



U.S. authorities have issued a warrant to seize an Iranian oil tanker that lies at the center of a diplomatic stand-off between London and Washington.

The move, [announced late Friday](#), comes a day after Gibraltar's highest court agreed to [release the tanker](#)

that was seized near the British overseas territory last month and was accused of shipping 2.1 million barrels of crude oil to Syria in breach of international sanctions.

Tehran [had given assurances](#) that the ship's cargo would no longer be sent to the embattled Middle Eastern country, though American officials said the cargo was still in violation of U.S. law.

"The documents allege a scheme to unlawfully access the U.S. financial system to support illicit shipments to Syria from Iran by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps," the U.S. Department of Justice said in a statement in reference to the warrant.

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