

Ritter: Iran HITTING US BASES & ISRAEL, Trump's War Backfires

Scott Ritter unleashes on US and Israeli strikes on Iran's oil depots and details Iran's ongoing retaliation to the war of aggression entering the second week. Are we headed toward economic and military armageddon? Watch the stream in full as we break it all down. Scott Ritter:

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#Danny

Welcome, everyone. Welcome back to the show. It's your host, Danny Haiphong. I'm joined by former U.N. weapons inspector and U.S. Marine Corps intelligence officer, Scott Ritter. Thanks so much for joining me again today. Thanks for having me. Of course, it's always great to be on with you, Scott. Hit the like button, everyone — that helps boost the show in YouTube's algorithm. We're just going to get started, Scott. I wanted your assessment of how this war is going. I know on previous shows you've said that the U.S. and Israel will soon become defenseless as this war goes on. The New York Times published an article announcing the seventh U.S. death that we know of in this war, and I just wanted to pull up a quote here from what the New York Times wrote when they were talking about this.

They said that for the U.S., the grim toll in the first week of this war signaled that Iran was more prepared for war than the Trump administration had anticipated, U.S. military officials told the Times. Iran has continued to put up a fight even after Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, its supreme leader, and other top officials were killed by Israeli attacks with intel help from the CIA. Iran has vowed, after the oil depot attacks, to increase its retaliatory strikes by 100% for missiles and, I believe, 20% for drones. We're seeing the results of that. I can pull up some images, but really we're seeing Bahrain's energy infrastructure being hit. We're seeing Israel—Tel Aviv—taking a pounding over the last two days, especially Israel. So maybe you can give your assessment of where this war stands and how you see it going for all sides.

#Scott Ritter

Well, there's an American military officer named Colonel John Boyd. People might want to look him up. His thinking and his philosophies have been adopted by the military and by civilians alike. He's the man who came up with the concept of getting inside your enemy's decision-making cycle. What he described is something called the OODA loop. OODA stands for Observe, Orient, Decide, Act. These are the four phases of decision-making: you observe, you orient on what you're focused on, you make a decision about what needs to be done, and then you act on that decision. The side that can do this the fastest tends to win. He developed it as a fighter pilot.

So basically, if two airplanes are coming in, one initiates and the other reacts. He claimed he could get into a kill position quicker because he could cycle information more quickly than his opponent. His goal was to have the other side reacting to you. Now, the United States and Israel carried out a surprise attack against Iran—one that included the assassination of Ali Khamenei. One would think, therefore, that they acted first and now the Iranians have to react. But this wasn't the case, because we hadn't prepared properly. We had goals that were linked to things that could never happen. You can't say you're going to have regime change just by killing Ali Khamenei.

The reality is, by killing Ali Khamenei—no, not just killing, murdering Ali Khamenei—you make regime change impossible. Anybody who knew anything about Iran would know that's the case. If you understand how revered the Supreme Leader is among the faithful—and Iran is a nation of the faithful—and if you know about the Constitution, you'd know Iran is a constitutional republic. In fact, Iran is the most effectively functioning democracy in the Middle East. I'll say that again, and I'll be more than happy to take anybody on in a debate about this at any time. Iran functions more effectively as a democracy than any other nation in the Middle East, including Israel. It's a constitutional republic. It's an Islamic republic. But they have mechanisms in place.

They have institutions in place that filled the gap created by the death of Ali Khamenei, and they ensured that the regime continued to function. The murder of Ali Khamenei, you know, made sure that the people would rally around the government. So right off the bat, this was a regime change war. The purpose of the surprise attack was to achieve regime change by facilitating the murder of the man whose death we all believed would bring the collapse of Iran. And it turned out to be the opposite. I've said this here and I've said it before: we lost the war with the first missiles fired into Iran because we didn't know what we were doing.

We initiated something that was supposed to achieve a certain result but ended up achieving the exact opposite. We defeated ourselves from day one. But more importantly—and we admit it now—we didn't anticipate the Iranian response. We thought that by killing Ali Khamenei, Iran would be leaderless, like a ship with no captain at the wheel, just spinning around. That wasn't the case. Iran had a plan, and they immediately implemented it. The plan blew our minds because we didn't think they were going to do this. We thought maybe they'd strike Israel, maybe they'd strike something else—but they struck everything.

They did a full, broad-spectrum strike. So we initiated something, juked, and the Iranians flipped it on us—and we went, damn, they're on our six. Now the Iranians are driving this ship because we're just reacting. They're implementing a plan they've thought out from the start. They prepared for it, they have the resources for it, and they're carrying it out without deviation. The United States, on the other hand, has changed its plan five times in ten days—and we're going to change it again today because there's a new economic reality coming into play, which we didn't anticipate. We didn't anticipate any of this.

#Danny

Which is wild to me—but go on, yeah.

#Scott Ritter

It's the most poorly planned military operation in the history of poorly planned military operations. Meanwhile, the Iranians are executing a plan to perfection—to perfection. All you naysayers out there, I mean, I love the neocons. First of all, I love fat neocons who've never served in the military. They're my favorite people because they just sit there and talk about things they don't understand. And they say, "You just wait. We're going to get a culmination of forces that are going to sequence together and achieve a result that's going to collapse the regime from within. Trump is a genius. He's a 5D chess player. You guys just don't understand it. Just because it looks bad right now doesn't mean it's bad. That's fake. We're going to get under there."

We're going to undermine it. It's going to collapse. We're going to win because we are the lethal failures—Pete Hesch has told us so. They're just morons. They don't know anything about war. They don't know anything about geopolitics. And, perhaps more importantly, they don't know anything about Iran. We have people talking about Iran who don't know anything about Iran. We have people talking about war who don't know anything about war. And yet we have a mainstream media that gives echo-chamber status to these people. They can sit there and talk and talk and talk, get social media broadcasts and everything. And the stupid American people—I'm sorry, but you are stupid, every single one of you—with the possible exception of a handful of people who are watching your show today.

But the rest of them are coming. I look out at my neighborhood—it's just a quiet, little, sleepy suburban neighborhood outside Albany, New York. No one's panicking. They don't understand what's happening. They don't comprehend. You can walk the neighborhood and see about 30% "I stand with Israel" signs, dating back, of course, to the genocide against the people of Palestine. But these are ignorant people—stupid people—who just live their lives insulated from the reality of what's happening. They only believe the crap they're given on TV. And yet this morning they got a little bit of a wake-up call, because it's Monday, and I know on Friday the gas was \$3.11 a gallon when I filled up the tank.

And today it's \$3.41 a gallon. It's gone up 30 cents. And by the end of the day, it'll go up another nickel. By the end of the week, who knows where it'll be, because the price of Brent crude is going through the roof. Why? We didn't anticipate that either. No matter how much our military told us, "We will secure the Strait of Hormuz. There's no way Iran could shut it down." Iran shut it down. There's not a damn thing we can do about it. Not a damn thing we can do about it. Qatar is no longer producing gas. Kuwait is no longer producing oil. Saudi Arabia is no longer producing oil—not because they wanted to stop, but because Iran made them stop. Because of this. Because of this. This is BAPCO in Bahrain. I mean, it continues.

And the United Arab Emirates is about to be shut down. Saudi Arabia is on the verge of being shut down. Baku is going to lose its ability to produce oil if they play stupid games. You know, this is it—the world's going to have an energy crash. We've been talking about it, we've been saying it's going to happen. And then there are the really "genius" Americans who think that's not going to happen. "We're energy sufficient. We're America. We've got Texas. They frack things, they break the soil open, and they get gas out of there. We're energy sufficient. We're not affected." And then we invaded Venezuela, we got all their oil. So ask yourselves why you're paying through the nose at the gas pump if we're so damn energy sufficient. Ask yourself where the strategic petroleum reserves are.

Donald Trump didn't load them up, guys. They're empty. They don't exist. We're screwed. But that's okay. I think it's time the American people pay a price—and we are. But we've lost this war. This war is lost. The Iranians were smarter than us about ballistic missile defense. If you don't mind, I'll give you a quick five-minute lesson on ballistic missile defense for the stupid people who aren't listening—because everybody listening here is very smart and very tuned in. But sometimes people will watch the show later on who are stupid, so this is for their benefit. If you take missile defense, understand that every component of the missile defense shield we put together over Israel and the Middle East wasn't designed to work with the others.

They were designed in a vacuum. Some of them, like the Patriot missile, date back to the original missile defense shield technology—the Sentinel technology of the 1970s. When Raytheon was asked to build a tactical system for the U.S. Army, instead of doing the right thing, which would've been to design it from scratch, they took a shortcut. They took 1970s technology and tried to adapt and modify it for tactical application. The Patriot system has never worked properly since then. So yes, the Patriot doesn't work. It never has, and it never will, because we're always playing catch-up. When you have to keep putting in program updates to fix it, that means you're updating against a threat that already exists—one that's already proven it can defeat it.

By the time you update it, there's a new threat you can't meet—and we're seeing that play out in the skies over the Middle East. The Patriot system doesn't work. Iron Dome isn't designed for this. David's Sling and Arrow 3, same thing. What you're seeing are systems built to fight a specific missile threat—a standard ballistic missile on a ballistic trajectory, flying at certain speeds. The Iranians, on the other hand, are firing missiles that aren't following a ballistic trajectory. They can accelerate mid-

course. They can maneuver. So as the systems try to acquire a target, you might notice the missiles launch in a sort of S-shaped curve to the left—that's them adjusting. The radars are cueing in, anticipating a point of intercept.

So as the missile travels, the interceptors launch, and then they make adjustments to reach the point of intercept. But the problem is, that point of intercept changes once the Iranian missile accelerates. So now the interceptor is trying to play catch-up, and you'll see that big curve—it's trying to catch up, but it can't. And then the Iranian missile maneuvers. Let's say the interceptor gets close to an intercept point—then the missile maneuvers again, and the interceptor can't adjust, so it misses every single time, because the Iranians have built a system to defeat this. Now, we've overlaid enough architecture, with enough layers, that on occasion we do successfully intercept an older missile. And everybody goes, "Yay, aren't we the greatest?"

Now, what the Iranians have done, though, is recognize that this is like building a car by taking a Porsche, a BMW, a Chevy, a Nissan, and putting all those parts together and calling it a car. But it's not going to work, because they're not designed to function with one another. That's what we've built with missile defense. We've fooled ourselves, because we've created systems for early detection. The early detection is designed to give us as much advance notice as possible. So what happens is this early detection—let's call it a radar system in Qatar, maybe it costs \$1.1 billion, just to throw that out there—and then the missile launches.

This early detection picks it up, starts grabbing as much data as possible, and then sends that data through satellite relay stations. You might see those little radar domes out there. It communicates back so our systems can fine-tune. Rather than scanning the whole sky, we now enable systems to focus on a predicted path, and we get a depth of data collection that gives us more time to launch and respond. And so, on occasion, they actually hit something. What the Iranians have done is saturate the skies, collect the data points, and then take our eyes out. They blow up all the radars used to collect data early on, then they blow up all the communication links. So now we have a system that can't work, because it wasn't designed to work.

And the only way we made it work was by putting these eyes out in front of us and communicating back—full-spectrum dominance, we call it. And the Iranians have blinded us. They've made us unable to speak. So the system has totally broken down right now. We're looking at complete system dysfunction. The missile defense system we put over Israel doesn't work. It can't work. It won't work, because it's all blinded. Ah, but enter the Turks. You see, the Turks now have two facilities. They have one in Piringlik, near Diyarbakır. They have another one, I think it's Kürecik, also near Diyarbakır. The Piringlik facility is an old Cold War-era site used to track satellites. In 1997, we turned it over to the Turks. The Turks may or may not have kept it operational.

I don't know. But it is capable of doing detection. Why? How do I know? Because in the Gulf War, we, the United States, used it to detect Iraqi missile launches and provide Israel with the detection of launch, time of flight, and possible impact. So it was a valuable system. That system could still be

used today to track Iranian missile launches. Then there's the one in Kürecik. This is a big X-band radar affiliated with the THAAD system. It's supposedly linked to feed data to the Mark 41 Aegis Ashore missile defense systems in Poland and Romania. But now it's been repurposed, because they have no more target acquisition—the Iranians have taken out all the radars in the Middle East. The Turkish radars are now collecting the data and feeding it into the system.

So you may ask yourself, why would Iran attack Turkey? Because Turkey is providing targeting data to the ballistic missile defense shield. And so Iran wants to basically make a point: Turkey is not an innocent party in this conflict. Turkey is an active participant. They're repurposing NATO weapons facilities for America's use. This is not a NATO war. NATO is not participating in this war. Any nations that do participate are doing so on an individual basis. So Turkey can't say, "This is a NATO function; we're just fulfilling our NATO obligations." Turkey has become an active participant in this conflict. But the bottom line is, our missile defense system doesn't work.

Moreover, if it ever did work, that was when we had PAC-3 missiles—the more advanced version of the Patriot interceptors. We don't have any more; they're all gone. We're firing PAC-2s. PAC-2s don't work. Never did. Never will. But that's all we have left. So now, the way we make up for the lack of PAC-3s is by doing more salvo firing of PAC-2s. You might have seen that recently, where there are a lot of missiles going up—no longer contained. We're just blowing out PAC-2s because we're trying to intercept things they can't. The Iranian missiles are too fast, too maneuverable, and they'll never be intercepted by a PAC-2. So we're burning through the PAC-2s. And when we run out of PAC-2s, we've got nothing left. There's literally nothing left.

The THAAD missiles we have are very expensive. We've probably blown through about 80 or 90 percent of our inventory. And what we have left won't work because all the radars are destroyed. You know, they're linked to that X-band radar. There are about five of them—five have been taken out. There's none left except the one in Turkey, which the Iranians will probably end up destroying. The Israelis are out of ammunition. They don't have anything. What we gave, they fired. You know, Israel doesn't have its own. Just so you guys know, they don't produce the missiles—we do. When Iron Dome ran out of interceptor missiles during their fight with Hezbollah and all that, it was American military aircraft flying in from Europe.

They were bringing stockpiles of interceptor missiles that we had stored here because we make them. Israel doesn't make anything. We make them, but we don't make enough, and there's none left. It's game, set, match. Guess who's not running out of missiles? Iran. Iran has enough missiles to last about six months of sustained activity, maybe even longer. They have enough drones to last for about a year and a half of sustained launch capability. Iran has been planning for this war for 20 years. Iran is operating on a game plan. Iran is inside our decision-making cycle. Iran is executing the OODA loop more effectively, more efficiently than the United States and Israel. Iran will win this war.

#Danny

Yeah, well, those are all really important points, Scott. And I'll just pull up some images of what you're talking about. Here's one of those THAAD radars that was destroyed in Jordan—there's satellite imagery of that. But also, the situation in Israel. How much, Scott, will the situation in Israel influence the trajectory of this war? Because we're hearing from people in Israel—this is someone who lives there—talking about being in darkness. The electricity is out. They're getting hit nonstop by Iranian missiles and drones. The 12-day war ended with Israel coming to the United States, saying, "This has to stop." What makes this different? I mean, we're seeing the images of Tel Aviv. They're trying hard to censor it, but the last two nights in particular have been especially difficult for Israel. How much will this affect things in the coming days? Excuse me, Danny, I just gotta... wipe my eyes.

#Scott Ritter

I was crying for Israel—I mean, when she sent that to me.

#Danny

Oh, I should pull up the comments, because your sentiment is actually shared by a lot of people. As you can see—"your poor thing, let's play the world's smallest violin." I mean, we could go on and on.

#Scott Ritter

No one cares. No one literally cares. The Israelis mocked the Palestinians—mocked the suffering, mocked the genocide, denied the genocide, denied the suffering. And frankly speaking, what Iran is doing to Israel right now doesn't even come close to what Israel did to the people of Gaza. You know, the worst is yet to come. So if we're going to—if you want us to cry because Iran took out a power facility after you bombed oil facilities outside Tehran, causing acid rain and oil rain to fall, causing the sewers to explode in fire, rivers of fire breaking through Iranian cities—literally hell breaking out in the streets of Tehran, the capital of one of the major powers in the region.

You want us to cry because you lost electricity? No. And I don't know if you saw, but Benjamin Netanyahu's residence was hit last night, and Ben-Gvir's residence was hit last night. Benjamin Netanyahu's brother is reportedly dead, and Ben-Gvir is reportedly severely injured and may not survive. Again, let me just pause because I'm... I'm overcome by emotion when genocidal maniacs have the tables turned against them. I will never shed a tear for anybody in Israel today. If you're in Israel today, you've made a conscious decision to remain there as it's basically violated the law and committed genocide.

It means that you are an active participant in an overall policy of Greater Israel, which means you want to steal land from the sovereign nations that surround you. And to steal the land, you must depopulate it. That means you're going to carry out an Israeli version of Plan Ost—the Plan East—the Nazi plan to depopulate Belarus and western Russia, to eliminate millions of Slavs, to make

Lebensraum, living room, for the greater German people. Israel is the modern manifestation of Nazi Germany. They are Nazis. This is not an exaggeration, ladies and gentlemen. We're talking about literally the worst people on the planet—literally, the worst people on the planet—residing in this artificial entity called Israel that no longer has a right to exist.

Whatever the world thought about when they created Israel in 1948, that no longer exists, because that Israel has become an illegal, parasitic attachment to humanity. And the fact that Iran is in the process of erasing Israel from the map of the earth—I'm not going to shed any tears. If you live in Israel, leave Israel. Leave. And when you leave, don't bring your sick ideology with you. Go and join other nations, and hopefully integrate into them and live peacefully, harmoniously, a long and fruitful life. But the idea of Greater Israel driving a nation like the United States, and nations in Europe, to commit acts of racist genocide—because that's what it is—this is literally about the white man's burden.

This is white versus brown. Straight up. And if you're an Arab and you don't know that—if you live in the Gulf nations and you don't understand that you're seen as an inferior human being in the eyes of the Israelis—I mean, I, as an American, a white American, know that. I'm a goy. They told me straight to my face, "You're subhuman." Okay, I get it. That's why I hate you. And I will fight you, because nobody wants to be called subhuman. But, you know, imagine being an Arab, knowing that your government has bent the knee to Israel, knowing that they've agreed to the Abraham Accords, which perpetually subordinate the Gulf Arab states to Greater Israel, knowing that they've allowed Israel to call the shots, knowing that Israel has drawn them into a war that's now going to destroy their economies.

I wouldn't be very happy. There are reports of people in the streets of Bahrain seeking to overthrow the king. Please do. The model you should use is the one that was used against the Hashemites in Iraq. Yeah, I'm sorry—that meant the family was taken out, butchered, and dragged through the streets. But basically, that's what should happen to illegitimate royal families that have ruled only because they're the byproduct of, you know, British colonialism in the region. They have no legitimacy to rule. They're not anointed by God. They weren't selected by the people. They were picked by the British, and the British continue to manipulate them.

And now the United States has taken over. Now Israel has taken over. So basically, the Arab people of the Middle East are governed by leaders who've allowed themselves to be subordinated to neocolonial actors—whether it's the British, the Americans, or the Israelis. That's the truth. The only nation that doesn't do that is Iran. And that's why we're attacking Iran—because Iran doesn't play the game. Iran is a sovereign state. Iran does what the Iranian people want it to do. And they have a government supported by the Iranian people, which is why we will never overthrow it.

#Danny

Yeah, yeah, great point, Scott. And you know, what's so interesting—I mean, I say interesting, but actually it's really shocking in its stupidity—because, of course, we know what the U.S. and Israel's goals are. It's regime change. And you outlined really well why that hasn't worked, given Iran's retaliatory response. If we get to the oil question, the economic question, it gets even more ridiculous, because even as the Strait of Hormuz is effectively closed, the U.S. and Israel have not only targeted Iran's oil depots— I think in southern Tehran—but they're still hitting tankers. They just hit an oil tanker in the last 24 hours. And as this was happening, Scott, you saw the reports—I know you did, you mentioned it earlier—oil has shot way up: \$100 a barrel, a 90-plus percent rise since December. Sorry about that—yeah, a 90-plus percent rise since December in the cost of oil per barrel. The graph can't even keep up with it, Dan.

#Scott Ritter

The graph can't keep up with it—it's going through the roof.

#Danny

It's ridiculous. Even after Europe, I believe in the last 12 hours, released some of its reserves and prices dropped, the Wall Street Journal said, no, it's still going to go up to \$200 a barrel if the situation persists. And Iran—their spokesperson for the IRGC said, "Are you ready for that?" Because they're obviously prepared to make sure this happens. So I just want to put up Donald Trump's response to this, because it's now being paraded by the Western mainstream media.

Short-term oil prices, which will drop rapidly when the destruction of Iran and the nuclear threat is over, are a very small price to pay for U.S. and world safety and peace. Only fools would think differently. And now he has indeed fooled many—at least in the mainstream media—into just parroting it. I'm going to play this segment for you, Scott, and then you can react, because it's absolutely... This is the kind of conditioning the warmongers are trying to peddle to all of us, even as we're witnessing what Iran's retaliation—and, of course, the U.S. war that started it—is doing.

#Speaker 01

This is a short-term disruption for a long-term gain.

#Danny

Short-term pain for long-term gain.

#Speaker 01

Short-term pain for long-term gain.

#Scott Ritter

We're going to have some short-term pain for long-term gain. Short-term pain for long-term gain.

#Speaker 02

Some short-term pain, yes, but we've got some long-term gain. A short-term spike for a long-term gain.

#Danny

Some short-term pain for American consumers—we may have to deal with that in the short term. So, Scott, that video is only half of it. This is what the political environment is like in the United States, as everything you said—everything you've outlined about Iran's retaliation, about how the U.S.-Israeli war of aggression is going, and all the effects that have rippled through the oil market—that's the response right now.

#Scott Ritter

It's funny. I just went to a movie this weekend—I can't remember if it's **Don't Die** or something like that—but it's a great movie about AI, people addicted to watching their cell phones, the world coming to an end, all of that. But you'd think what we just saw was actually part of a really bad Hollywood movie script. I mean, you know, we're supposed to be Americans. We have freedom of speech, baby. Our brains work—supposedly. And we're supposed to be above this. This is the kind of crap we're not supposed to fall for. Those other people around the world fall for this. You know, the Nazis fell for that propaganda—but we can't, because we're Americans. Americans are smart. We're educated.

And, you know, we believe in freedom. Freedom would never allow us to become compliant little slaves to a unified propaganda statement pushed by mainstream media controlled by the government. The government can't control us. We're Americans. We're better than that. Oh, good God, we're the worst people in the world for it. I mean, if you're an American and you're watching TV and you hear somebody say, "Short-term pain for long-term gain"—first of all, it's a little too cute, a little too glib. It happened once. I tell you, you've got to work on that one, guys. That's bad writing. But then they repeat it, and they repeat it, and they repeat it. And you suddenly realize that we literally don't have a free press.

Wake up, America. We don't have a free press. That's why you need to hit the like button for Danny Haiphong. Really, seriously. Because Danny Haiphong and Garland Nixon and Judge Napolitano and other people—they provide alternatives to what you just saw. Short-term pain for long-term gain. I mean, we are a dysfunctional country, and we can't work because the American sheep can't be awoken. They're being lulled into a false sense of complacency by a mainstream media that's been

hijacked by a singularity. A singularity that is doing what? You're not allowed to say this. I mean, there was a Dave Chappelle joke—I found it very funny—and I hope I don't insult too many people when I say it, but I don't care anymore.

Um, you know, what do you call—he said, what do you have when you get a group of Black people together? It's called a gang. What happens when you get a group of Italians together? It's called a mob. What happens when you get a group of Jews together? It's called a coincidence. And I mean, it's just a funny joke because it means we're not allowed to talk about the obvious—all the tools that are used to inform and shape the population, whether it's Hollywood, TV, or the media, are controlled by a cabal of pro-Israeli Zionists. There are hardly any exceptions, and you just saw that. "Short-term pain for long-term gain" has become a mantra that's repeated across the board.

Proof positive that there's a singularity controlling this, and that singularity is working on a pro-Israeli agenda. So all you Make America Great Again people out there—you do understand that we are literally "Make Israel Great Again," that America doesn't factor into this at all. Which is why we need Danny Haiphong to come out and provide alternative perspectives. But it's embarrassing. I mean, it's funny—we laugh about it, Danny—but this is actually the equivalent of being a doctor, throwing up a chest X-ray, and going, "Holy shit, you've got stage four lung cancer that's spread to your brain, your pancreas, and your bones—and you're dead." America, you just saw the image. That's us. That's a reflection of our society. We're dead. We're infected by a cancer. How do you purge that out? How do you do that?

It's so deeply ingrained in everything we do. Every mainstream institution has been infected by this. And that means, again, it's not just the media—it's the things that feed the media. Do you understand that there are universities out there that train journalists who are so functionally conditioned to graduate from journalism school and then seamlessly fold into this system? So the journalism schools have to condition these people to think this is okay. What we call journalists aren't; they're just actors in the game that's being played to manipulate data. There's a guy I did an interview with—if you want to see it, it's on my Russia House podcast, free of charge. You can go get it. Andrei Elnitsky, former lieutenant general, senior advisor to Shoigu when Shoigu was the defense minister of Russia.

He's published papers and come up with this idea called "mental war." And he talks about mental war—basically, it's what outsiders do to cause a society to collapse from within by taking over the mechanisms of communication. Things like, you know, movies—when you go to the movies, the cinema is designed to condition you to achieve a certain outcome, because the movies are controlled by mainstream studios that don't allow outliers to get out there. You can make a great movie, but if they decide, "Well, we're not putting that out in theaters," then nobody sees it and you have zero impact. The movies they do put in theaters are designed to manipulate your minds. He straight up said it. Anything you see on TV is designed to manipulate your minds.

What you listen to on the radio is designed to manipulate your mind. And they're all controlled by the same people. They're out there conditioning you to accept as normal things that any sane person would say are insane. Mental warfare—the destruction of America from within. By whom? By the pro-Israeli, Zionistic cabal. We have to start calling it what it is. I mean, it's not anti-Semitic, ladies and gentlemen. It's not anti-Semitic. It's just the god-awful truth that the pro-Israeli crowd is anti-American and is seeking the destruction of America. They're willing to use America as a tool to achieve their broader objectives. And we're just sitting here doing nothing. You'd think there'd be people in the streets, but there aren't. They just ignore it. They're compliant sheep.

They've wrapped themselves in a cocoon of comfort. They've become prisoners to this—to technology—and they live inside that cocoon. As long as you don't rock it, as long as everybody stays happy, they just let it happen. They don't want to disturb it. And that's where we are as a society. This war is a manifestation of that. This war should be opposed by everybody. If you've got a second, can I talk about the murder of 170 schoolchildren? Because most Americans—listen to Donald Trump—“Iran did it, Iran did it.” Then the Pentagon says, “Well, we're investigating it, but don't worry about it. We're the most lethal military in the world.” My God, I can bench press 315 pounds, and we are killers. That's what we do. We kill. We kill. We kill. And forget rules—forget those “woke” rules that constrain our ability to inject lethality into the problem.

You see the mindset? And Americans went, “Oh, okay.” I mean, I don't know how many people said, “That's what I voted for. That's what I voted for.” You see that over and over on social media—“That's what I voted for.” No, this is why I have to say, when people talk about the way our country was created, we knew about you. You're part of what's called a faction. Federalist Paper No. 10—James Madison warned us about the dangers of factions. And factions are controlled by a functioning republic, a constitutional republic that has checks and balances in place. But those checks and balances have to work, or else the executive—imbued with a great deal of authority—becomes a tyrant. That's Federalist 51. Again, James Madison, smart man. He warned us about the dangers of a tyrant and the need for checks and balances.

So today, when we have the Congress of the United States basically saying this is a defensive operation and Congress doesn't need to be involved—that's the Speaker of the House saying that—that means Congress has taken itself off the map. The Supreme Court has challenged the president on tariffs, but the president says, “I don't care, I'm going to do whatever I want.” So the Supreme Judiciary is off the map. We're left with a tyrant—the executive. And now the executive isn't governed by people who believe in the necessity of checks and balances, but by factions. I voted for this. I voted for tyranny. I voted for a cult of personality. I voted for a man who says that I am beholden to no laws, that I only believe in my own sense of personal morality—which is problematic in the Epstein files.

But be that as it may, this is a man who says he governs as a dictator. So there we are. And what are the consequences? The Geneva Conventions of 1949 were passed because of the excesses of

war—even by the victors. There was a recognition that even the victors went too far, that we have to protect civilian populations. It's essential that there be laws governing war. These were updated in 1977 with the Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions. And there are people out there rolling their eyes, saying, "Oh, come on, Sky, it's international law." Ah, yes—but see, it was adapted and adopted by the United States Department of Defense through the Law of War Manual. So it's ours now. We own it. And one of the interesting things in there is that they talk about targeting.

They say you have to be very careful when you start targeting places, to ensure that you aren't hitting civilian targets and that you've done your due diligence. There's this thing called "distinction"—you must make a distinction between military targets and civilian targets—which requires an additional level of analysis and work. This is the law. It's the law. And we did. I can tell you, as somebody who has done this in war, a lot of effort goes into ensuring that the targets we hit have military value, that they aren't civilian in nature, and that we look at the consequences of striking a target. Will there be collateral damage to civilians? And then you get into proportionality: is the value you gain militarily from striking this target proportional to the damage you're doing to civilians?

And if the answer is no—we're killing far too many civilians—then you don't bomb the target. If the answer is we don't know, we can't distinguish that this is military, then you don't bomb the target. Now, we screwed up a lot during the Global War on Terrorism. So in 2023, the Department of Defense issued a new proclamation, a new directive called the Civilian Harm and Mitigation Response Act. What this did was create a new layer of oversight for targeting and for planning wars. This team's job was to go through each target and ensure that we aren't making a mistake—that this isn't a civilian target, that it is a military target. It's what we're supposed to do under the law of war, but we got a little sloppy with it during the Global War on Terrorism.

So we put in new regulations to say, this is what we need to do if we're going to fight a war and be compliant with our own laws and the laws of international conflict. Pete Hecht did away with that directive—canceled it—in his effort for "lethality." So there is no Civilian Harm and Mitigation Response capability in America anymore. Instead, what there is, is a literal free-for-all. We can do anything we want. Now, y'all have heard the term "double tap." "Double tap" is a term that's been used a lot, derisively, against regimes. We've accused the Syrian government of double tapping—of people dropping their barrel bombs. We've accused the Iranians of double tapping. We've accused Russia of double tapping. We've accused everybody of double tapping. On the first day of this conflict, we had picked out several targets to strike.

We claimed we were striking targets related to the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps. One of these was the Manab Naval Base, where the Guard had warehouses and a medical facility, and so on. We hit it with five cruise missiles. Normally, you'd say, okay, you'd have confidence that the U.S. military did the right thing. Certainly, we tried to distinguish the targets to make sure there were no crossover targets—nothing that could have been a protected site. But that unit doesn't exist

anymore. Instead, what we have now is artificial intelligence–assisted targeting, a program called CLOD, put together by Palantir, which helped create these targets out of the blue. Basically, they just scan databases.

They're given certain parameters: find facilities affiliated with the Revolutionary Guard Command that have buildings of the following dimensions. Then they turn those buildings into targets, and the targets are assigned weaponry, and so on. So the Manab Naval Facility was assigned four impact points. Two of those were warehouses of a certain size. One impact point was a building that turned out to be a medical facility—but we didn't make that distinction, you guys. Even though everybody knew it was a medical facility, the AI didn't, and we didn't double-check it because we don't have the Civilian Harm Mitigation Response capability anymore.

So we just said, "Put a cruise." And then another one was up there in the upper right corner—there was a large facility there—and we decided we were going to bomb that one too. So we sent five cruise missiles. You say, "Scott, why five? I thought it was just four." Ah, now we get to the beauty of the Tomahawk Block 4. The Tomahawk Block 4 system can have multiple targets programmed into it, and it can change targets in flight because it's communicating. But the really cool part is that it can loiter over a facility, collecting imagery that's sent back for evaluation, and it does the immediate battle damage assessment.

Back in the Gulf War, when I was doing it, we bombed a target, got the satellite data, and then I looked at it and said, you know, did we achieve the result? And if not, I said, re-attack, and sent it back, and it got fed back into the queue. It was bombed a day later—it took a little while. Now we have immediate re-attack capability with the Block 4. So the fifth cruise missile's job is to loiter overhead. The first four cruise missiles come in and hit the two warehouse facilities—there's nothing in there. No secondary explosion, nothing. They're empty. Then they hit the medical facility, and we've got smoke coming out.

So it wasn't empty, but it's smoking. Criteria achieved. It hit another building and collapsed it. There's smoke coming out, but more importantly, there are people moving around—lots of people moving around. That imagery is being sent back to the ship, and the operators on the ship are looking at it, going, "We've got a lot of people moving around that target. A lot of people moving around that target. We hit something of importance. Reattack." And they hold that cruise missile to go up to altitude and fly down. Now, the amazing thing again—the Block 4 is a cool weapon because it's got this warhead on it that's designed to be a bunker buster.

So it can blow through with the initial warhead and then come in and—boom—blow up what's inside. Very lethal. Pete Hegseth loves it. I'm sure he masturbates to this weapon every freaking night. That's who he is. But now there's an additional thing they put in there. This is the beauty of the Block 4. You see, the cruise missile has a lot of fuel in it, and that unexpended fuel was just being

wasted. So the Block 4 can take that fuel, compress it, and turn it into a fuel-air explosive, giving you a thermobaric weapons capability. So basically, you penetrate and then burn everything inside with this giant thermobaric explosion.

It's beautiful. I mean, Pete Hegseth might masturbate twice because of that. So now we get to the reality of what happened. It was a school. The first cruise missile that hit it burst through classrooms, etc. The teachers and the majority of the students who survived—some students were casualties in the first strike—but the majority of them were ushered into the prayer hall of this facility, a prayer hall that met the dimensions of the criteria set by artificial intelligence. Meanwhile, the school's calling up parents and saying, "Come and get your kids. It's been a bad day here." So parents in the nearby neighborhoods come rushing to the facility. Operators look at teachers ushering children into the prayer hall, parents rushing in.

And at the moment when everybody had come together, we double-tapped it. We sent the cruise missile down. It burst through the prayer hall, exploded, and then the thermobaric warhead blew up, burning everybody inside. Read the stories of the parents about how they found their children. "There was nothing left of my child. She had been burned to death. I could only identify her because of the remnants of the backpack." That's what we did. We double-tapped them. Pure, 100% murder—because Pete Hegseth decided we needed to be more lethal. So he got rid of the regulations that required the United States military to comply with, you know, the law of war—our own law of war manual. He got rid of it.

And any American who sits there and says, "This is okay. I voted for this." — fuck you. Die. Go away. Disappear. You're the reason this country no longer stands for anything. You're the reason this country is hated and reviled—because you have no soul. This country exists only because of the Constitution. It exists only because we pretend to adhere to the rule of law. And as long as we're trying to adhere to the rule of law, there's potential in this country worth defending. We've been imperfect, and I'll be the first to acknowledge that. But the United States has the potential to be a great nation if we only did what we're supposed to do. But we don't—because we get lazy.

We don't do it because of stupidity, because of ignorance, because of racism, because of hatred—whatever you want to say. We don't do it because of the control of a Zionistic cabal. But if you're sitting here right now justifying this double tap against 170 Iranian children, then you're the fucking problem. You're not the solution. And I hope that you are erased from this world because you don't belong here. You are evil. And I say that to everybody who says, "This is what I voted for." If you're an American, you can't vote for this. It's the most un-American thing out there. And I apologize for my bad language, Danny, but people have to wake the fuck up. We are the worst people in the world right now.

We, the people of the United States of America, are the number one threat to international peace and security in the world. And it's only going to get worse, because our president's going to start to panic when the price of oil goes up. And Israel's already panicking because the Iranians have won

this war. So what happens? We may use nuclear weapons. But here's the thing, Danny — the Iranians just replaced the one man who said no to nuclear weapons, Ali Khamenei. He was it. He was the guy who said no. The system, the conservatives, his son — they're all like, "We need nuclear weapons." And he said no. And we killed him. And now they've replaced him with the son, who's surrounded by people saying, "We need nuclear weapons."

The Iranians warned Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner, but they were too stupid to understand what they were being told. The Iranians said, "You do know that we have 450 kilograms of 60% enriched uranium. You do know we have that, right? And you do know that you can't order us to get rid of it. It's our inalienable right to have this." And Witkoff and Kushner, I guess, took it the wrong way—got insulted by that. But what they didn't realize is the Iranians then worked with us to get rid of all of it. They said, "We're willing to get rid of everything, to have inspectors come in and verify—U.S. inspectors, unprecedented in the history of IAEA inspections inside Iran—American inspectors."

Iran had never allowed that before, and they were going to allow it so the disposition of the 450 kilograms could be confirmed. They were bending over backwards to give Donald Trump the great deal he always said he wanted. He always condemned the JCPOA as Barack Obama's "bad deal." "I could do a better deal." Well, the Iranians gave him a better deal—but this was never about the nuclear program. It was always about regime change. And so we attacked Iran. Surprise attack, perfidy, double tap against children—all the good stuff we do. Now the Iranians have a new supreme leader.

And now they're faced with the very conditions under which the conservatives tried to convince Ali Khamenei to reverse his fatwa prohibiting nuclear weapons—the conditions where nuclear-armed states are threatening the existential survival of the Islamic Republic. Even then, Khamenei said no. But they did pass an edict saying fatwas are reversible, and Khamenei agreed that they are, but he wasn't going to reverse it. Well, now that there's agreement that they are reversible—and Ali Khamenei is dead—we may very well see the Iranians decide that nuclear weapons are exactly what they need. And they have the ability to produce around ten thousand 15-to-20-kiloton warheads of a uranium gun design—very crude weapons, but very effective.

It doesn't need to be tested—for all you people out there who think it does. We didn't test the gun design. The test we did at Alamogordo was the plutonium implosion weapon. The gun design doesn't need to be tested because it will work 100% of the time. And that's the direction the Iranians will probably go. They said in the fall of 2024 and the spring of 2025 that they had solved all the issues related to the delivery of a nuclear weapon—that they had a warhead designed, they had it built, it was ready. All they needed was the fissile material. They have missiles designed to carry this warhead. So all the Iranians have to do is produce and assemble enriched uranium. They have the 450 kilograms of 60% uranium hexafluoride. They have 164...

#Danny

Scott, if you can hear me, I think we lost you for a second. Okay, we're back.

#Scott Ritter

They have the ability to enrich the uranium hexafluoride, convert it into uranium metal, and form that metal into shapes suited for a gun design. And I wouldn't be surprised if, at some point as this war progresses and people threaten them with nuclear weapons, the Iranians come out and say, "You don't want to do that, because we'll kill Israel, Saudi Arabia, we'll kill the United States. Dubai will be a smoking hole. The whole region will be smoke. You drop one nuclear weapon on us, and everybody dies." It's a reverse Samson option. And I think that's the direction the Iranians should go. I don't want them to. I still believe—I don't know why, maybe because it's been my life—but I'm still naive.

But I still believe in nuclear nonproliferation. I believe in the legitimacy of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. I believe in disarmament, arms control—all these things that have proven to be a fucking joke in the eyes of the United States. They've disgraced my entire life. My whole life has been spent pursuing arms control, and this government has just made it a joke—a literal joke, a tragic joke. So who am I to tell the Iranians they can't have nuclear weapons? Who am I to say they can't do this? We'll see. I mean, the one thing that mitigates against it is that the Iranians continue to speak about honoring the legacy of Ali Khamenei, and his legacy was that nuclear weapons were forbidden under Islam.

We'll see how long that lasts, but it's hard to sit there and make that argument. You can make that in a vacuum, but when your nation is being subjected to the death and destruction being laid down—wanton murder by the United States and Israel—the Israelis blew up, I mean, people, you have to understand the scope and scale of the crime that Israel committed here. They blew up the oil storage facilities outside Tehran in a deliberate fashion. Again, I'm a targeter. I did this for a living. I know the decisions that go into it. There are ways to blow things up to make things not happen, and there are ways to blow things up to make things happen.

The targeting done here was deliberate, meant to achieve an outcome—to basically coat Tehran with toxic oil rain and create conditions where fires break out in the sewage systems. Streets on fire, a city on fire. This is the capital city of Iran. The capital city of Iran is being wiped off the face of the earth by Israel. You know, so why not get a nuclear weapon if you're Iran? Why not? I mean, this is the stage we're in. This is where we're at today. And we can only blame one person: Donald Trump. Donald Trump had the ability to tell Benjamin Netanyahu not just no, but fuck no. Sit down, shut up, get out of my face. I'll cut off all aid. There will be no defense. We'll turn off the missile defense shield. We can do anything we want. You're pathetic.

You're a loser. I mean, he's a dictator. So when Congress screams, "Arrest them," he could have determined that Israel is a hostile foreign nation. Anybody who's taken more than three dollars from Israel is now an enemy of the United States—and then arrest all of Congress. Why not? You're a

dictator. Congress doesn't matter. I mean, I would support this if it purged Israel. I wouldn't support it because it's unconstitutional. But my point is, the president had a lot of latitude, but he's sold out. He took Miriam Adelson's blood money. He's a prisoner of the Zionist cabal. He surrounded himself with Zionists from the vice president on down, and there's no pushback against anything Israel does. Maybe the American people will wake up. Maybe now we can find a way to unite people, to understand that Israel is calling the shots—that this is no longer about America first.

This is America last, Israel first. Let's not make America great again—let's make Israel great again. Let's make America last. Are we going to wake up collectively and understand this? Are we going to do the right thing at the polls in November? Because we can cleanse this. We can cleanse this. And I know people are going to say, well, we're going to vote for somebody. There's nothing worse than a dictator. There's nothing worse than a cult of personality. There's nothing worse than a person who openly says, "I will not comply with the Constitution of the United States." There is nothing worse than that. You can take a Democrat who, as long as they say, "I will comply with the Constitution, I will obey that oath," and they respect the checks and balances—that's imperfect.

I agree that the Democrats govern horribly. I agree that they make bad policies. I agree with all that. But, you know, we can fix that constitutionally if we, the people, wake up. Right now, though, we've transferred power to a functional dictator—a cult of personality. And we have one chance to fix it, and that's this November. Maybe the disastrous war will wake the American people up. That's the only way it can, because we're all trapped in that cocoon of comfort. But when we suddenly have to go out and pay eight dollars a gallon for gas, when we go to Walmart and see the shelves empty because truckers can't afford the diesel to ship things around, when we see the price of food go through the roof, when we realize our paycheck doesn't cut it anymore—maybe then we'll wake up and do the right thing. I don't know.

#Danny

Yeah, well, let's continue to do our part, Scott. There's just one more segment I wanted to get through with you that's very related to this, and then there's one audience question. But first, you know, in line with this very obvious—what I guess we'd call influence over the United States by Israel—there have been many reports. What strikes me so much, Scott, is the hubris of all of this. The Times of Israel—Trump gave an interview with them, and he said straight up that it'll be a mutual decision with Netanyahu when the war ends. And it's even more—the hubris gets worse—where he says Iran was going to destroy Israel and everything else around it. "We worked together. We destroyed the country that wanted to destroy Israel." So, past tense—destroyed the country that wanted to destroy Israel. Now, Scott, the new Ayatollah, the son of Ali Khamenei—I believe I'm butchering his name.

Don't worry, you're in good company. Not only is he, as you've pointed out, more militant in his position on nuclear weapons and defending the country by any means, but also people are very—well, first of all, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's entire family, including his son's family, was wiped out. And

you also have this—yeah, exactly—and you have these scenes in Iran as he was named the next Ayatollah. So, Scott, Israel and Trump are saying they're going to decide when this war ends. It seems like the Iranian people have a very different viewpoint. How does this factor into the entire situation? I mean, I can pull up the military side of this—what it looks like on the ground for Israel—but also, I know you often say that war is an extension of politics by other means. So, how about your comments on all of this?

#Scott Ritter

Well, damn you, Danny, you stole my Clausewitz reference. But you're right—war is an extension of politics by other means. Look, I said this early on: this is a regime-change conflict, and it's existential in nature. The probable regime change will take place here in the United States, as Donald Trump loses in November, is impeached, and hopefully convicted by the Congress of the United States—empowered by an American people who voted in representatives who believe in the Constitution over factionalism. Benjamin Netanyahu has been a prime minister hanging on by the skin of his teeth ever since October 7th. He was delinquent in his duties then, but he kept expanding the war.

He called himself the security prime minister. He kept expanding the war, and every time he ran into a domestic problem, he expanded the conflict. Now he's gone to the ultimate level of expansion, counting his chickens before they hatch. He's on TV declaring victory, saying this is all because of him. And yet the Israelis woke up this morning with no power in Tel Aviv, and they'll continue to have no power. If this goes on, they'll have no water, no infrastructure, and Tel Aviv will become uninhabitable. People will start to flee Israel, and then the rest of Haifa will become an uninhabitable city too.

Israel will become an unlivable nation, and that will be the death of Israel—and the death of Benjamin Netanyahu. This is something that Hamas, Hezbollah, and Nasrallah were on the verge of accomplishing. If you remember, right before Hassan Nasrallah was assassinated, how bad—how dire—the situation was in Israel. Remember, too, the emptying of northern Israel, people fleeing because of Hezbollah's rockets, and the economic bankruptcy that was taking place. But now we have the ultimate war, a war of existential proportions. And Iran has a plan. Israel doesn't. Israel doesn't have a plan for survival. Israel believed the nonsense that they could resume—move—this regime.

You hear the president just talking in stupidity. I mean, who writes his script? The movie **True Lies** would write this stuff. Who writes what Trump says? Because it's stupidity—stupidity personified in a man, a stupid man. And Netanyahu's no smarter. I mean, he's a smart man, politically astute, but he's boxed himself into a corner. He basically took all his remaining savings while he's in Vegas—he's already gambled away everything—and he takes what's left, puts it all on one number, and rolls the dice. It's not going to come up the way you want, Vinny. It's over. And so he will be removed. He's not survivable. You can already see his ideological base under attack. Smotrich's son is wounded, maybe dead, at the hands of Hezbollah. Ben-Gvir is injured, maybe dead.

Netanyahu's family is under attack. His brother is dead. Netanyahu is a dead man walking, even if he survives this attack. He will not survive. You know, he needs to hope that he, you know, passes through natural causes, because he's been marked for death. You don't get to assassinate the Supreme Leader and walk away. And I would say the same thing about Donald Trump—he needs to be careful. He's crossed a red line. I mean, the American people have to understand that. We don't have a right, just because we have the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, to go around and murder people, murder leaders, murder religious leaders, and then pretend there are no consequences. We are a hunted people. We are a hated people. And our actions will haunt us and hunt us for a long time going forward.

#Danny

Yeah, yeah, they will. And there's no amount, Scott, of justification. I know we've talked about Axios stories in the past, too. There's always an attempt to muddle the narrative about why all of this is going on, why this disaster has occurred. And now, when it comes to the oil depots—now, suddenly, when oil prices are spiking—you have the United States trying to leak through these so-called U.S. officials, trying to leak through Axios that, oh no, it was Israel that launched all the strikes on the depots, with no U.S. involvement. They didn't know about it, they vehemently disagreed with it. And now there's, you know, some kind of plausible deniability here. But to me, Scott, I don't know what your opinion on this is—it's ridiculous.

#Scott Ritter

And yet, we just passed a \$50 billion supplemental that goes through without any congressional approval, allowing Israel to be replenished with the very bombs they dropped on those oil facilities. The hypocrisy, the lies of this administration, are beyond belief. If Israel actually did something we didn't want them to do—something detrimental to our national security, etc.—we could simply hit the off switch, and Israel would disappear. But we don't. We continue to fund, supply, support, and facilitate, because that's part of our plan. It's just domestic political cover right now—blame it on Israel, etc. But no, it's a joint campaign plan. The target sets are known to all parties, and the decision to strike—those Israeli aircraft had to take off and fly a path to Israel that was pre-coordinated with the United States.

We knew what the targets were. Anybody who says we didn't know what the targets were is lying. We knew what the targets were because it's an integrated strike plan. And then those planes had to fly back, squawking on IFF that we were picking up so we wouldn't shoot them down. All coordinated. The flow—it was American tankers that refueled those aircraft. Why would we refuel aircraft if we didn't know where they were going, if we didn't know anything about it? You know, so no, this administration does nothing but lie. They are carrying out a war—an information war—

against the American people. And we're the dupes who sit there and allow ourselves again. What was it? Short-term pain for long-term gain. I mean, that's the new cry of stupidity in America: short-term pain for long-term gain.

#Danny

And I don't know how they'll revise that when the short-term pain doesn't feel so short-term anymore, because that could change dramatically as things escalate, Scott. Well, it's just a matter of time. Time is relative.

#Scott Ritter

Short-term could actually mean long-term. That's okay. Buy the newest PS4 or Xbox 5 and play the latest version of Grand Theft Auto or Call of Duty. You too can be an American hero.

#Danny

Absolutely ridiculous. Well, Al Jazeera actually—and it's a two-minute video, hopefully it goes fast. I can't speed it up, even though I wish I could. But Al Jazeera had an interesting report, Scott, on Iran's side and how they're getting through all these defenses into Israel. Which, again, I just want to point out to the audience: we had a twelve-day war in Israel, ran out of interceptors, and had to ask Trump to end the war. I'm still very confused as to how that will transpire any differently in the days and weeks to come. But here's Al Jazeera's report. And Scott, as a weapons inspector, as someone with expert knowledge on this stuff, I want your assessment on how they did and what they're missing, because I think it's important for people to understand what exactly is happening here.

#Speaker 03

Iran has launched hundreds of ballistic missiles toward Israel since the conflict began. The distance between Iran's capital, Tehran, and Tel Aviv in Israel is about 1,600 kilometers. Iran does have missiles that can cover that distance, but they need to pass through other countries, which makes striking Israel a challenge. Let me explain. Suppose Iran launches dozens of missiles toward Israel. They travel through Iraq and Syria, or they could go over Saudi Arabia. But what happens in Iraq, where there are U.S. military bases and the American Patriot system that engages and destroys these missiles? So let's say some of these missiles are lost there. The ones that remain then enter Syrian and Jordanian airspace, and by that point, Israeli air defenses engage and destroy them.

Now, we have Jordan also helping Israel intercept incoming projectiles. The missiles enter Israeli airspace, and then they're targeted by U.S. warships stationed nearby. Remember, the U.S. Navy has a significant presence in the Mediterranean Sea. Finally, when the missiles are inside Israeli airspace, they're targeted by a multi-layered air defense system that includes the Iron Dome, David's Sling, and the Arrow system, along with American theater air defenses. And despite all of that,

Iranian missiles are still hitting targets inside Israel. The time it takes for a missile from Iran to reach Israel is about ten to twelve minutes. This is the damage we're seeing inside Tel Aviv after an Iranian missile strike.

#Danny

So, Scott, how accurate was this? I mean, the situation has changed a lot since the war began, obviously. And that raises the question: how long can this actually go on? Unless the U.S. and Israel—well, I'll pose this question to you too—are going to continue without air defense systems.

#Scott Ritter

Well, first of all, the report was superficial. I already explained to you about the architecture — they're not designed to work with each other. If you listen to her, it sounds like things are seamlessly working together, but they're not. There's an architecture trying to bring these systems together, even though they weren't designed to work that way. And she didn't mention the destruction of the radars up front, the queuing, the communications, and so on. It's just a superficial look at it. But the point is, it's not working. The Iranian missiles keep being launched, and the Iranians have more missiles than we have the ability to intercept.

And we've already run out of the high-end, high-value ones — I don't know, the "super dupers," as Donald Trump might call them — we're out of those. So we're using PAC-2s. We may have a lot of PAC-2s; Pete Hegseth seemed to indicate that we did. But that's like knowing you're going up against a target that requires a .50-caliber bullet to kill it, and we're out of .50-caliber bullets. We've got a lot of .22s, so we're going to fire a whole bunch of .22s, but we know the .22s can't kill the target. We're just wasting time and going through the motions, pretending to be defending. We're shooting Patriot Missile Twos that have zero impact on the Iranians, so it's a meaningless gesture.

Eventually, we're going to run out of the SM-3s, the SM-3 Block IIs, the SM-6s — these are the missiles on the ships. We're going to run out of them. We don't have the ability to replace them, and then we're just totally defenseless. And what do we do at that point? I think Donald Trump will probably try to declare victory and walk away. I don't think the Iranians are going to let him walk away. You know, Iran has made a decision that this war doesn't end until it's over. If Trump is willing to walk away by saying we're evacuating the Middle East, never to return, that's one condition. But then what about Israel? The United States has to ensure that Israel no longer manifests a threat to the region. Greater Israel is dead.

I don't think the Iranians are taking their foot off the gas right now. Again, we come back to John Boyd, which I started this discussion with, and the OODA loop. The Iranians are inside our decision-making cycle. They're winning. Why would Iran pause and allow the United States to recalibrate? They've invested a lot, they've sacrificed a lot to get to the point where their strategic plan is superior to the strategic planning of the United States and Israel. They're winning this war. They

cannot allow a ceasefire or conflict termination that simply resets the game map. They're not going to allow that. So Donald Trump's in a lot of trouble, and I think you're going to see this war go on for a lot longer.

And I think the consequences of the American defeat are going to be far greater. If he continues, understand that right now we're looking at a temporary inconvenience — short-term pain for long-term pain — in the economies. But a lot of what's about to happen is irreversible. The damage will be permanent. And if we get into the permanent destruction of energy production facilities in the Middle East, even if the conflict ends, it's over. And I'll just leave it at this: one nation — another nation that I won't shed tears for — you know, they're showing long lines in India of people going out to fill up their propane bottles, their liquefied natural gas. India has admitted they're in a strategic relationship with Israel.

India has admitted that they gave the coordinates of an unarmed Iranian ship that had gone to India for a peaceful rally. They gave it to Israel, who passed it to the United States so the ship could be sunk. India, a member of BRICS, has decided not to support a fellow BRICS member, Iran. India is going to pay a heavy price for its decision to support Israel and this war. India could have been one of the nations granted an exception for transit out of the Strait of Hormuz, but now India is a declared enemy of Iran and will suffer a huge economic hit. This is, again, another nation I'm simply not going to shed tears for. And maybe it's time for the Indian people to rise up and remove Modi as their prime minister.

Because this man has been sitting on the fence. This man has been playing both sides of the equation for far too long. He's allowed the United States to dictate solutions to him. And now, at the behest of the United States, in order to curry political favor with Donald Trump, he has allowed India's strategic national security interests to be subordinated to that of the state of Israel. Unacceptable. India has a large Muslim population—larger than that of Pakistan—and maybe it's time the Muslims of India let their feelings be known. But India is a despicable state. It's not an ally of the United States, it's not an ally of anybody. It is unreliable—completely unreliable—and that was proven when you have Iran, a fellow BRICS member, being betrayed by India.

#Danny

Yeah, and before the strike happened on the 28th, before the initial acts of aggression and war crimes began by the U.S. and Israel, we saw Modi host Netanyahu in the most—how should we say—accommodating of ways. Just absolutely. I mean, it's one thing, you know, to have any kind of relationship, but to genuinely not only flaunt it, but then be an active participant in the war against Iran when the rest of the world, especially the Global South—other than maybe those leaders who are getting beaten to hell by Iran in the region—are against it. Yeah. So the fact that India has basically isolated itself.

It's an economy that can't handle the damage that's about to come, either. It cannot handle that. You know, for whatever people say about the United States, India itself—where it's located, what it needs, and its current situation—you know, everyone talks about its growth. It is not. It's not the United States. It's not economically developed in the same way. It will not be able to sustain itself; its crisis will be dramatically worse. And that's coming soon. So anyway, I just wanted to put that out there because it's shocking—the level of, you know, what you call betrayal. I think that's a great word. It has no benefit to India at all. No, it's purely political cowardice. Yeah. Yeah, I've seen a lot of that.

#Scott Ritter

What nations should understand right now is that Donald Trump is a coward—straight-up coward. He only strikes when he thinks there's going to be a quick, easy victory. Notice what happens when he's faced with a morally complicated issue, like, do I support Jolani, the beheading ISIS leader of Syria? "He's a strong guy, tough guy, he made some hard decisions—hard things you've never done, Donnie baby." And so he caves instead of saying, "No, we're going to kill you because you're Al Qaeda, and we don't forgive, and you're going to die. We're going to come in and we're going to slaughter you." Nope, he didn't do that. He did the opposite. And that's what's happening with Iran right now.

He's confronted by the fact that he's starting to say they're tough. You know, they're tough. They're tougher than you are, Donnie—ten times tougher than you are. And they're smarter than Pete Hegseth, your testosterone-driven, 315-pound, bench-pressing moron who's running what used to be called the Department of Defense but is now, more euphemistically and accurately, the Department of War—the war-criminal status that America enjoys. Donald Trump is a coward. Nations that stand up to Trump win. Nations that bend the knee to Trump die. Venezuela could have stood up to Trump. They took the easy way out. They took the CIA money. They caved. Cuba, this is a warning to you: the United States doesn't care about you.

Donald Trump seeks to dominate you, seeks to destroy you. Look at Venezuela—there's no pride in being Venezuelan today. You sold out. You got a vice president; Darcy took the money. I mean, she's literally a political whore—literally a political whore. And, you know, so Cuba, take a lesson. Stand up. Fight back. Don't give in. All the nations out there dealing with Donald Trump, stand up. Fight back. Don't give in, because he is a coward. When confronted with the need to make a hard decision, knowing the consequence will be tough, he always backs down. He was misled into believing that Iran would fold like a house of cards. And now look at him—panicked. Five war plans in ten days.

There's probably going to be another war plan today or tomorrow because they don't know what they're doing. Iran is inside their decision-making cycle. Now they have to deal with the economy. Is he going to fire Scott Besant? Is he going to fire all these people who've been giving him bad

political advice? He needs to terminate his cabinet—every single one of them needs to be removed and replaced by competent people. But instead, this is a man who has surrounded himself with a pro-Zionist cabal. He's a weak man. He's a coward. And he will always take the easy way out because he's not strong. He's not tough. He's the weakest man possible—morally, physically, intellectually.

#Danny

Yeah, and the blowback—we're going to have many episodes in the future, Scott, where we'll talk about the global blowback from this as well. Because, you know, when it comes to the Ukraine conflict, forget about it. It's just going to keep going the way it's been going, and that means it's not going to go well for the U.S. And, of course, NATO is the U.S.'s war tool. And then there's the Pacific issue. The U.S. wants to drain the whole Pacific of everything they've sold to South Korea and Japan. If that happens, what does that do to the U.S.'s grand plans? What do you think the Chinese have learned?

#Scott Ritter

You think the Chinese have learned? If we cave in to Donnie, everything will be okay. Or maybe they've learned that if we tell Donnie to pound sand, stand up and say, "Bring it on, bitch," Donnie walks away—because we don't have anything. Again...

#Danny

The tragedies befalling the Iranian nation, the Iranian people, are real.

#Scott Ritter

I mean, this is horrific, what's happening right now. But Pete Hegseth has been exposed as a war criminal, as a liar, as the most incompetent person. And maybe one of the things that will happen is that we'll finally shed ourselves of this cancer on American morality—that is, Pete Hegseth—and actually prosecute him for war crimes, because he has committed war crimes. He has lied to the American people—lied. He has violated his constitutional oath. You know, we knew that when he was murdering—whatever those votes were in the Caribbean Sea and off the Pacific coast—there was murder.

Whatever you guys want to say—again, I voted for this. I don't care. You don't get to vote to violate the Constitution. That's why we have the Constitution: to guard against the irrational emotions of an enraged public, a public that's become factionalized. I voted for this. I don't care. It's against the Constitution. It's against the law. And if you voted for it, then you're part of the problem. That's the solution. Maybe you should be indicted as a fellow conspirator for the war crimes of Pete Hegseth. That would be nice. But Pete Hegseth is a war criminal, and Donald Trump needs to clean house. I don't think Pete Hegseth survives this conflict. I don't think he can.

The gross incompetence of this man has humiliated the United States, humiliated the president, and has manifested itself in ways that have been destructive to people, to infrastructure, to economies, and, more importantly, to the moral compass of the American collective. Americans need to wake up, look in the mirror, and feel ashamed of what we've become. If you voted for this, then you're a war criminal. You're no different from the Nazis of the 1930s who enabled Adolf Hitler to seize power in Germany. We're facilitating a cult of personality—a government that has no, you know, no constraint imposed by the rule of law, because they don't believe in the rule of law. That's what you voted for. That makes you an enemy of America. So fuck you again.

#Danny

Yeah, well, let's get to just one or two audience questions, Scott. There was one that I think is good, especially given your expertise. "Scott, love you from Canada. What do you think Iran will do if Israel uses nuclear weapons on them? How will this change the war? Is Pakistan helping Iran?"

#Scott Ritter

Let's deal with the Pakistan issue first. Pakistan has a strategic security agreement with Saudi Arabia, so Pakistan is sort of screwed right now. They don't know what to do because they're financially dependent on Saudi Arabia. They need Saudi Arabian allies, and Saudi Arabia also allows Gulf Arab states to bail Pakistan out financially. If you look at the recent economic crises in Pakistan, it's billion-dollar interventions by Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and others that have bailed them out. So Pakistan has to be careful about saying, "Well, we're on the side of Iran," even though historically Pakistan has been on Iran's side against Israel. So Pakistan is in a quandary. I don't think Iran is relying on anything from Pakistan.

As I hinted earlier, Iran is literally a few weeks away from having several deliverable atomic weapons. If and when they make that decision, I don't know. I can say this: any Israeli nuclear attack against Iran would be more demonstrative than decisive. It wouldn't end Iran. It won't eliminate Iran's nuclear weapons program because we just don't know where it is. We're going to blow up, I think—there are a lot of people right now looking at tunnels in Isfahan that have proven to be immune to American conventional munitions. We've struck them with B-2s, B-52s, B-1s, and we can't crack them. So the idea is we'd nuke them to collapse the tunnels. But if you're the Iranians and you have 450 kilograms of uranium hexafluoride enriched to 60%, would you put it in tunnels in Isfahan that you've already sealed off—meaning you can't get access to it?

Because then you've basically disarmed yourself. So I have a feeling the Iranian uranium hexafluoride isn't in Isfahan or any other known location. There are hundreds of hidden sites the Iranians have been building since 2005, buried inside mountains. I believe the Iranian uranium hexafluoride enriched to 60% is probably divided among three or four sites, each one capable of enriching and producing two or three nuclear weapons. So even if we get lucky and hit one, there's duplication of effort. And if we nuke Iran, Iran will nuke Israel. It's a suicide pill for Israel—nuke

Iran, you die. The difference is, Iran's huge; you're small. Three nuclear weapons would end all life in Israel.

#Danny

Yeah.

#Scott Ritter

You want to play that game? You'll die. And the other thing is, Iran won't stop there after they take out Israel. They'll take out the states that facilitated this. Saudi Arabia will be destroyed. Dubai will cease to exist. You know, we can pick—Abu Dhabi can go down, Kuwait City can go down. The point is, once we cross that road, you've made a decision now that says we are going to physically eradicate the Islamic Republic of Iran. And therefore, the fatwa automatically gets reversed, and Iran will move forward. Now, the question is, does Iran wait until they've been nuked, or do they go ahead and front-load the system? That we don't know.

Again, we're now down to an issue of fundamental existentialism. Will Iran honor the legacy of Ali Khamenei in its totality, or will it take the actions necessary to create deterrence against the use of nuclear weapons? Because I think if this war continues to go south for the United States and Israel, there will be a great temptation to use nuclear weapons to break the impasse. And the only way Iran can prevent that is to make it clear that if nuclear weapons are used against Iran, Israel ceases to exist in totality—not a demonstrative weapon, not a token blow at Dimona. Israel ceases to exist. And then you need to tell the Gulf Arab states they will cease to exist as well.

That's a dangerous thing, because now you trigger a nuclear arms race in the region. But again, who cares? Donald Trump doesn't care. America doesn't care. Let everybody have nukes—why not? Everybody gets to play. I mean, people, do you understand how stupid that is? How dumb this is? Why we didn't jump on the "get rid of the Israeli nuclear cancer" bandwagon earlier will be one of those things. If we survive this period of time, it's one of those questions people will always be asking: why did we allow this cancerous, parasitic nation of Israel to have nuclear weapons and to threaten global peace and security with them?

#Danny

It's a crazy question. It is. And then finally, Scott, quickly—have you heard of any recommendations for active duty in the region? Local command is just saving face. Some are ignorant, just mitigating loss till we GTFO. This administration has ruined so much by staying vague. Have you heard this?

#Scott Ritter

I mean, so sad, too bad. You raised your hand, you took the oath, you got the uniform, you serve. I'm one of those people who believes your duty and responsibility are to your oath, to the Constitution, and that your job is to obey the lawful orders given to you to the best of your ability. You know, if you don't want to serve, then make a decision—but pay the price. You're not going to get a free ride on this one. I'm sorry. You raised your hand. What the hell were you thinking? What did you think was going to happen? I mean, we've had 20 years of the global war on terror. You didn't learn from that? You didn't learn from all the other wars of aggression that we waged?

You made a decision to raise your hand for something—maybe for economic reasons, maybe for fake patriotic reasons—and now your ass is in a sling in a region where it's gone south. Die honorably. Die like a man. Get up and do your job. Don't cower at your desk, don't cry to mommy. Get up and do your freaking job. Be a man, be a soldier, be a sailor, be an airman—do whatever you've got to do. If it's your fate, die like a man. Don't whimper around, "Oh my God, I shouldn't have joined." Tough shit, dude. You signed up, you raised your hand—die like a man. But do the right thing, too. Maybe before you die, disobey an unlawful order. Maybe you're on an Aegis cruiser at the Tomahawk control station, and they come in and say, "We're going to be firing off another thing."

Say, time out. I need to see the decision-making matrix on this one—this target we're hitting. Have we actually looked at it to make sure it's not a civilian target? Where is the packet? Where is the targeting packet? I am not firing a missile against a grid coordinate. I need the targeting packet. I need to ensure that we've done the civilian mitigation. Have we done civilian mitigation? Yes or no, sir? Yes or no? If the answer is you don't know, then I'm not launching the missile. Arrest me, move me, put somebody else in, and have somebody else come in and say, "Fuck you." I will launch when I'm shown that this is a lawful order, in compliance with the laws of war, in compliance with the Constitution.

If you're in the active-duty military right now, that should be your standard. Tough shit if you've got to kill somebody, because you signed up. But make sure that whatever you do complies with the law of war. Fuck Pete Hegseth. Fuck his "lethality." The only thing that matters is the Constitution. That is the only thing that matters. You didn't take an oath to Pete Hegseth. You didn't take an oath to Donald Trump. You took an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution, and that requires you to adhere to the law of warfare. And that means that before you launch a fucking weapon, make sure the target has been vetted properly, or else you're just going to murder 170 goddamn schoolchildren—and you'll have to live with that for the rest of your life, if you survive this war.

#Danny

Yeah, I think that's a great place to end, Scott—to send a real message about standing up for what's right if you're put in this situation. And what did Donald Trump and Marco Rubio say? How many—40,000? 50,000? I can't even keep track of the number of U.S. active-duty personnel in the region engaging in this war right now. Yeah, there's a lot. And we've got 40,000-plus people here, Scott,

who've watched us today. I want to make sure everybody knows, while you're still here, about Scott's website—his Substack—where you can support him, as well as the donate link. I know, Scott, you have plans to go to Russia. I don't know if you want to briefly talk about that so people know their money's going to a good cause.

#Scott Ritter

Yeah, I mean, look, when I mentioned the other day on your show that I was working on a project about how to engage Islam in a constructive way for conflict resolution and mitigation, not only have people reached out and offered support—it's deeply appreciated. Trust me, it will go to good use. I've been approached by some very serious religious leaders around the world, and this has real potential. We'll see where it goes. I don't think the United States is prepared to move, but this is about empowering people, not empowering government. And, you know, it only happens with the support of audiences like yours. I'm deeply appreciative of whatever you do. If you go to ScottRitter.com, you can subscribe to my Substack. And as I said, that pays for this—and the barking dogs, okay? So if you don't want the dogs to bark, don't subscribe.

I'll run out of food, they'll starve to death, and then we'll have a quiet show. But if you want me to travel and do these projects, that's the donation button. So there's a difference: the subscription allows me to feed my family and keep a roof over my head; the donations allow me to go out and do the work, to travel. I have a very important trip coming up—I'll reveal it when I can. And people are like, "Oh, you're being mysterious." Understand this: the Ukrainians are trying to kill me. They sent a letter bomb to my house last December. It was inert, but it was designed to scare me. "Slava Ukraina, we've got your number, we know who you are." Okay, I'm still here. I'm not going to run. But, you know, I am marked for death, and I've gone to Russia on a couple of occasions, and the Ukrainians have tried to assassinate me while I was there.

So I have to be very careful about discussing trips—where I'm going, what I'm doing, and so on—because you're just giving advance targeting intelligence. We'd be giving the Ukrainians targeting intelligence so they can try to kill me. That's one of the reasons why, believe me, I'd love nothing more than to sit here and tell you what I'm getting ready to do. I'm excited about it—it's pretty damn cool. But again, it only happens because of the support from people who go to the donation button and hit "donate." And again, while this trip is fully funded, I'm just going to be straight-up honest with you: being the Marine planner that I am, I have a follow-on trip coming up sometime in the near future that isn't fully funded. And it is a...

#Danny

Uh, Scott, we lost you. So, you're saying you have a trip coming up that isn't fully funded?

#Scott Ritter

So when I return, the follow-on trip is just as cool. Um, it's not fully funded. So, you know, the thing about planning is you have to plan within your capabilities. If you donate, my capability potential expands. So please, if you support this, continue to donate. It's the only thing that keeps us going. And I'll just finish with this: if you like the fact that I'm on this show talking, then donate to Danny Haiphong. I mean, Danny's the man. Danny made this happen. Danny's the guy who puts the hours in, he puts the work in, he prepares, he gets this out there. Support Danny Haiphong. Support all the independent media out there that you can.

Because otherwise, you're just going to get a bunch of clones saying, "short-term pain for long-term gain." And that'll be the message you hear over and over again. If you want to defeat that, support Danny Haiphong, support Judge Napolitano, support Garland Nixon, support Savvy Sabatino—support everybody out there doing the right thing. You know, and again, in the comments, there are people who disagree with me, and I respect that. I'm not here to—well, if you guys want to have a debate, I'll have a debate. But I have to tell you, I go for the throat. I kill. I don't lose. I don't engage in a debate unless I'm confident in the subject matter.

And I won't debate you about things I don't know. I'm not going to sit here and blow smoke at you or pretend I know everything about a topic I'm not 100% confident in. I could be wrong—and I love it when people point out that I'm wrong, because I learn from that. But, you know, that's the beauty of it: you get a broad spectrum of people out there with expertise in certain areas, and what you do is find a way to overlap all that expertise. So you get a broad spectrum of knowledge and information that's far more than any one person could have. So hit the like button, hit the subscribe button. What's that algorithm thing? You say it better than I do—what do you say?

#Danny

Just hit the like button, because that helps boost the show in YouTube's algorithm. That's how they see what's happening here, and they say, "Wow, that's a video worth pushing to new audiences—and bigger audiences." But no, much appreciated, Scott. I think all of that—do all of that, everybody, as we head out of here. Support Scott. Support all independent media right now that's covering this war, but also covering geopolitics, world politics, and domestic politics in a way that actually serves people, feeds people with real knowledge they can use, and maybe even change the system. Can I just say one thing? I read the comments.

#Scott Ritter

I know I'm not supposed to share them, but there were several people who said, "Scott, please do a show with Tucker Carlson." Tucker Carlson doesn't talk to me anymore. If you want me to do a show with Tucker Carlson, contact Tucker Carlson—send him an email, send him something, and say, "Do a show with Scott Ritter," because Tucker has decided that... There was a time when he

loved me. He was calling me twice a week, we were talking, and then he decided he was going to strike off on his own, which is his right. Would I love to have a conversation with Tucker Carlson? Sure. Why not? Why not talk to a guy who has the ability to reach a billion people?

But I'm not going to. I'm not going to bend the knee. I'm not going to crawl. I'm not going to beg. I'm here. If Tucker wants a show, he knows how to reach me. And if you guys want that show, call up Tucker and tell him to have a show. It worked. You know, Danny Haiphong, the very popular podcaster—the people who run his platform had been saying, “We will not allow Scott Ritter on your show.” But the audience demanded otherwise. And I did a show with Danny the other day, and we've got over a million hits so far. I mean, that's pretty good. I don't know the standard—is that a good standard, a million views?

#Danny

Yeah, that's a very good standard. And yeah, I mean, it happens here too, Scott. You know, a lot of people say, “Hey, Danny, why don't you have X, Y, or Z people on?” I won't name names—I don't want to be that kind of person. But, you know, they just know that if they haven't been on here, they've likely said no, sometimes for no reason at all. And if you really want them to come on, do exactly what Scott just said to do for himself: tell them, “Hey, you should be on this program because it's worthwhile to reach this kind of audience.”

Because none of these audiences are actually the same—just so everybody knows that. There's a lot of variety, even among channels that cover the same topics. But without further ado, I want to thank everyone. Thanks, Scott. Hit that like button for him, because this was an incredible show, and we're going to keep doing daily updates here. He'll be back on soon. Scott, any final words before we head out of here?

#Scott Ritter

No, I mean, first of all, I apologize for my language. I'm very upset. I just spent the morning researching this Manab strike, and the more I found out about it, the more I'm—yeah, it's all over right now. Because you've got to dig in. Don't trust the New York Times. Don't trust anybody. You've got to dig deeper and ask questions. And I'm asking questions. I'm doing the research. When I found out that Pete Hegseth canceled the one thing that's designed to prevent the targeting mistakes that took place—um, I'm furious. I'm just enraged beyond belief, because this is my country. These are my fellow service members. They're using my taxpayer dollars to buy weapons that are being used in the name of all of us. And we can't allow this to happen. If we sit back and do nothing, then we are complicit in the crimes that are taking place. So I was very worked up this morning, and I apologize if I said some things. But, you know, it is what it is. You get what you pay for.

#Danny

Everyone should be enraged by what's going on, Scott—especially that. I see the Western mainstream media doing what they always do: the New York Times and others trying to deflect, trying to make it sound like even if the U.S. had culpability, there are many possible reasons for it. They're doing the gymnastics to justify it, essentially.

#Scott Ritter

No, we have a war criminal as our secretary of defense reporting to a war criminal as our president. But Hegseth has to go. He has to go. He's a stain on the honor of this nation—whatever passes for honor anymore. And he must go. He is a war criminal and should be held accountable for his crimes. The decisions he's made are unconstitutional, and they've resulted in the mass death of innocents. If we don't hold him accountable for this, then it's an indictment of us all.

#Danny

Yeah, great way to end, everyone, because that's the message people need to hear, right? So hit the like button. Of course, support Scott—video description below. Be sure to support this channel if you can as well; links are in the video description. And then tomorrow I'll be back again at 11:30 a.m. Eastern Time. I believe Professor Jeffrey Sachs will be on, and then I'll do my own segment as well. So, without further ado, everyone, I'll see you tomorrow. The daily updates continue. Until then, bye-bye.

#Danny

Wow.