Tadema makes everything look ordered. But the lessons inside it are brutal. Every adult in this painting is passing something forward. Not only a crown, not only a name. An unfinished war. The children didn't start it. They were just next in line to carry it. How much of what you carry did you actually choose?

Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema (born Lourens Alma Tadema, 8 January 1836 - 25 June 1912) was a Dutch painter who later settled in the United Kingdom, becoming the last officially recognised denizen in 1873. Born in Dronryp, the Netherlands, and trained at the Royal Academy of Antwerp, Belgium, he settled in London, England in 1870 and spent the rest of his life there.

A painter of mostly classical subjects, he became famous for his depictions of the luxury and decadence of the Roman Empire, with languorous figures set in fabulous marbled interiors or



The Education of the Children of Clovis

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Anjali Sharma Senior Journalist & Wildlife Enthusiast

His doesn't look like a lesson in harm. But that axe is not a toy. Alma-Tadema painted something most people miss. A child is being shaped before he can

choose. That small body carries all the force it has. The frenesica was the battle of axe of the Franks. This is not pretend training. Now, look at who is watching. Warriors on one side and clergy on the other. The boy stands in the middle of both powers. That is not a coincidence. That is an inheritance. The warriors don't cheer. They judge. And the clergy don't object. They watch. Book in hand and say nothing. At the centre of it all sits Queen Clotilde. Widow of Clovis I. Mother of heirs. Keeper of grief. According to the story, she wanted her sons to avenge the murder of her parents. The axe in that child's hand carries her wound. One brother waits his turn already holding his own. The youngest stays near her. Still inside safely. Not for long.

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#ALMA-TADEMA



against a backdrop of dazzling blue Mediterranean sea and sky. One of the most popular Victorian painters, Alma

Tadema, was admired during his lifetime for his draftsmanship and accurate depictions of classical antiquity, but his work fell



out of fashion after his death, and only since the 1960s has it been appreciated for its importance within Victorian painting.

Move to Belgium

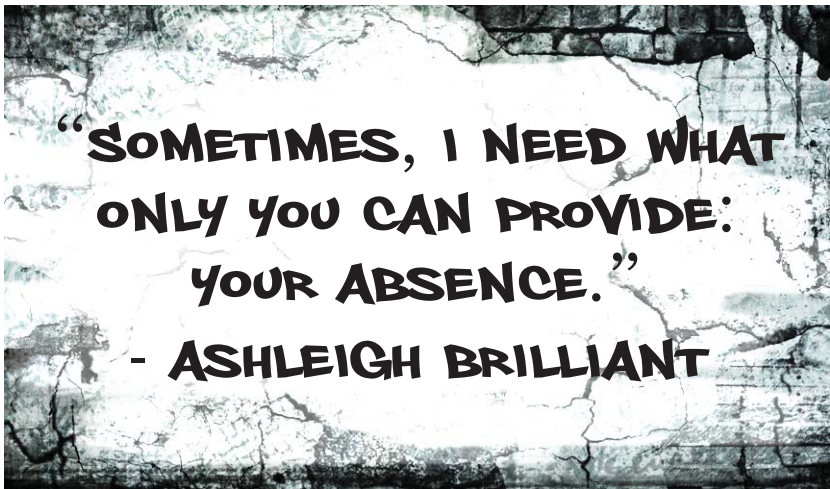
In 1852, he entered the Royal Academy of Antwerp in Belgium where he studied early Dutch and Flemish art, under Gustaf Wappers. During Alma-Tadema's four years as a registered student at the academy, he won several awards. Before leaving the academy, towards the end of 1855, he became assistant to the painter and professor Louis (Lodewijk) Jan de Taeye, whose courses in history and historical costume he had greatly enjoyed at the academy. Although de Taeye was not an outstanding painter, Alma-Tadema respected him and became his studio assistant, working with him for three years. De Taeye introduced him to books that influenced his desire to portray Merovingian subjects early in his career. He was encouraged to depict historical accuracy in his paintings, a trait for which the artist became known. Alma-Tadema left Taeye's studio in November 1858 returning to Leuwarden before settling in Antwerp, where he began working with the painter Baron Jan August Hendrik Leys, whose studio was one of the most highly regarded in Belgium. Under his guidance, Alma-Tadema painted his first major work: *The Education of the Children of Clovis* (1861). This painting created a sensation among critics and artists when it was exhibited that year at the Artistic Congress in Antwerp. It is said to have laid the foundation of his fame and reputation.

Alma-Tadema related that although Leys thought the completed painting better than he had expected, he was critical of the treatment of marble, which he compared to cheese. He collaborated with Hendrik Leys on the series of wall paintings in the Leys Hall on the second floor of Antwerp City Hall, which depict significant moments in the history of The Netherlands.

Alma-Tadema took this criticism very seriously, and it led him to improve his technique and to become the world's foremost painter of marble and variegated granite. Despite any reproaches from his master, The Education of the Children of Clovis was well received by critics and artists alike and was eventually purchased and subsequently given to King Leopold of Belgium. In 1860, he befriended the Anglo-Dutch Dommerzen family of artists in Utrecht.



THE WALL



BABY BLUES



ZITS



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman