

Seyed M. Marandi: Iran Launches SURPRISE Attack, US Bases & Warships UNDER FIRE

Prof. Seyed Mohammad Marandi discusses Iran's shocking surprise attack on US assets and the new war doctrine driving it as Trump remains paralyzed by mounting military and economic crises. LIKE the video and Subscribe for more in-depth geopolitical analysis Leave your thoughts in the comments below! Support the Channel: Patreon: <https://www.patreon.com/dannyhaiphong> SUBSCRIBE ON RUMBLE: Rumble: <https://rumble.com/c/DannyHaiphong> Follow Me on Social Media: Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DannyHaiphong> Telegram: <https://t.me/DannyHaiphong> Support the channel in other ways: <https://www.buymeacoffee.com/dannyhaiphong> Substack: chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com Cashapp: \$Dhaiphong Venmo: @dannyH2020 Paypal: <https://paypal.me/spiritho> #iran #iranwar #trump

#Danny

Welcome back. As you can see, Professor Seyed Mohammad Marandi is back with me from the University of Tehran. Professor Marandi, I want to get right to it. There was a surprise attack by Iran, a missile attack by Iran, on September 4th, Friday, and the United States has denied this. The attack targeted Jordan with several ballistic missiles. There were impacts reported, and even some videos showing the blaze occurring. But nevertheless, Donald Trump's administration, Axios is reporting, is saying nothing of the sort has occurred. They're not aware of it. I wanted your reaction to this, especially amidst Iran's declaration, the military's declaration, that now it is in a preemptive posture, that it will be taking preemptive moves in this war. Your thoughts about and your reaction to these developments.

#Seyed M. Marandi

So no need for anyone to press the like button or anything like that. Okay, it's your show if you, you know, it's up to you. But I would advise your viewers to press the like button or to smash the like button or whatever they do with the like button. Anyway, well, thank you very much for having me. It's always a great pleasure being with you. And yeah, it's, you know, we've discussed this before. The Iranians have changed, and ever since Bessent has taken over from the Secretary of War, and ever since he's become the new Secretary of War, you know, showing his masculinity and all that instead of Hegseth, we have him now. So ever since he's begun this economic...

This new phase in economic warfare. The Iranians have said that they're going to hit back militarily. Why militarily? Because the United States can sanction Iran. The United States can hurt Iran

because of its power over the financial institutions. Iran can't do that back to the United States. But what Iran can do is that Iran can destroy U.S. assets and U.S. interests instead. And I think that this is the direction we're going in. So as Bessent tries to strangle the Iranian economy, the Iranians are going to start strangling the U.S. economy. So we've also seen lots more missiles being fired into the Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Oman.

And some of those missiles are no longer being fired from just the islands or near the strait, but from deep, deep inside Iran. So there really isn't much the United States can do about it. The Iranians have said, "If we can't export oil, no one else can export oil. If they want to strangle us, we're going to strangle them." So Bessent is basically, through his newly found masculinity, pushing the United States towards crisis because there are two months left till the elections—a bit less than two months left till the elections. And already things are looking pretty bad for them. And I think that the Iranians will make it a lot worse, as things stand, a lot worse. Now, the Iranians have planned for a long war.

They plan to fight this war till after Trump's presidency. But I do think that, with taking into account Bessent's behavior and the U.S. policy now, the Iranians are going to make life very difficult for Trump and the Trump regime in the weeks ahead. And as I said, by strangling Iran, Iran will strangle them back. Iran will tighten the noose. It will tighten their grip over the neck of the U.S. economy, and it'll end badly. We already see multiple crises sort of coming together. The problems, the issues behind the Great Recession have never been resolved. We have the endless wars that the United States has carried out, and neoliberalism, and the debt at over \$40 trillion. We have the AI bubble. We have the bond market as it is. And we have the Japanese yen.

And also we have these Persian Gulf family dictatorships, which are no longer—they no longer have milk to be milked. And they're going to need to sell their assets in the West, their bonds and stocks, in order just to survive, because they spend a lot of money just to sustain themselves, these regimes. So at this moment, when all of these crises have come together and are shaking the foundations of the global economy and the U.S. economy in particular, going to war with Iran was the most idiotic mistake possible, the greatest strategic mistake of the United States ever, as Robert Kagan has pointed out, the godfather of the neocons. By intensifying this warfare and economic warfare, Bessent is going to push the U.S. economy literally over the cliff, and the global economy.

And, Danny, one thing that they're not really talking about is the economies of the countries in the Persian Gulf region. I was on Piers Morgan's show a couple of nights ago, and it was a recording. And I think they did show it today—I mean, before. And you can see it. At the beginning of his interview with me, he said that he was talking about the economic problems of the countries in the Persian Gulf. So this is something that obviously is being discussed in the West now, because he is a mainstream figure with lots of connections. And he was talking about potential unrest in these countries. So if the economic—I mean, the situation in these countries is already bad, if the United States pushes further, these countries, they can grow unstable. And that would be catastrophic for the West, because these are assets.

#Seyed M. Marandi

These are key assets for the United States and for the petrodollar.

#Danny

Well, Professor Marandi, the diesel, gas prices in the United States are through the roof now. They are approaching, I believe, over \$6 a gallon, which is astronomical. And you said on X that the energy crisis is just beginning. And how much of this, Professor Marandi, this preemptive new doctrine by Iran, is fueled by the fact that these last attacks that the U.S. conducted did strike a wedding party and almost unconscionably were just so ineffective, yet did this horrific crime, which, of course, was going to breed and fuel an Iranian reaction? How much of this now is Iran going up the escalation ladder so that it can ultimately not just deter the United States, but to prevent the United States from being able to continue its onslaught both against Iran and the region?

#Seyed M. Marandi

Well, you know, after the MOU collapsed, thanks to Trump, every time the United States during those days would strike at Iran, the Iranians would strike back harder. But this time around, when the Americans struck and hit the wedding, the Iranians struck much, much harder. They struck back much harder. And then they struck back against them again the following night. And then, of course, these strikes were reported in Jordan and the Strait of Hormuz and in the Gulf of Oman. So Iran is escalating. And this is partially linked to the atrocities carried out against Iranian civilians, and the bombing of civilian targets, and the bombing of a wedding, killing a little kid, a teenager, a 22-year-old young woman, you know, and two other people.

Part of it is the fact that Bessent is mandated to try to strangle the Iranian people. And this is war. Remember, and you know this, but sanctions are warfare. It is intended to crush countries. They're carried out to make society crumble. It is barbaric. It is as evil as hot war, but it is much more hidden from the view of the public. So people are killed in silence. Children, due to a lack of—I mean, in Gaza, hundreds of thousands of people have died in this genocide. But the official numbers are 70 or so thousand. Those 70 or so thousand are people whose bodies were taken to the morgues, to hospitals, and so on.

But hundreds of thousands of people have died of diseases because of a lack of medicine, because of a lack of hospital equipment, because of a lack of certain foods that they need. Like, people have special needs, but the Israelis withhold them. They do it on purpose so that people die. They want to cut the population. These are, you know, these are evil monsters, these Zionists. So, you know, these are the people who pull the plug on infants and, you know, on the incubators in hospitals.

They'll do anything. And the Lancet Journal report from a while—I think a few months ago—said that they carried out a study between 1971 and 2021. Sanctions implemented by the West across the world killed 38 million people, based on their estimates, 38 million people.

If you put that alongside all the hot wars that the West has been engaged in, that's World War II numbers. Those are World War II numbers. But you don't hear about it because they kill and, you know, they silently destroy societies. So Bessent is out there to what? To destroy Iran. And Iran is going to do the same. So I think that the escalation that we are seeing now on the Iranian side is not just about the U.S. atrocities and the strike on the wedding, which the United States shamelessly won't even acknowledge, let alone apologize for. But it is also because of Bessent.

So I think that as Bessent moves further to try to strangle Iran, Iran is going to hit harder. And the Iranian military will be increasingly used to strangle Iran's adversaries. And then that brings us to a new situation where the United States has to make a decision: do they accept being hit by the Iranians, or do they hit back? And if they do hit back, then the Iranians will hit back even harder. And so we are entering perhaps the most dangerous phase of the war. We are entering the phase where the global economy may finally collapse, because Trump won't use his off-ramp. He's too cowardly to do so. He's too arrogant to do so. Or the Zionists won't let him.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Whatever.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Or a combination of all these things.

#Seyed M. Marandi

So far, that's how it looks, and that's how it seems it will be.

#Seyed M. Marandi

So he only has two options. One is to escalate militarily or to escalate economically. If he escalates militarily, well, the Iranians will respond militarily, and they'll hit hard. And then the global economy goes down. If he escalates economically, Iran will respond militarily. So either way, from appearances, we're heading towards a very dangerous time. And the global economy is not where it was six months ago at all. The crisis is, you know, no one knows when the dam is going to burst, but the crisis is closer and closer and closer. And then this sort of escalation now is, I think, going to be catastrophic for the world and for the U.S., and also for the regimes in the Persian Gulf, because Iran will survive, have no doubt. Iran will persevere. It will resist. But these regimes in the Persian Gulf, if that sort of escalation takes place, I think they're gone.

#Danny

Well, Professor Morandi, what do you make of, and what does Iran, do you believe, make of this narrative shift by the Trump administration, now not calling what's happening with Iran, with the U. S. aggression, a war, now saying it's a conflict, and therefore there's also large denial of these attacks? So I know we were talking before we began here about how strange it would look if the United States were to strike Iran again, which you've always warned is something that could happen, and it has happened several times since the so-called MOU was signed.

And this would be the first time, though, that the United States would strike Iran based on a denial. I don't see any movement from the United States to acknowledge Iran's new posture or the fact that it not only conducted a surprise attack on Muwaffaq Salti Air Base in Jordan, but every single day, really for the last three, four, five—for as many days as I can count in the last week—Iran has been firing anti-ship missiles, has been turning vessels around, striking vessels, you know, all of this in the Strait of Hormuz without any U.S. response. Your thoughts on this narrative shift by the United States? What accounts for it?

#Seyed M. Marandi

Well, also remember, Danny, that when the United States struck Iran, Trump said, "If you strike back, we'll hit you harder." Iran struck back, and it struck back much harder. And then Trump did nothing. And then what happened? The next night, the Iranian army again attacked the United States in the Emirates and in Kuwait. And the United States did nothing. And then the events in Jordan and the Gulf of Oman and the Strait of Hormuz. So I think the United States—I mean, it's impossible to say. Trump is so erratic. He's so unpredictable. He's such a liar. He's so abnormal. He changes all the time. He says one thing today, one thing tomorrow, one thing now, one thing 10 minutes later. So it's impossible for me to understand really what's going on in the White House.

But I would imagine that Trump, on the one hand, wants to escalate Bessent's nonsense and his threats and his, "We're going to crush you and kill you and bring you to your knees and cut off the head of the snake," and all that sort of nonsense. You know, he wants to be the tough guy, the mafia don, or the mafia boss. But at the same time, he wants things to be quiet. So he wants to escalate but pretend nothing is happening from the Iranian side. It's not going to work. It's not going to work. The weeks ahead are going to be very, very dangerous. And Trump could... I think if these policies continue to be pursued by Trump, I think he's going to get catastrophic results in the midterms. And I think the global economy is going to head south very fast.

I can't say when exactly, but I think the trajectory will be far worse than before. Because if Iran shuts down—I mean, Iran has said, "We don't export oil, no one does." So if that happens, I mean, right now, we know that every day Iran allows a few million barrels of oil to get through the Strait of Hormuz. And let's say the Americans are able to get maybe a million barrels extra through a day. So let's say every day, seven million barrels go through. Let's include Fujairah, whatever, seven, eight,

nine million barrels, right? And then Saudi Arabia. There's still, like, every day, there's a, what, like eight, nine, 10 million-barrel shortage. And remember, oil is coming out disproportionately, and the other stuff is not coming out nearly as much.

So the fertilizers, the sulfur, the helium, the refined products, the petrochemicals, they're not coming out. So the global crisis is growing. But the fuel, the oil shortage is not growing as fast. So if pressure intensifies, Iran will intensify. What does that mean? That means the amount of oil that gets through the Strait of Hormuz decreases. And then it could mean shutting down Fujairah. And then it could mean shutting down the Red Sea. Then what happens? That means the shortages double every day. The growing shortages double. So let's say right now it's like eight, nine, 10 million barrels a day. We're getting bigger shortages, more shortages. The shortage is growing. Then gradually we're going to see that double. And that's just not sustainable at all.

#Seyed M. Marandi

And it'll hit the world economy very swiftly.

#Danny

Well, Professor Morandi, I wanted to now definitely highlight what you said earlier about the Gulf states. And we don't see the Gulf states at this time, despite what is obviously Iran's offensive posture coming very much into view here in the Strait of Hormuz and, of course, now expanding that to preemptive strikes on U.S. bases. We have really bad news for Gulf economies, as you mentioned. Here's just the UAE: Dubai airport passenger traffic fell 31 percent the first half of this year. Hotel occupancy dropped 56 percent, 59 percent for luxury property sales, and major events all across Dubai.

The events that were supposed to happen there in Bahrain and elsewhere, like the F1 race and the Esports World Cup that Saudi Arabia does, those are all canceled or moved somewhere else, I should say. So this is having a really bad effect also, especially on the Gulf states. I don't see them—there's no Axios report lately of them saying, "We're huddling around and trying to stop Trump from continuing this war." What do you make of their position right now? They're the ones who are going to be taking the brunt of Iran's offensive posture, and yet I don't see much consternation or opposition or attempts to talk to the Trump administration about this, doing what it could do and should do to stop all of this.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Well, first of all, the situation in the Emirates is probably even worse. And there are many thousands of American soldiers in the Emirates, in hotels and in buildings that are probably rented for free by

the Americans because their bases are destroyed. And the Emirates is probably doing somewhat better than the others because they are still transporting or exporting some of their oil from Fujairah. But the whole economic model has collapsed.

#Seyed M. Marandi

And we're just moving towards escalation.

#Seyed M. Marandi

So they're all in trouble. Now, none of these countries really have any real sovereignty. They're client regimes. Whether it's the Saudis or the Emirates or Qatar, hostility in the Emirates is greater than the others because they're bound to the Israeli regime. They're bound to aid in a way in which the others—they're all bound to the United States, but the Emirates is a step that's taken to another level. But none of them have any real sovereignty. They can have influence in Washington. They spend money there to get—but they can't act independently of Washington. Influencing your boss is one thing.

Influencing your overlord is one thing. Splitting from your overlord is a different thing. So they're all subordinate. There is no country in this region except for Iran, Yemen—Iran and Yemen, basically, as countries that will stand up and make their own decisions. Turkey is in NATO. Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the others—they're all bound to the United States. Iran negotiates with them separately, not as collectives anymore, that much, but separately. Sometimes there are some agreements on small issues, many agreements, such as with the Emirates, allowing some oil to get through, which may come to an end.

But these countries really are not capable of making their own decisions. And that's going to lead to their destruction if the current trajectory continues. You know, this whole thing would end if they just told the United States no. If these five countries—there's Jordan too, and it's probably the worst of them all as a proxy—but if these five countries in the Persian Gulf just sat together and wrote a declaration: the United States can no longer use our territory to wage war. The bases have to be closed. They can't use our airspace. They can't use our territory.

#Seyed M. Marandi

We want peace. The war would be over. The United States can't continue.

#Seyed M. Marandi

I mean, all those, you know, even during the 12-day war, these countries were helping the Israelis because the refueling aircraft, they would take off from these countries, the American planes, and then refuel Israeli jets. And then during this war, of course, they did the same, and all that jet fuel is

for free. They provide it for free. They pay for all the expenses in these bases. Imagine if the Americans were paying for these too. Imagine what the cost would be. But these countries are paying, and they're both being wrecked, their economies, and they're being bombed, and then they're also paying for this war. So if these countries were to say no, that means the Americans would have to refuse. I mean, the attack that the Americans carried out the other night was carried out with the help of these countries. Without the bases in these countries, the United States couldn't carry out these attacks. They have to refuel jets. There are all sorts of things that they do.

#Seyed M. Marandi

So if they told the Americans no, the war would end.

#Seyed M. Marandi

But they can't, or they won't. Some of them can't. In the case of the Emirates, they can't and they won't, both. But as I said, they're in bad shape, as you pointed out, in the case of the Emirates. And this could—where we are now could be just the beginning of the most decisive phase of the...

#Danny

Yes, decisive and dangerous. Certainly, that's the direction. And I think part of this two-front war is that the United States is becoming more and more desperate. Here's just a graphic that I think is really important. This is a map shared by The New York Times that shows how Iran has essentially, especially for the U.S. Navy—and you might have seen the images of USS Lincoln pulling into port in Thailand and how decrepit it looked, completely rusted over, and people were wondering what exactly it looked like inside if it looked like that outside. But this is even more critical in the sense that the United States placed all of its supply lines for the U.S. Navy, for all of its naval ships, aircraft carriers, et cetera, in the Persian Gulf area, right next to Iran. So Bahrain and other countries—I think Oman has one as well. But they've had to rely on Diego Garcia and Singapore to restock and resupply.

Hence why both these U.S. naval vessels sit so far from Iran's coastline and also have to take such dire measures to even just get resupplied at all. It's quite a long way to Diego Garcia and Singapore. Professor Morandi, what do you make of, you know, the—this is, I think, part of the problem for the United States, is that they've engaged and taken to a war that was going to be a long one, that Iran predicted would be a long one. And now they are sitting on top of a military arsenal that arguably can't fight a long war, especially one that is seeking to pursue any kind of objective at all, whether it's chaos, destruction of Iran, whatever it is. The U.S. military cannot simply sustain doing that militarily. So what do you make of this reality of war? This is another kind of burgeoning crisis, I think, that's on top of this economic one.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Well, if anyone says that you're talking nonsense, all you have to do is show them the discontent that we're hearing from within the U.S. military. I mean, it's not just you or I speculating from the outside based on images of an aircraft carrier or based on reasoning that their U.S. bases have been destroyed in the region, so they have to go all the way to Diego Garcia or to Singapore and so on. The U.S. military itself—there's huge discontent among the high-ranking figures in the military, and their resignations and their purges. So things are not going well, obviously. And, you know, the thing is that the Americans, despite the fact that the U.S. government tries to pretend that it's way ahead of the rest of the world, they fought a 20th-century war.

#Seyed M. Marandi

The Iranians fought in the 21st century.

#Seyed M. Marandi

And so the Iranians—I was on Channel 4 News a while back, on their online show, not on the main news channel. I did an interview, like a half-an-hour interview. The host said—and I forgot to respond to this because he said a couple of other things—but he said that the Iranians by chance discovered their strength when they controlled the Strait of Hormuz. And I wanted to say that, you know, and I forgot, but I want to say, no, Iran, from the very beginning, that was the plan.

#Seyed M. Marandi

And I've been saying this personally for many years. That was the plan all along.

#Seyed M. Marandi

And so when the Iranians started destroying U.S. bases and the U.S. trying to destroy Iranian underground bases, that's when it became clear that the United States was stuck in the past and Iran was in the future. So all U.S. bases were wiped out. The logistics for the Navy became a huge problem. And imagine the costs. These are extra costs. The fact that they have to go all the way to Diego Garcia or further to Singapore. These are huge extra costs. And imagine the damage that it does by having to delay things or having, you know, to go so far for things. And that's the whole—you know, one day they'll be talking about the damage done to the U.S. military because of the very fact that they have so many assets in the region.

The United States has brought all these assets to the region, but they can't put them in their bases. Those bases that they spent so many billions of dollars—or the Arab regimes that spent so many billions of dollars—spending, are destroyed. So the Americans have to put their planes and other assets in places where the conditions for preserving those assets are not ideal. So they have all

these military bases which are really ideal to put their jets there, to put their assets there in storage. Those are destroyed. So they have to go and take them to Jordan and set up camp under circumstances which are not ideal. What does that do for the military equipment?

You know, the heat and the sandstorms and so on. The damage being done to the U.S. military, I think, in the long run—you know, when they say, like in the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, the day-to-day expenses are one thing, but the long-term expenses are a completely different world altogether. All those Jeeps have to be repaired, the overhauling of engines, and then, of course, the long-term psychological damage and all that aside, which can't really be calculated. But the damage that's being done to the U.S. military, I don't think they're really—I don't think anyone is really talking about. So the Americans have carried out a 20th-century war. The Iranians have carried out a 21st-century war.

And so the Americans were saying, okay, well, we'll bomb Iran, and then we'll use our naval base in the Persian Gulf. They can't even get into the Persian Gulf. And if they do, their ships will be struck. Iran has already struck U.S. naval ships. This is not something that the Americans will admit. But if you recall, during that period, during the ceasefire, the Americans carried out a couple of operations where they tried to open the Strait of Hormuz. I don't know if you recall right now, before the MOU. The Americans brought, I think, three naval ships close to the Strait. Iran hit all three of them. But Iran hit them with drones. Iran did not want to hit them with missiles. They damaged the ships, but not really heavy, severe damage.

Why? Because they wanted to tell the Americans, look, we can destroy you. But they didn't want to escalate. The Iranians have been managing escalation. Now, of course, things are changing. After Bessent's masculine tough-guy approach, the Iranians are going to be tough. And as I said, the Iranians won't be able to sanction the Americans, so they'll be using their missiles and drones instead. And the U.S. has assets all over the region—their banks, their AI centers, of course, oil and gas—that will be cut off. All of their businesses. I mean, the Iranians can just, you know, there's a wealth of targets. It's just all over the place. And all you have to do is just fire drones, cheap drones, and carry out devastation.

#Danny

Well, Professor Morandi, I wanted to ask also about the psychological part of this war now, because as Iran announces an offensive posture, as it puts that into practice—we also have, I mentioned the USS Lincoln. There's a psychological component to this that I think should not be underestimated. Here, The Guardian covered the situation following the port of the USS Lincoln, the largest aircraft carrier of the United States, by the way, in Thailand. And in it, they talk about getting a pair of socks, getting pedicures, getting these things that the sailors have been without for almost a year, and all of the horrible internal conditions on that aircraft carrier.

But one thing I found very interesting was that The Guardian had to change the names of the sailors they spoke to because the U.S. Navy told them not to speak about the conditions aboard the USS Lincoln once they landed. So that's not a really big vote of confidence of how it must be for those who chose to join the Navy or the military if you're on these bases. And now they're being told they can't talk even about that experience, despite the fact that everybody knows that that experience is really bad, or at least anybody who's paying attention. But that doesn't seem like a vote of confidence for us. There's a psychological component here: one side, offense; the other side, trying to keep things hush. What do you make of that and that dynamic there? Yeah.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Well, the United States had numerous strengths. One was its economy. That's going downhill very fast. And of course, as the United States wages this expensive and destructive war, the Chinese are doing whatever they can to move forward with their economy and deal with this crisis as best they can, while the United States is just destroying its own military and its image and so on. So one is the military going downhill. One is the economy going downhill. One is the U.S. image as a civilized country or, you know, the free world, or the leader of the free world. That's all gone after Gaza, after this war has demolished it.

#Seyed M. Marandi

The last thing, you know, among all these things, I think, that was left was the image of the U.S. military.

#Seyed M. Marandi

And, you know, from Hollywood films, we're supposed to believe that the U.S. military is invincible, and that it can do anything, and they see everything, and they know everything, and they have the equipment to destroy anything. And then you see images of these.

#Seyed M. Marandi

You know.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Ships in such a bad situation. Then you see—

#Seyed M. Marandi

Images of destroyed military bases.

#Seyed M. Marandi

It destroys the facade, and it makes countries across the world more confident about their position with regards to the United States. I even believe that with Canada, its resistance to the United States in these negotiations has something to do with Iran.

#Seyed M. Marandi

I really have no doubt about it.

#Seyed M. Marandi

I have no sympathy for the Canadian regime. I mean, it's a sinister, ugly, and monstrous regime, just like that of the Trump regime. And, of course, this has nothing to do with the ordinary people in Canada or Europe. We're talking about the elites. They're sinister. They support the genocide in Gaza, just like everyone else. I mean, there are no sanctions against the Israeli regime after three years of genocide. These are all monstrous regimes. But in any case, the United States has destroyed the image of its power. And one of the interesting things is that Vance, when asked about the slaughter at the wedding, he said all sorts of nonsense. He said, unlike the Iranian IRGC, we don't target civilians.

Well, actually, I did some research with AI, using DeepSeek and Kimi, and I asked how many civilians died because of Iranian drones and missiles in the Persian Gulf region. And one said roughly less than 20. The other said 41. And it's not just the IRGC; it's a combined force, the regular army and the IRGC. So they fired thousands of missiles and drones, and only 41, according to Arab regimes, only 41 civilians died. Many of them foreign workers, poor guys struggling to make money for their families, and some citizens of these countries. Again, any civilian death is horrible and tragic. But with all these missiles and drones, the Iranians obviously have taken great care not to get anyone killed.

But we have thousands of dead Iranians. And in just one attack on the Minab school, they killed 168 people—kids, elementary school kids, and their teachers. That's four times as much. I mean, one said roughly 20, the other 40. Let's take 41 as the correct number of the civilians killed in these five countries. In one strike, they killed four times as many as all the combined deaths on the other side of the Persian Gulf. So who is the one protecting civilians? Who is the one taking care not to kill civilians? It's the Iranians, not the Americans. The Americans are targeting civilians. The second thing he said when they asked him about the murder, the slaughter at the wedding, he said, "We don't know. We don't have information," right? This is a military.

This is a government that pretends to know everything. They know where everything is. They can hit whenever they want. They know what's going on inside Iran. They can't tell us if they struck a wedding. They don't have the satellite imagery. They don't have the evidence. They don't know

what they're doing. Do they have to send postal letters to people on the island in Iran to ask what happened? So either they're utterly ignorant and they really don't know, or they're lying. But in any case, the image of the U.S. military machine has collapsed. And look at Iran striking with great confidence and building new missiles and drones very rapidly and expanding their underground bases, and the Americans struggling to produce more surface-to-air missiles and missiles to strike Iran.

#Seyed M. Marandi

The United States is using a wrecking ball itself to destroy its own empire.

#Seyed M. Marandi

I remember once many years ago, I saw—I don't like these clips, but sometimes they put out these videos where people make stupid mistakes, and, like, they fail at something in sports. I don't like watching these things. But there was one I recall many years ago where the guy took a wrecking ball and started destroying the wrong house. And then, like, the owner came out, and, like, the wrecking ball was just destroying the building. This is what Americans are doing to themselves.

#Seyed M. Marandi

They're wrecking the empire. And Bessent... he is pushing the country towards catastrophe.

#Danny

Yeah, well, Professor Morandi, maybe we can close on this. You know, it is quite humiliating what the United States Empire is actually doing to itself, apparently in large part maybe because it doesn't really have an option in the minds of these warmongers, a better option. Of course, there is an off-ramp. There was an off-ramp. That off-ramp may be completely gone, but they did sign the MOU. But this humiliation gets worse and worse because Israel is always there to highlight the fact that it's getting worse and worse.

So Israel, through the Jerusalem Post, published basically an advertisement where they urged the U. S. military to endorse and implement a policy where U.S. volunteers, so the volunteer army, would get essentially an indebted economic enlistment. Essentially, anyone who's in debt who joins the military can get their debt forgiven, whether it's school debt, you know, student loan debt, credit card debt, whatever, in order to build the force big enough to invade Iran. I mean, this is literally what is being posted in the Jerusalem Post. But it's almost a humiliation ritual in that way. And I wanted your thoughts on this as we close out here.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Israel hates America. Israel doesn't give a damn about the American people. It would like to sacrifice them for itself. American youth who are indebted, it's a good opportunity to get them to die, to get them killed for the sake of Israel. The Israeli regime is its own worst enemy. They are so foolish. The Zionists are so stupid. They're so foolish. During the last three years, it's as if they're planning their own destruction through the genocide, through their statements, through their behavior. I mean, it's just unbelievable how foolish they've been. I never, never thought that in my lifetime I'd see the Israeli regime and Zionism so despised across the world.

And they did it to themselves. And they continue to do it to themselves. They continue to increase the contempt and hatred for themselves all the time. They're their own worst enemies. So, you know, poor indebted young Americans, they're the sacrificial lambs for Zionism. It's really disgusting. But these people are disgusting. They are the most disgusting people on this planet. They're carrying out a genocide right in front of our eyes every day. Almost every day they're killing people in Lebanon. Every day they're killing people in Gaza. They're bombing Lebanon all the time. And Western media is quiet because they don't want to make noise.

They want this to go on. But people are seeing it across the world. Western media can't hide it anymore. So, I just think that it's all downhill for the Israeli regime and for the U.S. And some say, well, you know, what do I think about a couple of things I just want to add? One is that, meanwhile, while what's going on, we have to look at what's going on in Ukraine, and the war is escalating. And Ukraine made the catastrophic miscalculation by initiating this 40-day escalation. And so the war there is moving towards a pivotal moment. This is going to hurt the United States even further, and the West, in West Asia.

These two wars simultaneously, being carried out simultaneously, is catastrophic for the West. Regardless, the economic war with China is another foolish move, doing that simultaneous with these two wars. The second, I mean, alongside that, is the fact that the escalation in Ukraine is being carried out simultaneous with escalation against Iran. So the escalation, which has turned out to be catastrophic, is going to create an extra burden on the United States, and then this escalation with Iran is going to create a much greater economic burden for the United States, for the U.S. government.

So it's sort of like they're waging—you know, these two wars are becoming a heavy burden on the United States, and that eases the burden for Iran and for Russia, because the United States is basically the CIA in Ukraine and the U.S. military against Iran. And of course, the collective West economically paying the price. I mean, Trump can say that we're not paying anything for Ukraine. That's probably not true. But in any case, the Europeans, who are hollowing out their economies, that's, you know, ultimately that's not good for the United States. It's not going to be good.

Because when you're—first of all, the United States has alienated itself from all its allies, but they're so pathetic, they still consider themselves to be U.S. allies. But when your allies are emptied-out, empty shells, then they are just a burden rather than added strength. This is not going to end well. I

mean, it's going to be bad for the world. And no doubt that Iranians are going to pay a heavy price in this economic warfare and this hot war and the probable military conflicts that we have in the future. But the United States will lose this war. And then some may say also, by the way, just as a final point, why isn't Iran doing more in Lebanon?

#Seyed M. Marandi

Hezbollah will hold its own for now.

#Seyed M. Marandi

But Iran will defeat Israel by defeating the United States in the Strait of Hormuz. Iran will make sure that the empire crumbles. It will do whatever it takes, by any means necessary, to defeat the United States. And when the United States is defeated, which I think is a good thing for the American people, for the people across the world, when the United States is defeated, the Israeli regime is defeated too. Because the Israeli regime by itself is nothing. It's a puny regime with very limited capabilities and resources. Everything that it has comes from the West. Europe is being hollowed out. The United States is moving towards crisis. So Iran will defeat the United States government, the Trump regime, in the Strait of Hormuz, in this warfare. It'll come at a price, no doubt, a heavy price perhaps. But this will not end well for this regime.

#Danny

Professor Marandi, it was great to be with you, as always. As you recommended, everyone should hit the like button before they go, because that helps boost the show in the algorithm. Smash it, do all the good things to it, but essentially just hit that like button. And of course, all the places to support this show are in the video description below. Until next time, everybody, I will be back with you tomorrow. Thanks again, Professor Marandi, and I look forward to our next conversation.