

Iran REPELS US Carrier, HITS Black Hawk as Yemen TAKES Bab el-Mandeb Strait!

BREAKING: New details have emerged of renewed fighting between Iran and the US Navy which has unleashed a fire storm of blow back on Trump as more US equipment gets destroyed. PLUS , Yemen just took the entire Red Sea choke point from Saudi Arabia and the US, changing the war and the world forever. JOIN ME 9PM EASTERN BEN NORTON: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Xo9zzOcZUI> SUPPORT THE SHOW BY BECOMING A YOUTUBE MEMBER: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOxLhz6B_elvLflntSEfnzA/join PATREON.COM/DANNYHAIPHONG Support the channel in other ways: <https://www.buymeacoffee.com/dannyhaiphong> Substack: chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com Cashapp: \$Dhaiphong Venmo: @dannyH2020 Paypal: <https://paypal.me/spiritofho> Follow me on Telegram: <https://t.me/dannyhaiphong> #iran #iranwar #USNavy #trump

#Danny

Welcome back to the show, everyone. Hit the like button as you come on because we are tearing down the lies and going over the latest developments. Here we go. So there is more information about the confrontations between Iran and the U.S. Navy in recent days, and one of which is this breaking report that Iran has used new electro-optical missiles in its retaliation and strikes against the U.S. Navy. According to The Telegraph and U.S. officials close to the source, Iran has fired electro-optical missiles at American warships for the first time, said that Tehran attacked 10 U.S. ships this past Wednesday and fired ballistic missiles at a base in Jordan after the U.S. destroyed five Iranian tankers. Now, what this means is that Iranian officials are saying that they are using new missiles with advanced features to target warships.

CENTCOM is saying that all these attacks have failed. But according to The Wall Street Journal, this is looking even more suspect. According to The Wall Street Journal, which is heavily paywalled, by the way, there are reports that Iran has launched a second and previously undisclosed attack on U. S. Navy ships with these electro-optical missiles this past Monday, following the weekend attack on the U.S. aircraft carrier George Washington and the guided-missile destroyers with it. No U.S. ships were supposedly hit, but these attacks are raising concerns among U.S. officials that Iran is employing more sophisticated missile technology and may be receiving assistance from China and Russia in tracking the warships. Now, Iranian media is claiming the new type of missiles with advanced guidance capabilities.

Weapons analysts told The Wall Street Journal that systems equipped with electro-optical seekers could use imagery to maneuver toward moving targets. But Iran would still need an approximate location for the ships launching the attack. This has prompted questions about whether Russia and China are assisting them, indeed. Now, Iran is saying that they have successfully repelled all U.S.

warships away from the battlefield area because of their rolling out of the sophisticated missiles. U. S. warships have been pushed away 400 kilometers, at least, from the Strait of Hormuz amid this severe attrition. The United States lacks the capacity, according to Iran, to maintain a long-term military presence in West Asia, noting that American warships have been forced to retreat 400 kilometers from the Strait of Hormuz itself amid severe logistical and morale attrition.

According to Hossein Maibi, the Brigadier General of the IRGC, he said the U.S. certainly will not be able to continue this situation for a long time, as it faces severe attrition, both in terms of morale attrition of its military forces in the region and its weapons and warships. He said naval deployments require massive logistical undertakings, and there are huge operational costs that are weighing upon Washington in the face of Iran's asymmetrical warfare. So according to the data, he says that about 30 to 40 warships and naval vessels were present inside the Persian Gulf during the beginning of the February 28th hostilities, but today not a single one of them is in place. And we can confirm this.

Now, electro-optical, basically what that means is, literally, Iran is watching from a sort of television where these missiles are going. They still need a precise location of exactly where the USS George Washington is and its carrier strike group, but they know enough to repel them far away from the battlefield area. And this is actually confirmed by the data here. According to the U.S. Naval Institute, their marine tracker, while they don't give the precise location because that's supposedly classified, they do confirm that the carrier strike group that belongs to the George Washington, as well as the George H.W. Bush carrier strike group, are indeed here in the Arabian Sea, far from the Strait of Hormuz.

This is not a precise map, but essentially what that means is that they are at least 400 kilometers out, if not 500 kilometers, meaning, well, they can send, for example, fighter jets at their own risk, like the F-35, at their own risk, into the area to escort ships, as they have done. And they saw 10 of those vessels hit by Iran in recent days. While they can do that, these carrier strike groups themselves—the aircraft carriers George Washington, George H.W. Bush—they either have to patrol the so-called blockade line, which is supposed to be choking Iranian imports or imports and exports coming out of the Strait of Hormuz, or they send these fighters just to escort the so-called tankers, which were hit incredibly hard by Iran in this recent period.

So now we have, according to these reports, electro-optical missiles, which could be a number of different types of Iran's hypersonic arsenal. And of course, the Kheibar Basir, which has gotten a lot of attention of late, which has that 1,200-kilometer range as well as the ability to maneuver mid-trajectory in order to hit its targets. These are all causing an incredible level of panic amongst the combined West, particularly the United States Navy, leading to what has been a massive retreat away from the combat area and also a lack of U.S. response, mind you, to Iranian retaliation. Iran has vowed that they are going to strike 20, 25, 30 times harder than every U.S. strike attempt.

And in recent days, we've seen zero U.S. strikes against Iran. There are reports that there were explosions on Qeshm Island, Sareq, and various areas of southern Iran. Never confirmed, and the U.

S. denied that they were striking Iran. So there has been a heavy deterrence factor there that has been established because of Iranian fire. Now, I want to show you something else as well, because the Jordanian authorities said during the latest Iranian attack against Muwaffaq al-Salti Air Base and the U.S. air bases in Jordan, that there was absolutely no damage done and that only two missiles out of 20, even though there were 40-plus missiles fired at Jordan, ended up hitting their targets.

Well, now we have the confirmation that a U.S. Black Hawk helicopter was hit. This imagery was coming out of the Muwaffaq al-Salti Air Base in the last 24 hours, and it shows that the United States is relocating. This is a shot taken from this, which is the Black Hawks being relocated after being targeted in this way. And then, as you can see, that has been absolutely wrecked and destroyed. So this is the current situation. Many other U.S. aircraft were hit as well, a total of nine, including an A-10 whose wing was taken off, and F-15s, eight of them, which were said to have only minor damage. But we cannot trust this. And of course, we're still waiting for the casualty numbers to come out.

The United States CENTCOM has said that Iranian attacks have caused zero casualties in recent days. But we do know that Al Arabiya, the Saudi source, received information from a Jordanian source that there were medevac helicopters moving to Ramstein Air Base in Germany, taking casualties from the latest Iranian attack. So essentially, Iran has unleashed what has been an incredibly successful retaliation against U.S. naval aggression and U.S. CENTCOM aggression. And now we have a situation where the Trump administration is not attacking Iran, has backed down. And all of this says that Iran, at least for now, has established a relatively strong deterrence.

And the fact is, I received an email from someone earlier today saying, "Well, why is Iran being so kind? Why don't they just hit the warship?" Well, the U.S. George Washington and the carrier strike groups—and mind you, two destroyers were hit, according to Iran. We have not gotten confirmation of that on the U.S. side yet. But mind you, you have to understand that these ships are now hundreds upon hundreds, almost half a thousand, 500 kilometers away now. And the George Washington and similar carrier strike groups, aircraft carriers, can maneuver up to 35 miles per hour in emergency evasive maneuvers. So they're actually quite difficult to hit with anti-ship missiles. But even so, they have had to retreat in a big way.

And this retreat essentially renders them very limited in their capacity to do anything but to enforce what already is a porous blockade along that so-called blockade line. They cannot get close. If they get close, then they will get hit. And it is my understanding that Iran understands what I think many people don't, which is that a lot of what the U.S. brings to the region is movable. So these naval aircraft carriers are constantly moving because if they stay in one place, they are worried that they will get hit. And also, on the U.S. bases, I showed you the Black Hawk that was smashed and destroyed. They're moving this equipment every single day into different positions. The fighter jets that have been hit move into different positions. Why? Because they can do that, and because they're worried that they will all get destroyed. And that's the only thing that they can do here. And so Iran, every strike package they send out there, gradually destroys this military hardware.

There's nothing the U.S. can do about that. Jordan is the last place they can move them, unless they park these fighter jets in Ben Gurion Airport and, you know, inside of Israel. But then Israel becomes a target, and the Trump administration and Israel have already shown that they do not want any part of the Iran war, which is why Jordan has been getting the brunt of the strikes. So the U.S. Navy is in complete retreat right now, and that is, I think, the big story when it comes to U.S. power and U.S. power projection against Iran. The Air Force already cannot enter Iranian airspace. They've tried with many risky attempts to escort so-called shipping and commercial ships along the Omani corridor, and that has been closed down.

So these fighter jets have had to leave, and they cannot get any closer. The U.S. Air Force has been rendered essentially useless in this war, and now the U.S. Navy is being rendered useless in this war. So that essentially leaves the U.S. with very little left, and hence why we see a kind of recalibration. But that recalibration is coming at a big cost because when the U.S. pauses, the war does not. And what do I mean by that? Well, now we have a major development occurring in another choke point. So the Strait of Hormuz is under Iranian control. That is quite clear. But now another choke point has been taken completely away.

The Bab al-Mandeb Strait, which accounts for 10% of all oil coming in and out into the world. You know, all oil trade, both exports and imports, they go through this Bab al-Mandeb Strait, which hugs part of the Yemeni coastline, Saudi, etc. But I'm pulling this up first because Yemen has just taken essentially the entire coastline back forever. And it wasn't just a couple days ago where Saudi officials were saying that the decision has been made to retake Sana'a, which is the capital of Yemen. Saudi forces and their Yemeni allies escalated attacks on Ansar Allah across Yemen Tuesday.

That was just two days ago, in what Chatham House analysts described as full-scale war. So there were bombings. There was supposedly pushback of Yemeni armed forces on Ansar Allah, pushed back along the contact line. And this was an attempt by Saudi Arabia, once again—several attempts in the last month or so—to restart this war and to gain leverage. Well, things have changed quite dramatically because in the last 24 hours alone, Saudi Arabia's so-called proxy, Saudi Arabia itself, have lost a thousand square kilometers in a day to the Yemeni armed forces, Ansar Allah. And here's Drop Site News' summary of that.

So in the Hodeidah governorate, Ansar Allah forces broke through the city of Hays days after fighting with Saudi-backed forces of Yemen's so-called internationally recognized government. The loss of Hays triggered widespread collapse that began a retreat towards the port city of Al-Khawkhah—I'm probably saying that wrong—and then progressed to a full-scale retreat toward Al-Mukha. So Mukha is very important because that is the port city to the south, which essentially broke the dam of Yemeni, of so-called Saudi insurgency. And the defense line broke. And now Yemen, the Yemeni armed forces, have essentially pushed all across the southern coast and have taken all of it. And this is the big news today.

After the withdrawal from Hays, the coalition forces of the internationally recognized government regrouped in the city of Al-Mukha. Shortly afterwards, the Giants Brigades, which were originally formed by the UAE, now side with Saudi-linked forces, pulled out of Al-Mukha to head for Aden. And the collapse continued. After a few hours of encircling the port city, Ansar Allah was seen driving through the city center without any clear indication of fighting. Currently, Ansar Allah is pressing further south. And this is actually outdated now. They've taken Dubab, which sits at the opening of the Bab al-Mandeb, the key choke point for tanker traffic.

Taking Dubab would grant Ansar Allah control of the entire western Yemeni coast down to the center of Bab al-Mandeb. And here is the map that they're showing. And oil, mind you, is at about \$107 per barrel. It's only going up. It's absolutely a crisis for global oil. And here you see what that report was showing, and the ways in which Ansar Allah has been moving across this coast, pushing these forces downward and enforcing a major retreat. And that retreat has only gotten worse. According to MintPress News, the Yemeni armed forces have liberated the entire west coast of the country from Saudi-backed forces and what once were UAE-backed forces. And again, it gets worse and worse. I have to tell you that the Bab al-Mandeb Strait has essentially been liberated. Not totally officially, but yeah.

But all of the indications are that just in 24 hours, less than that, there were some who were saying 18 hours, and we saw 2,500 kilometers of battlefield area be completely wiped out by Ansar Allah of Saudi-UAE forces. So, Zakhar and Hanish right now is being reportedly seized. That hasn't been officially confirmed yet, but there has been an operation underway. This would represent another major advance following the rapid collapse of Saudi-UAE-backed positions along Yemen's western coast, bringing Ansar Allah substantially closer to controlling the approaches to Bab al-Mandeb.

Reuters confirmed that Ansar Allah was attacking the Hanish Islands, while government-aligned Yemeni sources reported two ballistic missiles striking Zuqar Island before the reported assault. Here's a report on the capture of Dhubab. So that's the southern coastal city I'll show you here. This is, as you can see from here, the Bab al-Mandeb Strait, which essentially is at the very bottom here under Mayyun Island, also called Perim Island. There is now a major operation underway to seize this. And they've already attempted to do this. And that's where Perim is. So essentially, when Yemen, the Yemeni armed forces, Ansar Allah, controls this, they will control the Bab al-Mandeb Strait.

They will control the Bab al-Mandab. They already were enforcing this very successful blockade against Saudi Arabia already. But when they have the geographic control, as they are asserting now, it will be incredibly easy for them. And there's nothing that U.S.-backed Saudi airstrikes can do about that because the proxy forces are gone. They will have nothing on the ground to enforce that control. So they will essentially be just trying to hit territory that they've lost. And if you know anything about war, hitting territory that you've lost is not very effective. You need forces on the ground to be able to take that territory back. And here is a good summary.

That's why I chose to share this one. Yemen's Houthis have completely—or Ansar Allah, we should call them—have completely captured the Bab al-Mandab coastline, seizing Mokha, Dhubbab, and capturing the strategic Zuqar Island in a series of rapid gains now ramping up, putting the entire choke point under complete Ansar Allah control, according to AFP and Reuters. Mokha gives them a critical foothold on the mainland. Dhubbab sits directly beside the straits. Zuqar gives them a strategic island position overlooking the wider maritime approaches. Now the situation is escalating further. Ansar Allah are reporting a landing operation on Perim Island, as I said, the so-called Mayyun Island, a strategically positioned island at the Bab al-Mandab Strait that hosts an Emirati airbase, which Israel has reportedly been granted access to in the past.

So they've been discussing a transit fee to enforce that control and the like. So now I want to show you a bit of history, because we can talk a little bit of history about both of these major developments: both the Iranian attack and the successful pushback of the U.S. Navy, and what has happened with Yemen. But let's look at what the UAE—mind you, in 2014, 2015, the United States backed the UAE and Saudi Arabia in a genocidal war to take this very territory, mind you, to essentially overthrow—because Yemeni armed forces, Ansar Allah, they control the capital, Sana'a. They control a major portion of the country, the most populated portions of the country.

They are the popular force there, and the Saudi-UAE-backed forces are not. The so-called legitimately internationally recognized government is not very legitimate, actually, in the eyes of the Yemeni people. But nevertheless, this is what the UAE and Saudi Arabia were doing during that genocidal campaign to try to take it back and hold it. They were pushed back all the way to the coastline, which is what they were trying to hold on to now. And this is the kind of stuff they were doing on Perim Island: mass torture in a network of UAE-run prisons in the south of Yemen. A report obtained by Al Jazeera reveals the existence of 27 sites used to torture and sexually abuse Yemeni detainees.

So that is what they were doing on this island, okay? This is what you have to understand was going on. Absolutely criminal, okay? I mean, the stories were just disgusting. And in this article, this island was cited as one of the locations for that torture. So nevertheless, this is what we're looking at: a major shift and transition in the world order, an absolutely stunning one, because the United States thought they could just pull back. And Trump is saying that Iran is about to be—that Iran is about to be in collapse, that it's in a state of collapse, that it can only hold on to the U.S. midterms because they want to influence the midterms, and then the war is going to end.

But now you have a massive shift in the geopolitical trajectory toward and in favor of Iran, with what Yemen has been able to successfully do here in taking the Bab al-Mandab Strait, liberating a big portion of what Saudi Arabia and the UAE at one time—although the UAE forces are very scattered and had been weakening significantly. Saudi Arabia was trying to revive their dominance here at a very strange time, which we can talk about exactly why later. Saudi Arabia would want to engage in war at this time when Iran has been able to gain in a big way against the United States.

And that then leaves the United States in a much weaker position to assist Saudi Arabia in this war. So overall, a very strange dynamic having occurred for Saudi Arabia. But nevertheless, a massive defeat, a massive defeat that is already showing big impacts, not just for the Bab al-Mandab Strait area, which will choke off global oil whenever Yemenis and Iran as well want to enforce that leverage. But Ansar Allah has also done significant damage to oil facilities. Satellite imagery has revealed at least four storage tanks at the Jizan refinery and three at the Jizan bulk plant have been destroyed.

In addition, five oil storage tanks at the Abqaiq bulk plant were destroyed. The estimated total storage capacity of the 12 destroyed tanks is 4 million barrels of oil. And there is the imagery there showing that. And this is, of course, having a big impact on Saudi oil. According to an OPEC report, crude oil production for Saudi Arabia has fallen to 6.238 million barrels per day last month, the lowest in 36 years since 1990, reflecting a 1.9 million barrel daily decrease. So it isn't any wonder why we have oil prices now over \$107 for Brent crude. And that is only going up and up.

And up and up every single day. This major geopolitical bombshell development is, I believe, just at the heart of why this is happening. It's not just Iran, but this all benefits Iran. The Strait of Hormuz now and the Bab al-Mandeb Strait have been taken away from the U.S. so-called Coalition of the Willing, from the forces that were supposed to be dominating this region and supposed to be doing so, of course, at the behest of the U.S. and Israel's overall designs on the region. These are the choke points that are supposed to give the U.S. its key strategic leverage over any kind of resistance, any kind of alternative to its own rule. Now that is becoming outmoded. Now it's becoming shown that this is a complete folly and failing dramatically.

So, nevertheless, that's the reports right now. We are seeing a massive shift geopolitically. We are seeing that the United States is trying to hide the damage that's been done to it. They're trying to retreat, and they're trying to not attack Iran, but keep this war going and maintain it, as Trump said, all the way up until the midterm elections or longer. Some reports are saying that the Trump advisers are looking to extend the war for years because they know that Iran will not be defeated in a day, will not be defeated in a couple of days, in weeks, in months, as was initially hoped. Now we are into close to two-thirds, three-fourths. Soon we'll be at a full year. February 28th is actually not that far away. It's only, what, about four or five months away.

So we're looking at a massive defeat for the United States and Saudi Arabia, which means, again, this goes along the entirety of the regional trajectory here. We're looking at a defeat for the United States, a defeat for Saudi Arabia, and a defeat for Israel because, mind you, Israel wants to have influence and a presence at this key chokehold, this key choke point in the Red Sea. It was Yemen that fired upon Israel in a blockade of the Red Sea for over a year before the so-called first Gaza ceasefire happened. From 2023 to 2024, we saw a blockade by Yemen, by Ansar Allah, against Israel, which saw Eilat Port, for example, get hit over and over and over again, made it essentially inoperable. And to this day, Eilat Port is severely damaged.

We're seeing imagery come out from Haifa Port, the censored imagery of Iran attacking it during the 12-day war. So Israel loses more and more and more the more that the Gulf states, especially Saudi Arabia, lose. This is all interconnected. Iran is breaking the defense layers of Israel. It's breaking it at the military bases. Jordan is essentially the last to go. The Fifth Fleet is uninhabitable. It's unusable. They're not going to—the U.S. Navy is not going to be using that location for quite some time. There are reports that the U.S. will be moving away from Bahrain, Kuwait, and these countries that directly border Iran, and move toward the way—you know, move further and further away west and make their structures more maneuverable, which is what we are seeing in Jordan.

That's why you see them moved across the airbase. That video of the Black Hawk helicopters, which were struck, being moved because they have to be repaired. But they're doing that every single day with their fighter jet positions. This is how they're trying to avoid the complete and utter dismantlement of the last base. There are also reports that over 100 air defense interceptors were used. So that's over \$200 million worth of air interceptors used in this last attempt to repel Iranian missiles, which they said was so successful. But nevertheless, things got through, missiles got through, and now we see the damage coming out. Now we see the Black Hawk helicopters having been hit. And now we are also seeing major concerns by the United States to resume active hostilities against Iran.

And now they have another problem at their feet with Yemen and Ansar Allah, which the United States doesn't want to enter. And that leads to the question, well, why did the United States allow Saudi Arabia to do this? Which, mind you, Saudi Arabia will do whatever the United States says. Saudi Arabia is not a sovereign country. Reports are that Iran destroyed a major CIA base station there back in June—back in, was it March? I believe it was. Or was it June? I can't remember. But Iran destroyed that major CIA base station. I think it was March, in Saudi Arabia, in Riyadh. And that tells you all you need to know about how sovereign Saudi Arabia is. They were hosting one of the largest CIA base stations globally. That's gone now.

But nevertheless, Saudi Arabia's foreign policy, how Saudi Arabia relates to the world, is dictated in large part by the United States, if not entirely. Of course, there are some forces that are trying to move toward BRICS. There has been some shift in attempts to diversify the economic portfolio. But when it comes to matters of national security, so-called global security, when it comes to how Saudi Arabia relates to the world in the realm of defense, well, the United States intentionally attached itself to the Saudi hip at that level and dictates whatever Saudi Arabia does. So why would the United States and Trump—it was reported that they greenlit the initial strikes on Sana'a—they greenlit the so-called push that has backfired dramatically to take the capital?

Why did the Trump administration allow it? Many people are saying that, and from observations, you can see that they want to rake in the profits. They want to see. And this happens a lot, actually, in normal, or we could say so-called peace times, if that ever is the case. But we've seen, in times where the region wasn't completely on fire, or maybe just before the February 28th war, we've seen many instances of the United States pushing on Saudi Arabia to either decrease or increase its oil

supply and how much oil it pushes into the market. It did so years ago before the overthrow of Maduro, before the kidnapping of Maduro, in order to undermine Venezuelan oil demand and the price of it, in order to make sanctions really hurt Venezuela. They reduced Saudi Arabia.

They increased Saudi Arabia's oil supply so that the price of oil dropped. And that meant that Venezuela would receive even less money for its oil shipments than prior. So they've done this in the past to try to strangle other countries, to try to strangle the global market. And now it is likely the case that the United States can't ask Saudi Arabia to not try to ship its oil that it has left because it's received a pretty big hit from both Iran and Yemen in this regard. So, in order to keep the supply low, and therefore the price high, and therefore U.S. monopolies making a killing from these high oil prices, which is what all the data shows, well, why not lead Saudi Arabia into a disastrous conflict that will lead to defeat?

Because they're always going to have Saudi Arabia to, you know, to push around whenever they need to do it. But right now, it seems like the United States is really licking its chops and making calculated, very calculated, and you could even say very cold moves to manipulate the price of oil, to make as much money for the corporations as possible. And in doing so, what does that lead to? Well, it leads to this very short-term and narrow profiteering, but actual major defeats. It's trading one for the other. And I believe that that's actually what's happening right now. That would be my assessment looking at this, because most people have looked at what has transpired and said, "How does this make any sense?"

How does losing the Strait of Hormuz, which they can't control—I just showed you they can't control it. I can pull up the U.S. Naval Institute tracker. They can't control this. There's the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Air Force. They're not going to come up, okay, along Iran's coast and go and fire some kind of blitzkrieg on Iran. No, they have settled for a blockade, which then chokes off the Strait of Hormuz more. They can't reopen the Strait of Hormuz. Iran has already shown that they are in control of it. So what the United States is doing is saying, okay, we'll institute a blockade. We might lose the Strait of Hormuz. The price of oil will go up, so that helps the oil corporations temporarily, in the immediate sense.

But it's almost like a race to the bottom. They are making a calculation that Iran will collapse, Iran will fold before the economic collapse actually happens. This is highly unlikely. But there are forces in capital, inside of the markets, the financial markets, Wall Street, oil markets. Obviously, there are forces in there that say, well, if the economy collapses, then we will run away with more money, bailouts, stimulus, et cetera, and make good anyway. So do you see what's happening here? It's almost an intentional collapse of the global economy, but a miscalculation, because an intentional collapse of the economy leads to very, very bad things politically in the United States.

For the world, it will lead to massive instability. And it does not—a collapse in the world economy does not necessarily mean that China, Russia, Iran—in particular, China and Iran, if we just control for Russia for a bit—will be massively weakened, because China has already shown that it can

absorb shocks from the worst economic crises, just like what happened in 2008. It was the one who actually saved the world economy with its own economic moves and stimulus moves to ensure that stability was brought back to the world economy at a faster clip. And it ended up growing during that period and staving off the worst of the unemployment crisis. Iran has been under massive amounts of sanctions since 1979. It has built up an economy that's obviously resilient enough to withstand massive shocks to the global economy.

Heck, Iran has barely been part of the global economy in many respects, comparatively to countries that aren't under sanctions and aren't facing a blockade. So Iran is... Their strategy has been to crash the global economy because they know that this bluff, that this short-term narrow profiteering by U.S. monopolies, by the financiers, by capital, is a poor calculation. It's one that is likely to lead to a disaster, a disaster politically. Trump says that he's not so concerned about this, that Iran will collapse right after the midterm elections, that they can't hold out for very much longer. But then why is Iran just now unleashing missiles that they say they have more advanced versions, that they say they have more capabilities than what they've shown?

Why are they prosecuting a long war like this? It's because they have made the determination that the costs of this war are far graver for the United States over time than what Iran has to endure. That is the ethos and the philosophy and the orientation of a resistance war. The same goes for Yemen. Yemen has been at war since 2014-15. They forced, in '21-'22, a ceasefire by the United Nations because Saudi Arabia had to tap out of that. There was massive fighting happening between Ansar Allah and Saudi, U.S.-Saudi aggression. It was disgusting, despicable. The blockade plus the strikes led to a humanitarian crisis that was really the Gaza before Gaza. But yet they held out, they fought, and they forced that ceasefire.

And that led to Saudi Arabia being very, very, very careful not to restart. And then suddenly, in 2026, at the tail end, right after the six-month mark of the U.S.-Iran war, Saudi Arabia comes back and says, "We're going to take Sana'a, we're going to move on Ansar Allah, we're going to take more territory and topple the Ansar Allah-led government in the capital." Well, it has led to the exact reverse of that. Now the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, 10% of all global oil trade goes through there, not to mention everything else that has to go through there, has brought this to a complete and utter crisis for the empire. So I want to actually show—I'm going to open up a map now, too.

Because I want to show you how this—okay, this—let me show you the region. Just the simple Google Maps here. Because really what we're talking about is Iran, possibly with its allies in Ansar Allah, having the capacity to control not just the Persian Gulf area, right? Not just the Bab al-Mandab Strait, potentially the entirety. Here we go. This is the Red Sea. This is what Ansar Allah has essentially liberated here. Okay, that's the Bab al-Mandab Strait right here into the Red Sea. So not only by taking control of Red Sea traffic, now the Strait of Hormuz has been taken by Iran. Now we are looking at Iran and Yemen, and the resistance overall, having major leverage all the way going to the Suez Canal.

So that's a massive shift in geopolitics. It's massive. And it's massive in the sense that it will compel what I believe are going to be even more strategic victories for the resistance in the future. Elijah Magnier posted this on his X. He said something to the effect of Iran's victories and now Yemen's victories are going to lead to a cascading effect also to Lebanon, because many are concerned about Israeli incursions, bombings, the absolute war crimes and horrors—the genocidal war crimes and horrors—that Israel is still imposing on southern Lebanon. Well, the resistance there is likely to get a major boost as Yemen and Iran continue to choke off this global economic lifeline from the aggressors and to make it incredibly difficult for them to economically survive in a period where a global economic crisis is very close.

So this is a war of resistance, and this war of resistance is now showing itself to be opening up even more doors, which has made Iran even more bold. Iran has rejected any notion that it has any aims for the war being concluded after the midterm elections. It says it's not looking at the midterm elections solely. It is looking at demands that it has, and it included Yemen, the blockade ending, and Gaza in that, and six demands that mirror the MOU, but are only getting more fierce and only getting stronger in terms of what Iran is demanding because, well, they are in a stronger position. \$107 per barrel for Brent crude is a very bad situation for the United States, for global oil.

Here are the six conditions I'll show you that Iran is now demanding from the United States in ending the war. It says Washington must halt all strikes and threats and end the war on all fronts, compel Israel to withdraw from Lebanon, end the war in Gaza and withdraw all occupation troops, lift the siege on Yemen, release 24 billion in Iranian assets, and cease interfering with Iran's nuclear and missile programs. So this is an ultimatum that was just issued following Trump's comments that this war is going to end in just a few days. So there you have it. I mean, this is Iran moving up—I don't say escalation ladder—it's really moving up the resistance ladder. It is continuously building upon what it has done prior as a way to squeeze Washington and force it to eventually capitulate to its demands.

Because, mind you, I think people have gotten things a little twisted when it comes to war and when it comes to war with an empire like the United States. You're never going to get the United States to sit down with you and just agree to everything. I mean, this is true in all levels of politics when you are confronting a power structure that is rooted in the most horrific, evil kind of exploitation that is meant to satisfy the maximalist profiteering aims of a power-hungry Epstein-class elite. Do you really think you're going to get them to sit with you and just give you things? Did Iran ever think that? No, Iran never thought that. But people got very angry with Iran. I even received an email today.

Why is Iran being so kind to the GCC bases, to Israel, etc.? But I think people have gotten it a little bit twisted. It's not that Iran has been kind. It's not that Iran was naive. It's that Iran was moving along the resistance ladder in order to put pressure on both the world situation and the adversary to bring this war to a just close. And that was never going to be possible. After the June MOU, after the April ceasefire, none of those things were going to bring a just closure to this war. Those demands I just put up, those will only happen when the U.S. is forced to make it happen. But even under

conditions when the United States is forced to make it happen, it is not a guarantee that they'll just do it anyway. What are the preconditions for that to happen?

Truly, if you look at this realistically, the only way the United States empire—not the people. People in the United States, if you told them, hey, meet these six conditions, I bet you would find a vast majority of those people who say 60, 70% are unhappy with the way Trump has handled this. I bet you the vast majority of them would say, sure, please, just do it. The vast majority of them. Maybe not all of them. You might get some anti-Iranian types. You might get some people who are a little hung up on American exceptionalism or something like that. But I'm sure the vast majority of those people would say, we don't care. Or, sure, that's a just thing. Somewhere along those lines.

But the elites, the elites have a nasty aversion to the, not necessarily to the practice of retreating. We saw in Afghanistan, right, in 2021, what the U.S. empire in this chaotic and very desperate retreat looks like. But the optics of defeat, looking like the weaker player, looking like you are done and destroyed and defeated, and that your influence is now much weaker. And the reason why Afghanistan is maybe an easier pill to swallow than Iran is because Iran is a powerful country. In Afghanistan, as impressive as it was for Afghan forces to push out the U.S. military, Afghanistan was never going to become a regional power, and Afghanistan does not have an alternative model of development that threatens the U.S. unipolar order.

It just doesn't. Not yet, not now, maybe in the future. But nevertheless, the optics of defeat get a lot worse when you're talking about Iran being a regional power that has a vision for the world which is far closer to what China, Russia, and the multipolar world have than the unipolar order. It's very clear, it's very decisive, and it's one that will be pursued no matter what the United States tries to do. There's not a force inside of Iran that exists or is strong enough to counter this. So, overall, the conclusion here is that the U.S. elite, or the elites that control the United States, the financial system, the Epstein class, whatever you want to call them.

But truthfully, these elites, they will likely bring the world— they would trade the harshest— let me put it a different way. They would induce a crisis on the world stage that is bigger than anyone we've ever seen in order to maintain their grip on power. So do you see what I'm saying here? Global economic crisis, these kinds of things, not necessarily what is going to drive them to just give something to Iran. Truly, my conclusion is that short of a revolution in the United States, they won't. And that's what makes this moment so dangerous, while it holds hope for the resistance.

So truly, there are two trajectories, I believe, that are going to push this whole situation toward a more just conclusion, right? A just end to the war in Iran, a just end to the war in Yemen, a just end to the war on all fronts. And of course, a just end to the war against multipolarity, China, Russia, et cetera. Essentially, a just end to the U.S. empire. The only way that happens: two fronts. The consolidation, as we are seeing, of the resistance's victories, a cascading yet steady—right? It's never going to happen in one fell swoop.

It's going to be an ebb and a flow. It's going to happen both fast at times and slow at times. Hell, 24 hours, and we see Yemen take the Bab al-Mandeb Strait. But with Lebanon and other areas, it may take a little longer. Iran may be at war for quite some time with the United States. There's actually a guarantee that that's the case. It might be at war with Israel soon. Do you see what I'm saying? It will be an ebb and it will be a flow of developments and changes. But nevertheless, the arc toward victory, toward total victory, that will be one point of trajectory toward a just end to the U.S. Empire.

The other part has to do within the United States and the combined West: what political changes and shifts are going to happen there so that the system that this empire rests upon can no longer govern in this way. Not just—and we're not even just talking about geopolitics now. Now we're talking about the entirety of the set of policies and the set of conditions which make up a vastly unjust, horrific, and painful system, nightmare that the U.S. empire imposes upon the vast majority of people, including inside of the United States. Those are the two trajectories.

So short of, right, if U.S. leaders, quote-unquote, the political class, people who hire them, the elites, the Epstein class, what have you, if they can sit comfortably on their perch as leaders of the so-called free world of the combined West of the United States, then that's not something Iran and China and Russia, that's not something that they're going to be able to control. No. What are they going to do? They're going to lob ICBMs at Washington, D.C.? That's not going to happen. It's not going to happen because we are living in the nuclear age, and nobody in the sane world wants to see a nuclear war because that would mean the end to development itself. And heck, I think Chinese people, Russian people, Iranian people, I think they like the Global South.

They like the idea of living, and they like the idea of potentially having a brighter and prosperous future. So that leaves this form of resistance, which has now gained massive amounts of progress in recent days. This is a massive amount of progress in recent days, everybody. We have seen the U.S. empire take huge blows: two choke points, 30-plus percent of global oil now out of control—at least the trade of it. Right. Of course, you know, it's not like Iran controls the oil everywhere, et cetera. But by having Iran and Yemen control the Red Sea and the Strait of Hormuz, we are looking at leverage points which, yes, are going to cause seismic shifts geopolitically, or already doing that.

And today has to be a very dark day for Washington because I think they overplayed their hand with pushing Saudi Arabia into what they thought was going to be a war of attrition. I don't think they believed that this defeat would happen so quickly. It almost feels like—some made the comparison to Syria, which I find a bad one. I'll tell you why. But in terms of the cascade of events, I remember covering Syria, and wow, that was a whirlwind of developments. And it was very disappointing because, mind you, I had covered, before I was on YouTube, the U.S.-Israeli-GCC-Al Qaeda war on Syria since 2011. I was covering Libya. I was writing about it, really, 2012, 2013, when I started to write.

And then, so I was covering it throughout that whole hot period into the 2015, 2016 Russian intervention. Of course, then the settlements around Idlib, which was a disaster. And then the fall in

2024 felt rapid. December 2024, everything. Is that 2024? I think that was 2024. Yes. It felt so rapid. It was like, it was done. Al Qaeda forces were marching from the north, taking city after city, and then finally Damascus. The government fell, Assad was in Moscow, and the rest is history. It felt like it happened in one fell swoop, but this is why it's a bad comparison. So Syria had been occupied by the United States, 30-plus percent of its territory, along with Turkey, stealing it of water and wheat.

These Al Qaeda forces, which were controlled in Idlib at a time, had wreaked such massive damage to the infrastructure. Then the Caesar sanctions prevented Syria from rebuilding, leading to what ended up happening, in my opinion. And I'll just put this out there, that a lot of forces within the Syrian government made probably the wrong political calculation, but the one that was going to be made based on deteriorating political conditions internally and economic conditions, which was to get closer to more CIA-aligned forces in the Arab League, reopen to the Arab League. Those forces ended up really dictating and making their way inside of the Syrian government, and the rest is history.

What's happening with Saudi Arabia and Yemen right now, the U.S.-backed Saudi regime, is far different, in large part because rather than this being a backlash and a complete collapse born out of the absolute siege of Syria, we are seeing an offensive operation by a resistance group turn what was maybe some of the most—you had very similar conditions in the sense in Syria, like a blockade of Saudi forces occupying a portion of Yemen and all of this, but they turned these conditions, a humanitarian crisis so grave that it's almost unimaginable that people could fight back at all, they turned that into a successful resistance struggle, all the way dating back to 2014, and have now swept through and taken the Bab al-Mandeb Strait area, or at least the territory surrounding it, making its ability to control it far easier.

I mean, that is... that is far different than Turkey, U.S., GCC, and Israeli pressure eventually leading to what I believe was political machinations that changed inside of the government and led to massive splits, led to trade-offs, and then led to the army and the government being vulnerable to takeover from these forces. But nonetheless, the rapidity of it, I believe, in the case of Yemen, in large part, is because Washington did not—I don't believe—here, I don't believe Washington knew. I think they knew that Saudi Arabia could not defeat Ansar Allah. I believe that. I believe that what they really wanted was a war of attrition that was going to weaken Saudi Arabia, weaken Ansar Allah. Everyone wins for the U.S. Everyone wins because now Saudi Arabia has to be more, you know, cordial, bow to the U.S., say, "Give me weapons, help me out," all this kind of thing, right?

And Yemen will get some blows, right? Get some bloody noses, kill a bunch of people. It's all good. It's all good for the U.S. empire, right? Well, losing the Bab al-Mandab Strait is not good for the U.S. empire because now Saudi Arabia can be starved and now Israel can be further isolated. Now the rest of the GCC is wondering, "Whoa, what are we going to do here? We don't have anywhere. How are we going to get our oil? We don't have these pipelines they talk about. Those can be hit by Iranian missiles, and they take years to build, and they take investment, which, the more broke you

are, like Saudi Arabia is becoming, UAE is becoming, how are you going to do that?" So thanks so much for coming, everybody. Thanks for the super sticker, Marco.

Thanks to Chili Pepper for the super sticker. I really appreciate it. The show is not over, though, even though this one is coming to a close. You want to join me later today. I'm going to pull it up, because we're going to go over in the next show the big multipolar world consequences, the massive shifts that are happening after this latest Iranian attack. I have Ben Norton coming on at 9 p.m. Eastern. He joins from Beijing, so join me then. Okay, I'm going to put it in the video description. I'll pull it up here and then put it in the video description. We're going to cover just how significant it is, U.S. losses in this war, especially the recent losses here.

So you can find that in the live stream section of YouTube. Ben Norton coming back on from China to talk about that. We're going to preview the BRICS summit a little bit, but in large part we're going to talk about what all of these shifts really mean for the geopolitical situation overall, and you don't want to miss that. You really don't want to miss that. So I'm going to put that in the chat right now. I'm going to put that in the video description too, so you can save your place. Come back in seven hours. We will have a good time. So this is a great show, everybody.

I wanted to get this breaking news out to you because I believe that it's really important to understand just how fast things are changing, just how important these developments are, not just to the day-to-day situation regionally, geopolitically, but how critical these losses that the U.S. Empire is actually taking are. It's taking losses. How critical it is to understand these from a perspective that gets at the real contradictions working out in real time. Because it's those contradictions that can help us understand, well, why is this happening?

And what are the forces at play that we really need to know and really understand how they work in order to truly oppose them and to become part of the process of what I call the just end to the U.S. empire, the just end to these wars on all fronts? What that means is that there's going to have to be massive changes in how power is actually distributed. That is ultimately what we are coming into confrontation with. But after this show ends here, I am going to put this link in the video description below, and the Ben Norton show there. Okay. And be sure to join me tonight with Ben Norton. All right. All right, everybody, this was a great show. That is in the video description now, and I will see you all again in seven hours. All right, for the latest analysis. Take care. See you.