

Iran BLOWS UP Trump's Invasion Plan | Patrick Henningsen

Geopolitical analyst Patrick Henningsen joins the show to discuss Trump's imminent operation against Iran that no one is talking about, and why the US and Israel are finding themselves on the path to escalation despite the mounting consequences of nearly 8 months of war. <https://www.youtube.com/@21stCenturyWireTV> Patrick's YouTube <https://patrickhenningsen.substack.com/> 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> #israel #iranwar #trump

#Danny

Welcome back, everyone. As you can see, I am joined by Patrick Henningsen of 21st Century Wire to go over the latest developments. Well, first, Patrick, my question to you is this. The United States seems to be gearing up for another attack on Iran, or an escalating attack. The third aircraft carrier heading to the region, 10,000 or so more U.S. personnel, troops, Marines, and the like. Some have said there might be a naval landing attempted, that there's some plots that the U.S. and Israel have up their sleeve against Iran. But the world situation is certainly intensifying. False flags abound. A lot of things to talk about. Patrick, where do you want to begin? What is going on right now with this war on Iran and the overall world situation unfolding right now?

#Patrick Henningsen

Addressing the situation you pointed out, rightly, that the U.S. rhetoric, Trump's threats, seem to have escalated once again, that in itself I don't think is anything significant, because he's kind of on and off threatened annihilation of Iran, I think probably half a dozen times over the last three months. So from that point of view, I'm not going to get too alerted. And, you know, in terms of the reports of the third aircraft carrier, it's my understanding that it's rotating in to relieve another aircraft carrier. So it's not actually a third; it's more likely to be a second. So that's just my initial read on it. I could be, of course, wrong. And that's also the same with the troop rotation as well.

It's not additional troops. They're cycling out troops and then bringing in, I think, the reports of 9,000 troops. So again, it's nothing, to me, very significant. Certainly, that's nothing, 9,000 or 10,000 U.S. troops. And those all are not combat-ready. And so what are they going to do, take territory in

Iran? They'd have a better chance invading Oman. That's not off the table, by the way. I think we spoke about that earlier. Just looking down the road, that's strategically something I'm sure the Trump administration are looking at, which is to take control of the other side of the Strait of Hormuz, physically take control. That would be massively controversial and crazy, cause a massive uproar globally if they did that.

But you're dealing—if Trump keeps making these threats of annihilation or veiled nuclear threats, nuclear ambiguity, like at the United Nations General Assembly, that was nuclear ambiguity sprinkled into his speech there. If they continue doing this but are not able to deliver on all these other ambitious declarations that he's made over the last six months, they will do something. I think the Trump administration will do something. The blockade, certainly that's not going to keep Trump and the U.S. government excited and engaged forever. So what would be the next step? It would be some sort of show of force, something symbolic. They're not going to go reestablish any of their existing bases.

However, what they have done, which to me is quite disturbing from the Gulf states' point of view, they've managed to twist the arms of the Saudis and the Qataris, as an example, and they're using their bases again as staging areas. So it's just kind of insane that they would do that, because that's really inviting missile strikes from Iran, unless the U.S. knows something that we don't, Danny, and Iran won't be able to retaliate, won't be able to hit those bases in Qatar, Al Udeid, and also in Saudi Arabia. I mean, come on. That's, to me, a little bit baffling, but maybe there's a method to their madness there. So anyway, just initially, those are the things I'm looking at, that I'm seeing.

Clearly, the timeline is set. Trump can't do anything really outrageous before the midterm elections because it will most surely blow up in his face. There's not enough lead time before the midterms because any attack on Iran would be met with a retaliation, and then a counter, and then another attack. That could take a week or two, and that would take weeks to unwind from that. The press would be horrible. You know the press is going to pounce on anything right now with regards to the Republicans and Trump—anything. So he knows that the timeline would have to be after. So, I mean, what exactly is going on, I have no idea. I wouldn't also discount, Danny, from a political point of view.

Donald Trump likes cheap stunts. He likes to declare peace. He likes to claim that he stopped this war. Even if he started the war, he'll want a medal or a trophy for stopping a war that he started. I would not rule out some kind of shenanigans along these lines before the midterms, like a faux peace agreement or something crazy. I just don't see an attack. I personally don't see it on the cards before the midterms. I don't. But maybe after. I certainly would expect that's a high possibility. He's already foreshadowed that. But a faux peace move, which will probably be hollow, shallow, and meaningless, and will have zero follow-through, purely for optics ahead of the elections.

I would not rule that out. But is that consequential? What about the last times that they've done that? No, it's not really consequential. It's just politics. It's just manipulating the market. So more of

the same, really, but maybe with a bit more drama ahead of the midterms. But, you know, slightly better film, slightly better movie, slightly better blockbuster. But at the end of the day, it's still a B movie. So that's what I'm looking at in terms of that theater now. But there are some breaking developments in the last 24 hours, not all of which I have had time to really delve into, but certainly if you have anything in that regard, I'd be happy to discuss it.

#Danny

Well, I think what you said there, which was very important, was shenanigans and Trump's attraction, and his whole administration, for that matter, their attraction to stunts, which could indeed—there could be a peace stunt, although it would certainly be hard to convince Iran to go along with it. And then there's the idea of a stunt that could be military in nature and maybe not have the effect of any kind of—you know, it might not do anything to Iran in terms of changing the political and military landscape of this war, but it could be a show of force.

And I don't know what you think about that, because I'm seeing all of the various reports on social media, and they are... You know, in the way that people report this, some very sensationalist, just trying to get clicks, but others contemplating what could be at play here. And some of these scenarios I'm hearing are seemingly very much about that. Ten thousand troops isn't going to get you a ground invasion, but even a couple more thousand could get you some kind of stunt attack. Yeah. What do you think about this? I mean, the way that this war is going now, it does feel like there's a lot of desperation behind the administration.

#Patrick Henningsen

Well, you know, I always look at the—read the tea leaves for high-profile events prior to any potential escalation. And if I go back to January 2015, we were following the news very closely, and you had the Charlie Hebdo—if I'm not mistaken, I got my timeline correct—the Charlie Hebdo supposed terrorist attack in Paris, which was so—I mean—very, very dubious official story on that. And again, passport in mint condition on the truck, the usual on the back of that. CNN was dispatched literally within minutes. It's almost as if they had foreknowledge. Anderson Cooper, Chris Cuomo, everybody was over there in the shot, staging news broadcasts and so forth. But what was interesting is, when the Charlie Hebdo attack happened, they really made a big deal about them being from Yemen.

So it was al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, these two French, the Kouachi brothers, who they were called, that they had somehow gone to Yemen, and the passport records magically materialized at light speed. And they—oh, they're on the radar of the security service. And Yemen was the culprit. So when I saw that, it was very interesting. So some of us, you know, in the sort of research and journalistic community were like, "Is something about to happen in Yemen?" And sure enough,

Yemen got in the news, Obama makes statements, and next thing you know, we're backing a proxy war using Saudi Arabia against Ansar Allah, or the Houthis, in March, just about two months after that.

So it seemed like the media landscape had been prepped that something had to be done in Yemen, even though al-Qaeda and Ansar Allah are on the opposite ends of the ideological spectrum. One is a Gulf- and Western-backed terrorist confab, and the other is a grassroots revolutionary movement that's currently in power in Yemen. They're not the rebels. Ansar Allah are in power. They occupy the capital. They have control over the majority of the populated areas. They're not rebels, although that's how it's framed in the West. So when you look at the flydubai incident, of course, where is the pilot from? Oman. An Omani pilot. So Netanyahu is saying that there must have been the hand of Iran behind this rogue pilot who, by the way, how did he get in through security when I believe there's a prohibition on any Omani passengers or pilots coming into Israel?

Like, how could he have passed? Because Israel—Israel has screening in the Emirates for those flights. So that didn't make sense. He looked like—could he have been a last-minute substitute? I'm just pointing out that the way Israel is trying to blow up this flydubai incident as Israel's 9/11, making Oman—an Omani pilot, who they're currently interrogating right now, Danny, in Israel. Now, what are the odds they're going to get a confession out of him with Israeli interrogation? I mean, please. It's not that the Israelis would ever beat or torture people in prison to force confessions out of them. They've never done such a thing, have they?

#Danny

Palestinians know nothing about any of that.

#Patrick Henningsen

Yeah, yeah, suspected Hamas terrorists and whatnot. How many doctors and school teachers have been tortured to death by the Israelis in their gulag? But putting that aside, the implication is that Iran is the hidden hand, that Iran somehow is exerting influence over Oman and radicalizing, creating terror. Again, here's that terrorist inference. So this type of thing and anything along these lines would open the door for U.S. intervention in Oman. And if you think about it, that would be probably pretty easy. There's not a lot Iran could do.

If the U.S. put troops on the ground in the Strait of Hormuz on the Omani side, Iran would not—it would be very difficult, unless they had permission from the Sultan of Oman and that government, to fire missiles into Oman hitting U.S. positions. But it would be a real show of force for America. I mean, it would be really sort of, you know, big alpha move by Trump. And Iran wouldn't be able to touch them. The U.S. could kind of declare victory just by being there. And, you know, Fox will go wild. The graphics would be out. CNN would go wild. Maybe drop, you know, the 82nd Airborne in there. And who knows?

I mean, it's to that point of desperation for America because they need to wrestle control over the Strait of Hormuz away from Iran. And that, to me, would be the next logical move—not invading and holding territory in Kharg Island, because the U.S. forces would get vaporized. Right. Yeah, I mean, it'd be a mess, but they could do it in Oman. So that's why I believe that. And that they share a border with Yemen, so that would allow for clandestine operations by the U.S. over the border into Yemen to assist the beleaguered Saudi army-for-hire weekend warriors, whoever they've got left, which is just falling apart in the so-called, you know, internationally recognized government aid. And it's kind of a joke at this point.

But the U.S. will need to assist in that. You know, that's a U.S. proxy war which started under Obama. We've sunk a lot of resources, money, manpower. Lives have been lost. So there is a sunk cost to the partitioning of Yemen and that civil war, which the United States bears quite a lot over the last 12 years or 11 years in total. And Saudi Arabia is just getting their you-know-what handed to them by a much less equipped, less organized, less funded Ansar Allah, kind of almost like a collection of militias with some capabilities in terms of drones and missiles, and very good capabilities, by the way.

However, as weak as Ansar Allah is on paper compared to the Saudi Air Force and the Saudi military, they can absolutely outfight them. And Saudi has no ground forces. And not only that, people have to realize that the situation in Saudi—it's a police state. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a police state. They can't afford to empty out all of their gendarmerie-equivalent forces to go, like, dispatch them to go fight in the mountains of Yemen and try to preserve the contested territories as well in Jizan and Najran and all these other places, these three contested territories with Yemen. They can't do that. So they don't have any manpower. They don't.

That's why Yemen's rapidly retaking territory. And the United States—someone has to step in to help Saudi. Otherwise, you know, they may end up having to come back to try to retake lost territory. And I'm talking about the three provinces now in southwestern Saudi Arabia that they took after the war with Yemen in 1934. So there was a treaty signed, and then that treaty was reiterated with the Treaty of Jeddah in 2000. But we're talking about two different governments now since then, and the conditions on the ground, the situation, the geopolitics is totally different. So, you know, that treaty isn't worth the paper it's written on at this point.

#Danny

Wow. You know, Patrick, rarely am I shocked in the sense—I learn a lot on this program from people I have on in our discussions. Really, I'm shocked about this kind of scenario you just outlined, especially earlier when you were talking about Oman. I never even, for some reason, I never even thought about that. But when I think about what the U.S. is putting out there, what they have not tried already, the fact that Oman does have, even though it's not concrete U.S. installations, military bases there, the U.S. does use their facilities, ports and whatnot, or have, for military purposes.

And it would put Iran in a very... I don't even know if I want to say difficult, because we can't. There's a lot of potential problems with this scenario for the U.S. too. It's kind of a gamble. It's like, well, we're gambling that Iran won't strike inside of Oman, U.S. positions, if the U.S. tries to do something. Yes, it's a gamble, but it is more difficult for Iran in the sense that Oman and Iran, that relationship is very important to Iran. It would put Iran in a more difficult situation. I'm wondering first, because the Yemen situation seems also to be placing pressure on the U.S.-Saudi side for something like this.

We know that Saudi and Qatar now have new Patriot batteries that they're obviously going to use when strikes happen, and predicting that either Iran or Yemen will be firing missiles at them, or both. So your thoughts on this? Maybe you can elaborate, because it is a—when I look at this strategically, I'm like, whoa, that in a vacuum could work, or at least is a move that could be taken. And then I think also, oh, that could also lead to some big problems, similar risks to trying to land forces anywhere, really, for the United States close to Iran's border. Your thoughts on this?

#Patrick Henningsen

It's a huge risk because the point is what you just said. Iran has a friendly and allied relationship with the Kingdom of Oman, or the emirate, if you will, of Oman. And would they be jeopardizing that? I mean, the United States can get between Oman and Iran. And by the way, one of the triggers for this, one of the mechanisms would probably be British intelligence, British military, because Britain has long maintained some kind of a friendly relationship with Oman and have used it for a lot of different purposes. There's a lot of British intelligence activity, and has been for a very long time. And Oman, it's so strategic, as we know. So you can bet your bottom dollar that British will be there and will probably be major facilitators should the U.S. want to do anything there.

But yeah, it is a big gamble, is a big gamble. The U.S. can't deploy any ground troops in Yemen. That's a nightmare, probably as much of a nightmare as deploying ground troops into southern Iran. So you can rule that one out. But the thing is, it's going to get so complicated now. Saudi Arabia has, I think, been pushed into a corner by the Trump administration. It's my belief that the Trump administration pushed them to attack Sana'a airport going on now two months ago. And that started the cycle of fighting with Ansar Allah in Yemen. And that's a war, a battle that Saudi Arabia cannot win. Obviously, look at what's happening.

It's, uh, the halting of exports. They've lost the Strait of Hormuz, and now they've lost Yanbu and the east-west petrol lifeline, really, for the Saudi economy. So it's a losing gambit. The problem is it's going to get worse because they've gone down this road. And I think the U.S. did—I think the Trump administration pushed them in a quid pro quo, because there's a lot of pressure for Saudi Arabia to join the Abraham Accords and to normalize relations with Israel and to give up on this, you know, insisting on a Palestinian state. And the U.S. dangled quite a few carrots in the last three

months: a uranium enrichment nuclear power deal with Saudis. That was one of them. They've dangled that in front of them, and the F-35 deal. So both of those look to be bait or transactional carrots by Washington to try to maneuver Saudi.

The problem is they've put Saudi in a very weak position, and maybe that's part of the U.S. plan as well. They would love to get Saudi really dependent on the United States. They're not submissive enough already for the Trump administration. So just imagine, to get them really into financial trouble. So I'm seeing this stuff with Yemen. It's playing into Washington's hands to a certain degree, but it's going to get too complicated because you have the three provinces, which are Najran, Jizan, and Asir. And the Yemenis are already moving in that direction. And there's no way Saudi Arabia can defend that territory. And there's a lot of people in those territories that identify as Yemeni historically, tribal, and also geographically.

So that's going to be a huge problem. And that's going to really, like, from a strategic point of view, now the Red Sea is getting more perilous for the West, for the Gulf states, for Saudi Arabia. And that's not good for Israel. And that's the big litmus test for any move, any geopolitical decision: is it good for Israel or is it bad for Israel? You can take any of these situations, and you have to ask that question first, not whether it's good for America or good for Trump. That's a diversion. Is it good for Israel? This is bad for Israel if Yemen continues their march both north and south to Aden as well.

So this is—I mean, control of the Bab el-Mandeb Straits is even more consequential than the Strait of Hormuz in a certain way because you're talking about a big percentage of global trade, plus the ability for the United States to move military assets in and out of there. That's just a massive, massive obstacle for America logistically. So this is going to get even more complicated. You know what, Danny? Look at Yemen. Look at the trajectory of the last 10 years. It's unbelievable what they've been able to achieve, and with nothing, under blockade, with a famine. We killed hundreds of thousands of Yemenis, and they're not only standing and fighting and battering the Saudis, they're also scaring Israel.

And they're publicly standing up for the Palestinians on principle, on a moral principle. So Yemen is positioning itself as, you know, kind of a regional normative power just nested below Iran. That's huge compared to where it was 10 years ago. So do the U.S. have the resources? Do they have the ammunition? Do they have the military hardware, the logistical power, the missile stocks, everything that's required to subdue, to do another round of strikes against Yemen? Because I don't think they do. They can't do that, plus fight Iran, plus everything else that they want to do around the world, and defend Israel against incoming. They can't do all of that. So something's going to break.

Something needs to happen to kind of, I don't know, balance this situation out temporarily for the United States. I'm not saying that that Oman card is—you know, I can't say if it's likely. I will say it's plausible, and it does fit the character of something that Trump would go for in terms of the optics, even if there's no real plan to follow through on it. When has the U.S. ever had a good follow-through plan for anything? That doesn't even come into the decision-making, quite frankly. It's all

about now, short-term, and sort of a daisy chain of tactical decisions, which they sell as strategy in Washington. But it's not strategy. It's not grand strategy. It's just a daisy chain of tactical maneuvers that they call strategy. So this could just be another link in that daisy chain.

#Danny

Yeah, I mean, I can see it now. You know, Trump saying, "We have control. We got control of the Strait, and now we have infinite control. Now there's no question we're there with Oman."

#Patrick Henningsen

Yeah, oil prices go down, you know, futures markets.

#Danny

There is something to that scenario. It's like that one thing that the empire has not tried yet in the region. But to your point on Yemen as well, I'm hearing reports that Saudi Arabia is now trying to muster some kind of domestic military force of upwards of 100,000 to begin some kind of assault into Yemen, which... that would be, now—I don't even know if that's possible.

#Patrick Henningsen

I've never heard good things about the Saudi military force, hence why the U.S. is—if Saudi—if they were able to gather up 100 people somehow, somehow, so these are people who could, let's say, jog a quarter of a mile minimum, hold a rifle, maybe fire a rifle, although that might be a stretch, carry a backpack more than half a mile or something in the desert heat. Let's say they could just scrape up 100,000 of those within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. How many of those would actually be combat-ready and capable in the field? Probably, I'll be generous, one out of ten. So at the most, and that would be the ultimate mobilization in the history of Saudi Arabia.

And if they're lucky, they could get maybe 10,000 people that could suit up and boot up, and you could send them out there, and they'd be able to kind of sit in a position and take up some kind of firing position, whatever. What's Ansar Allah going to do to them? It's going to be ugly. Just like the United States wouldn't send that in to fight the Taliban. Ansar Allah is as capable, as skilled, as good of fighters as the Taliban. Make no mistake about it. And they're getting better each time they interface and face off with U.S. military. Saudi is a U.S. proxy. It's all U.S. jets. It's U.S. equipment. It's U.S. ammunition, U.S. trainers, U.S. engineers, U.S. intelligence, U.S. targeting. Everything is in the United States. The only difference is that there's a Saudi flag painted on the F-16. That's the only difference.

And in some cases, you'll see retired U.S. pilots flying those missions. That happens, by the way. And the UAE do this as well. And so, come on, you know, that's the reality of it, okay? Past the

headlines, past the hype, that's the reality of it. Saudi Arabia is basically an army for hire. That's what they have, and it's the United States controls pretty much every aspect of the Saudi. So Yemen has been already fighting the U.S. constantly for 10 years. This is why they keep getting better and better. They're fighting a more powerful and a better opponent. And now the tide is turning. So it's a total disaster for the kingdom and probably will end up being an existential moment for the survival of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in its current form. That's where this may end up. And maybe that's the plan in Tel Aviv and Washington.

#Danny

Well, I do find it striking too, Patrick, that just a week ago, we had MBZ and Mohammed bin Zayed meeting with Netanyahu in secret. And then within hours, it wasn't a secret anymore. And then you hear reports that there were multiple Gulf states and U.S. representatives, probably from intel, I'm guessing. But nevertheless, there was basically the entire real axis of evil, I guess, all meeting in one place in Abu Dhabi, probably discussing just what you had to do. Maybe discussing everything that we've talked about up until now. What do you make of this? Because right after that, then you had Flydubai. And then you have this, I guess, mild surge by the United States to the region for what Trump can't stop talking about, which is, "Blow up Iran now, maybe a little later, probably after the midterms." What do you make of especially that development? It seemed quite striking. Nobody wanted to talk about it, especially on the Israeli-U.S. side.

#Patrick Henningsen

But it did happen. Personally, it's very suspect that you have this high-profile, evocative alleged terrorist event with Flydubai coming from the UAE to Israel, a flight full of Israelis. And then the previous week, a secret meeting, Netanyahu going to Abu Dhabi for a secret meeting. And this is also in reaction to the story that leaked out that the UAE had warned Netanyahu about October 7th, and there was, you know, effectively a stand-down order. They didn't take up the warning. So this is all, if you think, you know, where did this story leak from? Does Netanyahu have enemies and people who would like to see the backside of him after the election in Israel? Yes. The answer is yes.

Does he have enemies in the Israeli intelligence community? Absolutely. Military? Absolutely. Who knows? He might even have enemies in the U.S. intelligence agency. Does he have enemies in the Gulf region intelligence community? Yeah. Could Iran also be there to make some of these things happen in terms of information warfare? One hundred percent. Is Russia involved? Possibly. But the story comes out. It's very bad for his election campaign. Two weeks—two, three weeks, actually—Israel goes to the polls. It's already looking bleak for Netanyahu, and this type of a story, I mean, he's really campaigning that he is the guy that reacted to October 7th and crushed the Palestinians and Hamas and is now realizing the Greater Israel Project.

We've taken territory in Syria and South Lebanon, and we're ethnically cleansing the West Bank, and everything's going great. And we nearly killed them all in Gaza. So that's his campaign, which is

really grotesque. But that's kind of what you're dealing with there. So this is hugely embarrassing for him. So is the Flydubai incident a reaction to that? Or is that to sort of shore up? He did a lot of grandstanding with the plumber, who is supposedly an amateur that took control of the aircraft, just like in a Hollywood film or airplane—maybe a comedy—but managed to stabilize this 737 MAX 8. And so it's very suspect, the chain of events here regarding the UAE. So there's that going on as well.

Huge mistake, by the way, for the UAE to allow Israel to come into their country, set up shop, allow Mossad and Shin Bet basically run of the place. And I always said, when I started to see this relationship happening, it's a question of time. If this is allowed to continue, the UAE will lose their country. The royal family will be there as a symbolic figurehead emirate, but it's going to be taken over, lock, stock, by the Israelis and the Americans. And so, huge mistake. Maybe they didn't have a choice, quite frankly. So there's still some independence in the UAE, but if things continue in this direction, they won't have a country, so it won't be theirs anyway. It'll be someone else's. They'll be allowed to be there, maybe, if they behave themselves.

But so there's a lot of those interesting things happening at the same time. So that's kind of the way I'm looking at that. Similar with the RAF Fairford story in the UK. Again, Israeli intelligence, supposedly. Trump also takes credit for it, saying, "Oh, we were tracking these five men." Rubio's on board with it. So what's the common denominator between what Netanyahu's saying, what the British Prime Minister Andy Burnham's saying, that we believe it's Iranian-linked? Oh, how do you know that? Where did you get that idea? Could that be from Israeli intelligence? How did Donald Trump or Marco Rubio get their ideas?

Could it be from Israeli intelligence? That, to me, is the common denominator. I would bet. I'd put a massive bet on Polymarket if I was a betting man. Unfortunately, I'm not a betting man. Unfortunately. Yeah, I'll bet you a dollar that that's what it is. So Israel's constantly stovepiping all of this fake intel and, you know, Iran, Iranian threat-type intel as well. And they're probably playing this game with the Gulf states as well. But they haven't got close enough or are not in bed deep enough with them like they are in America or Britain or in European countries to be able to totally manipulate their intelligence services and then use the media and the press as well to get the public outraged or afraid.

And it's a whole ecosystem with Israel. In the U.S., Joe Kent laid out in his resignation letter, I mean, so beautifully. And we all owe Joe Kent, in my opinion, a debt of gratitude for basically spelling it out, this ecosystem, which involves our intelligence services, the Israeli intelligence services, but most importantly, our media. And our political body reacts to the media. They seed the ideas in the media. They rev up the storyline, the narrative. In this case, it was, you know, Iran can't be allowed to have any enrichment, zero enrichment, and that basically paved the way for the war.

And as a whistleblower, he resigned from his post as the head of counterterrorism in the Trump administration's Counterterrorism Center. And he basically told how the Israeli ecosystem works and how it interfaces with the U.S. political system and political economy, quite frankly, because this is

an industry we can't forget. So that's how it works. It's the same with Britain to a different degree, but it's the same. And I think it's also the same in the region of those countries where Israel has penetration. And I think with India, unfortunately, Modi, it just so happens the captain, the co-pilot, whoever supposedly subdued the Omani terrorist pilot, as he's been labeled already.

It was an Indian national. And, of course, Modi and Netanyahu are doing a victory lap, a great heroic, courageous thing from the heroic Indian fighters. So it's raised Netanyahu's international cachet as he's positioning himself with a major global superpower and leading BRICS member, Narendra Modi, with regards to this flag-by incident. So, I mean, there's a lot of these things that it's really, really hard to reconcile. Let's just put it that way. So yeah, that's ahead of the Israeli election. To me, it's kind of a no-brainer. But again, we don't have all the information. Some of what I'm saying could be speculation. But in politics, I don't believe in coincidences.

I don't. Not this close. Not with somebody that's that weak, that's that unpopular, that's literally fighting for his survival. Netanyahu is like Zelensky. He needs to stay in power. Otherwise, he's going to jail or worse, basically. And same with Zelensky. They will say and do anything. Nothing is off limits for these people. They have put themselves into such a position and have killed and sacrificed, even put their own country on the brink of destruction, just to maintain power and to drive forward with whatever this agenda is. And they have plenty of willing accomplices in the West and stakeholders. Plenty. And that's where I think Netanyahu is. So that's how I'm reading all this.

#Danny

You know, I wanted your analysis now of—you know, we talk a lot about the United States-Israel relationship, and you've brought up private equity and forces that I think are maybe not given enough attention here. And CNN, I guess, is catching up to you, Patrick. They did a so-called investigation on Jared Kushner's firm's investment in Israeli companies, especially military contractors. They show a little graphic here. He's the founder of private equity Affinity Partners, which is a large shareholder of Phoenix Financial, which invests in hundreds of companies involved in Israeli operations, including all these down here, Elbit Systems, a notorious one. But, you know, we can go on and on and on.

So all of these companies, Patrick, have been making massive profits since 2023 and since the Iran war. Maybe you can talk about what kind of role this is playing in cementing this U.S.-Israeli relationship, which increasingly looks like Israel having immense leverage over the political decision-making process of the United States. You throw profits like this into it, and you throw investments like this into it, and we have, I think, a major smoking gun in the sense that we have essentially Israel playing a key role in keeping all of this going, keeping the profits and, of course, the wars that are raging, especially and particularly with Iran and the rest of the region.

#Patrick Henningsen

Oh, there we have what we like to call the president-in-law. The president-in-law.

#Danny

Yeah, they say conflict of interest. They say this could be a major conflict of interest. It's like, well...

#Patrick Henningsen

No, he's driving policy. Somehow this administration has delegated Middle East policy to somebody that has no political title or portfolio. He wasn't confirmed by the Senate. He's just basically his son-in-law who's married to his daughter, okay, who's personal friends with Netanyahu and has been family friends for his whole life. It's beyond a conflict of interest. This is total usurping a whole section of the U.S. government here. This is basically as good as having Netanyahu himself in the White House. It's as good as that. But, you know, the crazy thing about this, and this is where the real shame should come in for the Gulf states, especially for the Saudis, okay? Look at what you're showing here on screen, Danny.

You look at all that. Where's the money coming from? Where's the seed capital coming from? From the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia is funding the Israeli military-industrial complex. So for all the virtue signaling you see from the sheikhs in Saudi Arabia and Riyadh about the Palestinian state and, "Oh, this is unacceptable, what Israel is doing to the Palestinians," why is the King of Saudi Arabia back-funding the IDF, all these defense contractors from Israel? They're funding—they're indirectly, at least, maybe indirectly depending on how you want to look at it—they're bankrolling the genocide and the ethnic cleansing in the West Bank and the war in Iran. That's the reality of it.

Where's the capital coming from? Kushner hit him up for a couple of billion, dropped that into the Affinity Fund, and then he goes and invests that Saudi money to strengthen and bolster the Israeli military, all these various companies that provide all these key systems to kill people and start wars, okay? That's the reality of it. And to what degree of shame would there be if Saudi Arabia had a moral bone in their body left? I mean, just from the Arab world, just take a look at that. So when the Houthis are talking about—when Abdul Malik al-Houthi is pointing the finger at the Saudi Arabians as being completely corrupt and betraying their people, I'm talking about Arabs—that's kind of what he's talking about.

They know this. The Iranians know this. The Yemenis know this. But Americans don't know it, and people in the Gulf, it just doesn't sink in. It doesn't sink in. The Lebanese hardly even know this. Well, depending on what side of the Lebanese political spectrum, but a lot of people in Lebanon do know this. Probably people who support Hezbollah or lean that way are well aware of this hypocrisy and corruption. But to me, it's just mind-boggling that they're able to get away with this. It's even worse that Jared Kushner is able to basically run point on Middle East foreign policy. Yes, on one level, it's a massive gift.

#Patrick Henningsen

On one level. On the other level, it is. Everyone's talking about the integration of the U.S. and Israel with this legislation, but these inroads have already been made. These relationships have already been formalized. That was just the final touch, really. So it's incredible. It really is. And beyond that, Danny, another thing—and this is an interesting development—is Saudi, what it does with its money is pretty breathtaking, okay? They're funding so much sectarian division in the region and around the world. And I think one of the leading Saudi scholars, Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Rais, has come out basically saying that it's haram. The Houthis are haram. The Yemenis are haram, and in fact, it's haram to fight Israel.

It's haram to fight Israel. This is what he said this week, and that Muslims need to go fight the Houthis. Real Muslims need to go fight the Houthis. And, you know, okay, that's understandable. You have those clerics, Wahhabi-type clerics, who deem Zaydi Muslims, i.e., the Houthi tribe, and those Zaydi Muslims who practice that sect of Shia Islam, will label them as apostates. Okay? That's known. That's a known thing. But the timing of this gets even more interesting, because in Pakistan, you have the Ulema Council chairman basically calling the Houthis apostates during the same week, and that defense of Saudi Arabia is a religious obligation for Sunni Muslims. So they're demonizing the Yemenis.

So where is that coming from? Saudi Arabia's money is being poured into Pakistan. And it's always been that way, by the way. And if you look at the funding of the Mujahideen going back to the '80s, the maintenance of al-Qaeda and the radicalization of the Taliban, radical mosques, all of this stuff. So it's always been like this. But you can see now that they're trying to get geopolitical leverage from this sectarianism, and they're paying for it. You have to remember the Gulf states spent billions. In fact, between Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the rest of them, they spent hundreds of billions to pour Takfiri fighters into Syria over a decade to overthrow Assad. They spent the money. They paid for the guns.

They paid the salaries of all these. The U.S. maybe did a little bit, but the U.S. procured the TOW missiles, procured the weapons. But the Gulf picked up the tab of all that trafficking of fighters and weapons into Syria. And so they spent hundreds of billions of dollars. And who was the main beneficiary of the collapse of Syria? Now, they might think, oh, they're getting their radical Wahhabi Amir al-Jalani in as, quote, president of Syria, al-Qaeda leader, ISIS deputy, holding court in Damascus. Sure, that looks interesting from an ideological point of view. They've got their radical Sunni Takfiri leader, former terrorist or whatever, but he's in power. But the Gulf are not the beneficiary.

Of the collapse of Syria, the removal of Assad, the liquidation of the Syrian military and air defenses, Israel is the main beneficiary. They're occupying southern Syria now. We have a report up at 21st Century Wire. They're in the process of formalizing and annexing parts of southern Syria. This is not a secret. This is a fact. And they're doing it very methodically through the various governance within

southern Syria by setting up all of these sort of almost like quangos, which are basically answerable to a kind of Israeli military authority. And so they're building this mesh, if you will, in southern Syria. They're not giving it back.

They're not giving Mount Hermon back ever. And they're probably going to try to hold on to as much territory in South Lebanon as they possibly can. So they're the beneficiary of the collapse of Syria. It's Israel, and it's in the Clean Break document. That's been the stated goal from the mid-'90s. So it's just, to me, amazing that all the Gulf states are paying for Israeli expansion because they paid for the collapse of Syria. That's Israeli expansion. The Gulf states are underwriting the Greater Israel project. If you really want to strip it down and look at it for what it is, that's what's happened. It's, to me, pretty incredible if you think about it.

What they do with their money from oil and gas, it is breathtaking what they have done with their money. And in the end, in the end, are they going to even be around, these states, these emirates, these tribal sheikdoms, at the current rate, at the way they're operating, the decisions they're making, the level of corruption in these countries? It's pretty unbelievable. Do they have any limits? Are there any boundaries that they're not willing to cross? And that's going to become self-sabotage. And I think you're already starting to see it with Saudi Arabia, total self-sabotage. And the UAE. The UAE pulled out of Yemen, okay, and finally in June of their positions, obviously army for hire, same as Saudi.

But they pulled out a lot of their key positions. They left tons of weapons in there. It's not maybe to the degree the U.S. had left in Afghanistan during the Biden pullout, but it's significant. Why is it significant? Well, some of those weapons landed into the hands of various and sundry al-Qaeda journeymen who are hanging around for their 500 bucks a month or whatever in Aden. But also some of the weapons ended up in the hands of Ansar Allah. And that's kind of like a really interesting way to bust through sanctions by, you know, the Emirates just cut and run, and some of those weapons end up in the hands of, quote, the Houthis.

But this has been very expensive and has done a lot of damage to the UAE's reputation, as well as their role in the violence in Sudan, which, again, I personally think the United States and Israel have been very involved in pulling these Gulf states by the leash because they've got so much cash and selling this idea that they can be nation builders and they can be big geopolitical players and they're going to get their hands on the gold and they're going to be able to do this and that. And really, they're just using them. The West and Israel just use the Gulf states. They're milking them. They're just cash cows. And they get themselves into all of these various operations and situations. And in the end, it's going to be their undoing. And I think you're already starting to see that now.

#Danny

Yeah, yeah. I mean, I think we've seen more movement toward this demise scenario for the Gulf States just in the last year, perhaps, than we had seen in the last several decades. So it's not looking

great, but at the same time, we're also seeing doubling down and tripling down, which I guess, you know, history will have to teach us as we move forward what exactly is going to happen. But what you say, Patrick. So yeah, I would suspect that a lot of this is going to transpire, if not all of it. But I want to make sure everybody knows that 21st Century Wire is in the video description below, as well as your Substack. So people should check out your work that you do very tirelessly on these matters and so much more. Hit the like button before you go, everybody. Make sure you support the channel, too, in the video description, all the places there. You can do that. Patrick, any final words before we head out?

#Patrick Henningsen

No, and just a last addendum to everything I just said. If the Gulf states become weaker and their position becomes more compromised, then that's really a cue for, I think, a rise of countries like Iraq and forces within Arab nationalism and resistance forces in Iraq, of course allied with Iran, and even this would improve the position of a country like Egypt. And who knows whatever will happen in Syria. We don't know how that story is going to end up in the next five or ten years, and maybe even improve the position of Turkey. But Yemen has already staked its claim in the region, and they have captured the imagination of the Islamic world, the Arab world, and really, I think, the Global South, full stop. And that's, to me, one of the most significant developments geopolitically in a very long time.

#Danny

Indeed. Thanks so much, Patrick, for coming on today. We'll be back tomorrow, everybody. I'll announce that then. Take care. Good night.