

Trump Greenlights FULL ATTACK as Iran SMASHES 19 Tankers | Seyed M. Marandi

Iran's missile blitz overnight in the Strait of Hormuz represented the largest in months as the pressure is on Trump to settle on a deal he's rejected or return to full war. Prof. Mohammad Marandi discusses the breaking developments as war escalates. 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> #iranwar #trump

#Danny

Welcome back to the show, everyone. Be sure to, in the chat, if you can, just make sure you say that you can hear us. We were having some technical difficulties. We are back here with Professor Saeed Mohammad Marandi to go over the latest developments. Professor Marandi, I wanted to begin. For the second straight day, according to FlightRadar, I'll pull it up in a bit, but large numbers of U.S. C-130H military transport aircraft have been heading toward the Middle East. They can carry up to 42,000 pounds of military cargo, 90-plus combat troops, and much more. This comes, Professor Marandi, as Iran has hit 19 vessels, according to the Iranian Navy, in the last 48 hours. Seven yesterday.

12 the day before. This comes as Donald Trump at the United Nations said he was going to annihilate Iran and then rejected the so-called seven-day proposal that Iran provided the United States for a way to begin actual negotiations, and the promise that a full-scale war was coming. It seems like, despite the fact that Donald Trump said that this would be coming after the November midterm elections, the U.S. is making preparations. How about you react to, first, Iran striking these vessels in the Strait of Hormuz? There are zero ships right now transporting in the last 12 hours, and as I reported yesterday, just one made it through in 24. Your analysis and understanding of what's going on right now.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Obviously, Trump has no intention of ending the war. And the Iranians have known that all along. And they've been gradually building up the pressure. Now, some people wonder, why does Iran allow so much oil to go through the Strait of Hormuz? It is largely because some of that oil is Iranian. But most of that oil goes to—almost all of that oil goes to countries that are friendly to Iran,

countries like China, countries in the subcontinent, and other countries. Iran does not want to destroy the economies of its friends, but it wants to keep the pressure up on Trump because Americans and people across the world know that the problems are due to Trump and Netanyahu. They won't shut down the Strait unless they have to.

But now, because Trump has specifically said that he wants to, according to reports, he wants to initiate hostile activities or initiate a hot war right after the midterms, the Iranians have decided to punish him and to build the pressure on Trump. But also, I think that the Iranians do want to hurt him in the midterms, to make him suffer the consequences of his barbaric and brutal war. And so they're going to build up pressure during the next five weeks or so. Not that anyone in Iran is naive that the war will end after the midterms. That's definitely not the case. In fact, the Iranian government, they've shifted to a wartime economy, and that clearly indicates that they're planning for a war that will last a very, very long time.

That doesn't mean it will necessarily last a very, very long time, but that's the basis upon which they are planning for the future. So now the Iranians are limiting the number of ships that can go through. One is to put pressure on Trump. Two is to show the world that Trump is not in control of the Strait of Hormuz. And it is only through Iranian consent that ships get through. There are some ships that get through without Iranian consent. There's no doubt about that, but they're very few in number. And especially during the past few days, the Iranians have been, let's say, more lenient because the president was in New York, and his security is very important for Iran.

And America has taken advantage of that. So they increased the number of ships that would travel through without Iranian consent. And now that the president is back, the Iranians are taking a more heavy-handed approach. But we have to keep in mind that Iran does not want the Strait to be closed. Iran wants it to be normal. But this is a war that's been imposed upon the country. We're dealing with a person who is threatening to carry out a Holocaust, whose genocidal ambitions or his genocidal threats, he makes them not only in public, but now he makes them in front of the international community at the UN General Assembly.

He says that to the victors go the spoils when he was talking about Venezuela, and when it came to Iran, he was talking about annihilating a civilization that has been around for thousands of years. So the Iranians have no option but to hurt Trump, the Trump economy, the Trump military, until the Trump regime backs off. And so the reason for this war is Zionism. It's the Israeli regime. Otherwise, the situation in the Strait of Hormuz, the Persian Gulf, would have been normal and continue to be normal, and the lives of people across the world wouldn't be increasingly difficult because of Trump's war.

#Danny

Unfortunately, this platform is not allowing me to pull up FlightRadar24, which is showing this massive U.S. military buildup. But Trump is also reporting—or should I say, Axios is reporting

through the Trump administration—that Trump is actually seeking talks through mediators as soon as Monday. However, this military buildup seems to tell a different story. How much is Iran calculating this as being another example? Araghchi said yesterday that there is no trust in the United States at this point in negotiations. How much are they calculating that full-scale attacks might resume much sooner than the November elections, given everything that Trump has said and where the war is now?

#Seyed M. Marandi

The belief is that war could take place much sooner than the November 3rd elections for a number of reasons. One, because Netanyahu may want war, and Netanyahu may need war for his own election campaign. Whether the United States attacks Iran or the Israeli regime initiates an attack on Iran, he may need that if he feels that he's going to lose, so that it may change the equation to his benefit. And that's what he does. So there's always this chance that war could begin earlier. Some believe that Trump would prefer war after the midterms, and others believe that Netanyahu would like war before the midterms.

But I think ultimately Trump is being pushed to quicken his war plans because he's basically shown his hand to the Iranians. And the Iranians are not going to just sit back and wait for him to attack the country at a time that he feels is most appropriate. So the Iranians are increasing pressure on the Strait of Hormuz. And of course, they can escalate further and they can broaden. But if there is war, Danny, have no doubt that the Iranians are going to be very, very tough, and they're not going to pull any punches. And if Trump does carry out his threat of annihilating 95 million people, the Iranians will destroy the countries that are involved in this attempted Holocaust.

And that would mean the utter destruction of the countries in the Persian Gulf, all of their oil and gas assets, their electricity, because they're complicit in this Holocaust, or this attempted Holocaust. And of course, the Israeli regime will be battered from top to bottom. So the choice would be Trump's. And Iran wants to make sure that the world sees Trump as the aggressor, always. And that is why the Iranians have gone to the UN. And that is why the Iranians have presented this, let's say, condensed version of the MOU. The Iranians want their allies to see Iran as the side that is peaceful, and especially because of the Chinese, because the summit in Washington was important for China, obviously.

And President Xi and the Iranians, they coordinated beforehand. The foreign ministers of the two countries met on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, then on the sidelines of the BRICS summit. During both summits, the two sides were increasing their coordination and cooperation. But then the Iranian foreign minister went to Beijing, and that was to coordinate even further the position. So the Iranians told the Chinese that we are more than willing to go back to the MOU. That was very good for China. And right before President Xi traveled to Washington, the Iranians put forward this, as I said, this condensed version of the MOU, which strengthened President Xi's hand at the negotiating table. So when Trump was trying to force him to take a

position, he could say, "Well, you've already signed an agreement, and just go back to implementing that."

#Danny

Right, right. That's, uh, that's exactly how it seemed things were transpiring, that Iran was repackaging the MOU, which, as you said, already signed. Uh, Professor Marandi, one interesting thing: you know, the UK Maritime Trade Operations Organization, what we rely on for news about what's happening to vessels in the Strait of Hormuz and in other maritime corridors, they have not reported any ships hit in the last 24 hours. And that's leading some to speculate whether Iran was involved in hitting ships at all or mining the Omani-side so-called corridor that the United States is trying to use. What do you think? What's your take on this? How are people talking about it in Iran when it comes to enforcing Iran's control over the strait right now?

#Sayed M. Marandi

Well, it's obvious that their policy has changed for quite a while. And they are not reporting what is going on in the Strait of Hormuz under duress from their own government and from the United States. So if everything is going smoothly, then why is Trump all of a sudden sending all of these planes to the Persian Gulf region when he says that he wants things quiet for now, and then after the midterm elections, he will, according to Western media, assault Iran? So if there's a sudden change in policy, there must be a reason for it. If Iran is incapable of blocking ships that do not have authorization—and remember, these are ships that are willing to participate in the war against Iran—Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the Emirates, Bahrain, they are all partners in crime.

They are all partners in the assault on Iranian children, Iranian citizens, destroying the hospitals and schools and pharmaceutical factories and so on, apartment blocks. So it's not as if Iran is randomly stopping oil from countries that have nothing to do with this war. No, in fact, Iran is stopping oil from countries that have directly harmed the Iranian people, that have directly been involved in the murder and slaughter of Iranian children. So again, going back to what I said earlier, if Iran was incapable of stopping these ships, then why would Trump even feel the need to carry out another—or to initiate another—hot war with Iran? It's obvious that he's bringing in all these weapon systems because the situation is not going well for him.

#Danny

Right. And Trump himself, there's a huge incongruity. And this is why I've been trying to emphasize in the last few programs, connecting the dots rather than what we are hearing in terms of words and reports coming from the U.S. side, the U.K. Maritime Transport Organization, all of these. They're not providing the information anymore, and this has been the case for a long time, as you said. But there is a discrepancy. Trump said today, or was it the last 12 hours or so, 24 hours, he said that Iran has overplayed its hand with the Strait of Hormuz. That's how he's framing it, even

as the United States—we don't know what it's for. It's probably for some kind of attack, but it also could be for these so-called escorts. I mean, it's a combination probably of both. But there's a huge discrepancy there, Professor Marandi. Your comments on that and what Trump is saying in terms of Iran now having overplayed its hand.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Well, Trump has been saying that Iran has been defeated for seven months now. And he said that, you know, he said so many times that Iran doesn't have a leadership. The country is falling apart. They are on their knees. They don't have any military capability. I've already won the war. He said, "I've won the war" dozens of times. But when you have to say that you've won the war dozens of times, and when you have to keep telling people that the Strait of Hormuz is open and that the ships that I want to get through are getting through every day, that does indicate that probably things are not going very well. If a company has to put out statements every day that we don't have financial problems, that there is no financial crisis, that our business is performing very well, I think that indicates that there's something really bad going on for that corporation, that company, because when it keeps repeating something, it creates the impression that actually things are the opposite. The company is doing very poorly.

#Danny

Well, I'll read from Fars News on X. Their report now that came out about five hours ago says, "New details on confrontations with violating ships in the Strait of Hormuz. Iran's armed forces have engaged with ships attempting to pass through unauthorized routes in the Strait of Hormuz over the past two nights. According to our follow-up, last night seven violating ships, and the night before, 12 violating ships were targeted." And of course, everyone would say, Professor Marandi, that Iranian media cannot be trusted. It's only one side.

It's only one source. The problem that we have right now, Professor Marandi, is that on the U.S. Western mainstream media side, we have almost a blackout on what's going on in the region and with the war. I don't know if you caught the increasing casualty numbers that are coming, shockingly and maybe unsurprisingly for some, on the Navy sailors and the Marine side, both of which were targeted in recent strikes, including the September 5th missile test that Mohsen Rezaei spoke about. Your thoughts on this?

#Seyed M. Marandi

Yes, it is interesting that these numbers are increasing, and we don't really know if they're anywhere close to the real numbers. The fact is that the best way to always assess who is right and who is wrong is to look at the reality on the ground. It has been seven months. The United States hasn't won the war. Has the Iranian government collapsed? Is the country in starvation? And of course, this is what the United States wants. And this is a very important point for your viewers. The

objective of the United States is to starve the Iranian people. Right now, the reason why they're trying to shut down all the Iranian flights is because it is through these flights that medicine comes into the country. A lot of medicine that is needed comes by airplane.

And other than that, people who move back and forth are mostly people, pilgrims, and tourists. And these flights are not key. For example, in the case of Iraq, the trade that exists between these two countries goes through the land corridors. Iran and Iraq have a large business relationship with each other. They're neighbors, obviously. That's a good reason why they have such extensive ties. So not much goes through the flights. It's ordinary people. But in general, these flights are very important for medicine. So the United States is trying to block Iran from having medicine. Why? It wants people to suffer. It wants people to die. It wants society to suffer. And Trump himself and the people around him constantly speak about strangling Iran, starving the country, saying that they have nothing left.

#Danny

In other words, starvation.

#Seyed M. Marandi

In other words, making children starve. That's the objective. And that's what the West has done for three years in Gaza. No one should be surprised because the West has no values. They have zero. This is the Epstein class. They have no values when it comes to their own people, let alone when it comes to other people. They're ruthless and brutal. So the objective is to bring the Iranian people to their knees so that they submit to the demands of the empire. And we saw Trump say that again, as I said earlier, in his UN speech, when he said... Looks like we might have lost you, Professor Morandi.

#Danny

Sorry, Professor Morandi, maybe you want to review that. Is it better now? Continue. Yeah, just continue off what you were talking about with Trump's UN speech.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Yes. Yeah, sure. I was saying that when he spoke and said, "To the victor go the spoils," this also means Iran. It's not just Venezuela. It's everyone.

#Danny

Right. So, Professor Morandi, it seems like we're losing you again. You said, "To the victor go the spoils." It's not just Venezuela, it's everyone. Do you want to continue that point?

#Seyed M. Marandi

Yes, sure. I was saying that that means everyone, and that also includes Iran. So, on the one hand, he wants to starve Iran. He wants to take the spoils. But you don't see any moral outrage in the European Parliament. You don't see it in Western media. You don't see it in Canada. Even though they're being hurt by the Trump regime, you see the Canadian prime minister supporting the Israeli regime and lashing out at Iran. The same is true in Australia and New Zealand. So Iran has no option but to remain steadfast because it knows that appeasing Trump will only make the situation worse, and Trump will go after the destruction of the country and stealing the country's resources.

#Danny

One thing, Professor Morandi, that I found stunning about the discrepancy between Trump's words and the U.S.'s actions right now is, the United States is saying that they fully control the strait. Iran has overplayed its hand. And we even have proof—I can pull it up in a second—of the Persian Gulf Authority receiving literal letters from tankers that are apologizing for using or trying to use the Omani corridor and essentially saying they will do what the Persian Gulf Authority said. That's a pretty damning statement on where things actually are. Your comments on this? I'll pull it up right now.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Well, it just indicates that Trump is lying. And I don't think your viewers will be shocked to hear from me or from anyone else that he lies. And Western media, as you know, and as we all know, even though much of the elite despise Trump, when it comes to the empire, they're not going to support the victims. They didn't support the Venezuelan people. They don't support the Cuban people. There's no moral outrage about the threats that are being made against Cuba. And the same is true with Iran. So no one should bet on Western elites standing up against Trump unless, of course, they're forced to do so by the public and by citizens, which remains to be seen. But for now, we don't see any indication of that. If the situation is normal, then Trump has nothing to worry about. He's already defeated Iran.

He's already getting all the energy supplies that he needs. The U.S. economy should be fine, and the price of diesel and oil and fertilizer and all other goods, helium, natural gas, LNG, all of them should be going down very rapidly now. And he should be focusing on the midterms. But the reality is that he is very worried about the midterms, despite saying otherwise. The very fact that he says that after the midterms, the war will come to an end is in order to convince people to give them another chance, as I think Vance recently put it. That is a desperate position to take. Why shouldn't he end the war now, before the midterms? He has five weeks or so to do so. But he's talking about after the midterms because he wants his voters to stick with him. And then after the midterms pass, then he can carry out whatever atrocities he wants to.

#Danny

Professor Marandi, I pulled up this letter. What's redacted by the Persian Gulf Strait Authority is—Persian Gulf. Oh, sorry, the Persian Gulf Strait Authority, yes. What's redacted is what exact vessel it is, any identifying information. But nevertheless, after saying that we were under a lot of pressure and we proceeded without following the rules, this was the most important part to me: "We fully recognize and respect the PSGA's complete jurisdiction over the waters of the Strait of Hormuz and its navigation management regulations."

So, you know, in effect, this shows that, you know, Iran is indeed enforcing a significant level of control of the Strait of Hormuz. And your point that, one, the United States should ultimately, if they control the Strait of Hormuz, then the war is essentially over, in their opinion. Right. I mean, it's, oh, this is what the war has been about for so long. Right. They've reopened the strait. They've won. But yet oil prices do not reflect that, as you said, and also U.S. military activity does not reflect that. Mind you, what Iran just did, too, Professor Marandi, has been used as justification for renewed strikes by the United States as well. So your thoughts on this?

#Seyed M. Marandi

Well, a couple of things that we have to remember, and that is that—first of all, the United States is only waging this war because of the Israeli regime. So whatever suffering we see across the world is because of Trump and Netanyahu and the Zionist lobby, as Joe Kent said in his resignation letter. He was appointed by Trump. He was the head of counterterrorism. And he said that Iran was not building a nuclear weapon. This is all just fake misinformation to fool the American people and to convince them to support the war. What was the real reason? It was because the Zionist lobby, the Israeli regime, wanted this war. So whatever difficulties people are facing, the culprit is in Washington, or the culprits are in Washington.

And the ultimate reason why these people in Washington are launching this war is because Iran supports the Palestinian people and because Iran is the only truly independent country in this region. So it is suffering the consequences of its opposition to genocide. But ultimately, if Trump escalates—we had this conversation a couple of times before—during the war, I said that the resistance in Yemen and the resistance in Iraq, once the escalation reaches a certain point, they will enter the battle. And we've already seen how Yemen has shifted the balance of power. Iraq has not made a move yet. But look at what's going on in the streets of Iraq.

People are on the streets protesting the fact that the prime minister of Iraq has been forced to obey Trump, and the rage is growing. And so if we have war, then the resistance in Iraq, which is huge, and they are very well equipped for obvious reasons—so the resistance in Iraq, which is larger than Hezbollah, they can do what Yemen does. And the United States should not really bet on the Strait of Hormuz because ultimately, without the oil fields, without the ports, without the gas fields, without the refineries and the petrochemicals, there is no need for the Strait of Hormuz. So if the

United States escalates and then these oil wells or these gas fields are destroyed, then the whole debate over the Strait of Hormuz becomes irrelevant.

And so Yemen today has shifted the balance of power. If the resistance in Iraq enters the fray, it'll get far worse. And then, of course, the Iranians have been preparing themselves for war. Today, Iran is far more prepared for war than it was seven months ago, no doubt. The economy is more difficult, of course, but the government has shifted to a wartime economy so that it could outlast Trump. Yet the government has also given a huge budget to the military this year. Iran has traditionally had the lowest military expenditure in the region. People can look that up, by far, which shows that Iran never had any hostile intent. It spent its money wisely, unlike other countries, on technology, on underground bases.

That's partially what led the country to victory, alongside the extraordinary resilience of the Iranian people and the people of the resistance front. But Iran today has a much larger budget for the armed forces of Iran. And they've been building more underground bases, expanding current bases, command and control bases, and they've been developing new technology, improving their missiles, both their capabilities to get past air defenses, but also their precision. So today Iran is more prepared for war. And we've seen how Iran's effectiveness has increased over time. If you compare True Promise 1 to True Promise 2, and then 3, you see an evolution. And then in the latest strikes, especially on Jordan, we saw how devastating the Iranian strikes were.

#Danny

So again, this is not a war that Trump will win.

#Seyed M. Marandi

And the Iranians, they have no option. A person who says, "To the victor go the spoils," and who threatens a country with a holocaust, there's no other way to deal with him than to stand up to him and defeat him.

#Danny

First of all, is there any concern right now in Iran about, you know, the Israeli elections are coming sooner than the midterm elections? And I don't know how many years we've been talking about Benjamin Netanyahu and the Israeli regime not wanting even a cosmetic change in political leadership, and how war has been integral toward making that happen. Well, Israel is having a hard time escalating to the point in both Lebanon and Palestine, despite the horrific war crimes they are committing there, to the point to justify freezing the elections under their so-called constitution. But could a renewed war against Iran do that? And we know that Israel, despite not wanting to get

involved in direct strikes lately, they've been the biggest champion of resuming strikes behind the scenes, or at least the biggest champion outside of maybe Admiral Bradley Cooper and some of the warmongers in Washington. What's your view on this?

#Seyed M. Marandi

I think that, in general, the belief in Tehran is that Netanyahu and all Israeli politicians, killing gets them more votes. The more they kill, the more they murder, the more they slaughter, the more popular they become. If you kill kids in Gaza, if you slaughter families in Lebanon, it's all good. It helps. And so at this stage, where Netanyahu feels worried about his own fate and may end up in jail, and he's an old person, so he may not last that long, one can envisage a situation where he would reignite a war, perhaps in the hope to delay the election if things are not going well, which is a somewhat complicated process, or for a rally-around-the-flag effect. And so we'll have to see how that plays out. There are so many things happening.

There's Trump right now moving towards escalation, initially claiming that he was stating that he will relaunch the war after the midterms. There's this move towards escalation now, and through Bessent as well. And there is, of course, the Israeli prime minister's needs that we have to consider too in our evaluation of the situation. So anything can happen, Danny. It can happen now. It can happen next week. It can happen next month. It can happen in two or three months. But as I've said before, all roads lead to hell. Whether it is the current trajectory or an escalation, a military escalation, or an all-out war where Trump tries to carry out his Holocaust, the global situation will deteriorate. In one way, it will lead to the collapse of the global economy very swiftly and lead to global catastrophe very swiftly.

In the middle lane, it will do so rapidly, but not as fast as that. And it will ultimately lead to catastrophe. And the current situation, if this just continues, it is also going to lead to catastrophe. So none of these—so the only way forward for this to come to an end is for Trump to accept MOU. That is the only option. And Iran is not going to change its policy with regards to the deal or the implementation of the deal. And again, I have to remind myself that all of this is just because the Americans wanted to let the Israelis expand, to take more land, to kill more people, to take Gaza, to take the West Bank, to take Lebanon, to take Syria, and then tomorrow to take further territory across the region.

We've already seen the U.S. ambassador to the Israeli regime say that very openly. We're seeing senior Israeli leaders speak about that openly. The Greater Israel project is not a myth. It is clearer than it has ever been before. And in addition to that, the genocidal intent of the regime and the genocidal behavior of the regime is clear for everyone to see. So the Israeli regime and the Trump regime leave very little room for maneuver for Iran and the Axis of Resistance because they are struggling for the survival of the entire region.

#Danny

The rest of the region is unwilling to do anything.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Georgia continues to transport oil to the Israeli regime, cheap oil from the Baku regime. Jordan, despite the rhetoric of the king at the UN, is completely obedient to the Trump regime and the empire. Jordan has played a major role in the assaults on Iran. And then, of course, Egypt is carrying out business as usual. So no one is willing to take a stand. And Iran, of course, supports the Palestinian people, but it also has to take a stand because we're dealing with genocidal intent.

#Danny

Scott Bessent, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, said today that Iran's economy is just weeks from collapse. He said two weeks. Accurate, Professor Morandi, or inaccurate? This, of course, comes as the United States is taking—the Secretary of the Treasury in particular, but the Trump administration as well—victory laps about Iran's currency situation, oil exports reducing. What do you make of the reports that in a couple of weeks Iran's economy will be in collapse?

#Danny

Did we lose you? Okay. I think we got you back up. Okay. Looks like Professor Morandi had to go for a second. Hopefully he'll come back in a moment, and I will readmit him here. But yeah, that's what's happening. There is an imminent collapse of Iran's economy, according to Scott Bessent. Here comes Professor Morandi now, hopefully back with us soon. We're having some connection problems because Professor Morandi is coming back from abroad. He is traveling right now. Can you see me? I can see you. I can see you, Professor Morandi. You're back. Now, the question was Scott Bessent's conclusion that Iran's economy is collapsing in two weeks: accurate or inaccurate? What's the reality? Well, you know, I told you, as you know, I am in Moscow.

#Seyed M. Marandi

And Iran was supposed to have no more flights, and the entire world was supposed to disconnect itself from Iran right now. And I've flown using an Iranian plane to Moscow, and I'm currently in Moscow. And I plan to return to Iran shortly. That's, I think—I mean, the hotel connection, unfortunately, is not very good, and the VPN that I'm using is not adequate. So I apologize for that. But I think that this very fact that I'm speaking to you here from Moscow indicates that one of Bessent's claims and one of the things that he boasted about doing is complete nonsense.

#Danny

We're hearing, Professor Morandi, too, that Turkey, despite claiming it was going to get on board with the airliner sanctions against Iran, we're also hearing that Iranian cargo planes and commercial

planes are touching down inside of Ankara as well. So there seem to be a lot of holes with this. Iran has promised, though—and in terms of other aspects of this war, it just keeps on ballooning, it seems like—Iran has said they will respond to any country that goes along with these sanctions. What could Iran do? They're ruling out military strikes. They're not saying that they're going to blow up, let's say, the UAE's international airport. But what else could they do if they won't do that? They said their response will be quite strong.

#Danny

Might be having a little bit of trouble connecting. Did you hear that question for us, Morandi? You might have lost me. So, can you hear me at all?

#Seyed M. Marandi

One, two, three, yeah.

#Danny

Yeah, it looks like we're losing.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Well, I think there are a number of things. One is—can you hear me?

#Danny

Yes, I can. Please continue.

#Seyed M. Marandi

I don't know if you can hear me or not.

#Seyed M. Marandi

And I apologize. Things are not in my hands.

#Danny

We can hear you now.

#Seyed M. Marandi

Please continue. One of the things that Iran can do is make travel through the Strait of Hormuz more difficult for those countries. And these countries are very vulnerable. They depend completely on oil and gas and trade. And with things as they are—yes, I was saying that these countries, if Iran puts more pressure on them and oil to go through, or it decreases the amount of oil that can go through this trade, these countries are very vulnerable. They need oil, gas. They have nothing else going for them. They need trade, and things will go down very fast.

They are more vulnerable than anyone else. Ironically, Bessent is strangling them more than he's succeeding in strangling anyone else. And that is bad for the U.S. economy. But also, Iran could expand a no-fly zone beyond its current borders to make travel more difficult. And then, ultimately, as a last resort, Iran could take military action. So there are many stages, or many means, through which the Iranians could exert pressure on these regimes. And I think that the last two nights, ever since the president returned to Iran, we are seeing the Iranians increasing the pressure already.

#Danny

Yeah, and there's also been—I'm curious on your thoughts on this—a so-called terror plot was foiled in the United Kingdom at a military base that houses B-1 bombers. And now UK authorities are investigating whether Iran was behind it. Do you find that Iran would take—you know, everyone talks about this war being asymmetric—but do you find that Iran would take these kind of measures in order to continue to inflict pain on the United States and their, you know, vassals? Or do you find this to be, you know, fabricated for other means?

#Seyed M. Marandi

I think that the likelihood of this being a false flag operation is very high, although I don't have any information. But I would look in that direction more than anything else. Right now, we've been waiting for false flag operations—something in the United States, a mass killing that they could attribute to Iran, or somewhere in Europe to convince Europeans to participate, or maybe somewhere in East Asia. But the belief has always been, at least for me and for many people in Iran, that at some point the Israelis will try to attempt—Mossad, Western intelligence agencies will try to carry out a major false flag operation to convince people that they need to support the war.

#Danny

Right. You know, in the last—we have about five more minutes of our time, a little bit less. You know, talk about where things are headed. Possible, of course, U.S. attacks coming very soon. But at the same time, it does feel like there's a major crisis, or multiplying crises, that the United States is facing. I'm curious whether Iran feels the kind of pressure, in a different form perhaps, that the U.

S. does, because that's the narrative we're hearing now, is that Iran is feeling a lot of pressure to advance their aims in the war. But at the same time, the U.S. crises seem to be all that we talk about in the mainstream media, truthfully. So, your thoughts on where things are headed?

#Seyed M. Marandi

It's difficult to say, Danny. I think things are going to get worse, and I don't see any indication of them getting better. I think the global economy is heading for darker times. And as I said, I think there are different lanes, but they all lead to the same hellish situation that Netanyahu and Trump are imposing on the world. Hopefully, something will happen and the Trump and Netanyahu regimes will be forced to back down. But as things stand, I think that the world is heading towards catastrophe.

#Danny

Everybody, this was a great show. I want to make sure I acknowledge all who gave super chats. Thanks to Patricia Trimble for becoming a member. Thanks to Truth or Fib, who says they plan to send 40,000 one-ton bombs. What's the plan, Professor Rodney? I don't know if you have any thoughts on that as I put up the rest.

#Danny

All right, it looks like we're having a large lag here. So thank you so much to Mystic Mac, \$70. Appreciate it. That's very generous. Thanks so much to Monica Moore and then Farzana Deem, as always, for watching. I want to thank everybody who watched today. I want to thank all the moderators from We're Pilgrim. I know we had Patty in here. I believe I'm forgetting one other person. Sam Garcia, were you in here? Anyway, thanks so much as well. I see her going. All the moderators, thanks so much for your assistance. First of all, I don't know if you can hear me anymore, but I want to thank you for coming on the show. We're going to end it here. Any final words before we head out?

#Seyed M. Marandi

Just always remember that children are being killed every day in Gaza, and Lebanon is being bombed every day. And despite the threats made against Iran and the possible war, we should not be distracted away from what is going on in Gaza and the West Bank and in the areas surrounding the Israeli regime.

#Danny

Yeah, most definitely. You heard him. Be sure to continue to follow developments here. Continue to follow what's happening in West Asia. Hit the like button before you go. All the links to support this

channel, Patreon, Substack, much more in the video description. And be sure tomorrow to view at 12 noon Eastern Time this program, September 28th, with our mutual friend Pepe Escobar. Thanks so much, everyone. We are headed out. Hit the like button. Thanks to all who watched. Thanks to all the moderators once again for your hard work. And I will see you all tomorrow, September 28th, 12 p.m. Eastern Time. Sorry about that. 12 p.m. Eastern Time, noon, 6 p.m. Central Europe. See you then. Bye-bye.