

# Iran CLASHES with US Special Ops, Trump in SHOCK | Mohammad Marandi

Iran just confronted US Special Ops attempting to rescue the missing pilot following the historic downing of the F-15E fighter jet. Trump has responded and Prof. Mohammad Marandi joins to break down the latest developments in the war that is changing the world forever. LIKE the video and Subscribe for more in-depth geopolitical analysis! Leave your thoughts in the comments below! Support the Channel: Patreon: <https://www.patreon.com/dannyhaiphong> SUBSCRIBE ON RUMBLE: Rumble: <https://rumble.com/c/DannyHaiphong> Follow Me on Social Media: Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DannyHaiphong> Telegram: <https://t.me/DannyHaiphong> Support the channel in other ways: <https://www.buymeacoffee.com/dannyhaiphong> Substack: [chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com](https://chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com) Cashapp: \$Dhaiphong Venmo: @dannyH2020 Paypal: <https://paypal.me/spiritho> #iran #f15 #trump

## #Danny

Welcome, everyone. Welcome back to the show. It's your host, Danny Haiphong. I'm joined once again by Professor Mohammad Marandi from Iran. Professor Marandi, thanks so much for joining me today.

## #Mohammad Marandi

Thank you, Danny. It's always a pleasure to be on your show.

## #Danny

Yes, hit the like button, everyone. We're going to get into the latest updates now—that helps boost the show as we do it. So, Professor Marandi, we have to talk about this rescue operation. The United States is claiming major success in this operation. I can just pull it up right now. I won't read the whole thing, but here's what Donald Trump announced on his Truth Social—talking about how “we got him,” and that it was a daring search and rescue operation. He's safe and sound now. This is the downed pilot of the F-15, shot down by Iran two days ago. The brave warrior was behind enemy lines, in the treacherous mountains of Iran, and he had the president, the war secretary, everyone by his side—the Joint Chiefs of Staff—24 hours a day.

And they got him out. He did admit that he sustained injuries, but he'll be fine. But Professor Marandi, Iran is saying something quite different here, and I want to make sure people get this perspective, because they may not hear it anywhere else. Iran is calling this operation an absolute failure. Here's what, um, Iranian media—let me just find it here—well, first, let's look at the aftermath of what they claim the military has done. This is what Iran released: these are the

wreckages of all the aircraft that were involved in this. Looks pretty victorious, yeah? You can hear them bombing? Can you hear the bombing? I cannot, but I totally believe you. I don't know if the audience can.

Everyone, please let them know, and I'll see. But yeah, I mean, this is the barbarism that's going on right now in Iran, everyone. And this is what U.S. Special Ops—the Air Force Special Ops—were doing, trying to rescue the downed pilot. This is what happened: two MC-130 aircraft were destroyed, four helicopters were destroyed in this operation. Iran is even saying this wasn't really an operation to rescue the pilot, that there might have been more to it. But nonetheless, these MC-130s cost \$100 million, Professor Marandi—not to mention the fact that the U.S. justification for why these aircraft were destroyed is that they got stuck in the sand while trying to leave, which forced them to destroy their own aircraft.

Iran is saying that they destroyed their own aircraft. They didn't destroy the aircraft—it was Iran who did it—and that the United States was actually trying to kill the pilot and those who were part of the rescue operation, knowing it would fail. So, first of all, what do you make of this? Obviously, there's a lot of fog of war here, and the U.S. really needed a win. But I'm curious about your reaction and your thoughts, especially given the context of where this war is right now.

### **#Mohammad Marandi**

I didn't hear the Iranians say they wanted to kill the pilot.

### **#Danny**

Oh, no, no, no. That the United States was trying to kill its own pilot.

### **#Mohammad Marandi**

Yeah, I haven't heard that. I haven't heard that myself. But what the Iranians are saying is that these two planes were not stuck in the sand, that the planes were damaged—they were fired upon on the ground—and that this is what I've heard, that the Americans had to leave. They also believe this wasn't simply about rescuing a pilot, but that the planes and soldiers were there for something bigger. It went wrong, and they didn't have time to carry out whatever it was they wanted to do, so they had to retreat quickly.

I personally don't think this was a success by any means—destroying two planes and four helicopters, and the previous day losing two other planes and two other helicopters. That's not a good sign. Some people would say, well, why didn't—and these were just locals, villagers, people living in that area—they took up arms and went after these invaders. But some people would ask,

why didn't Iran have its armed forces there? Iran is a huge country. It's the size of the UK, Germany, and France combined, and even bigger. In some areas, the population is quite low, so the Iranian air defenses and military presence tend to be concentrated where there are large populations.

And the terrain there, I think, shows that there isn't much going on. But in any case, this is definitely not a success—having to destroy and bomb two damaged planes, or even if they claim they weren't damaged, still two planes and four helicopters alongside them. Apparently, there were four helicopters. That's not a success, especially if this was just about retrieving a single injured pilot. And I saw something—I think it was on Sky News—where someone was talking about this pilot. You saw there was wall-to-wall coverage. But when they slaughtered 168 little girls at an elementary school, we didn't see any wall-to-wall coverage.

Actually, we didn't see any coverage. But one of the people on the show on Sky News was saying, you know, they're seeking him out and trying to find him, and this puts a human face on the whole war. And I was wondering—like, the guy who bombs kids, that's the human face of it all? All those kids slaughtered, all those women slaughtered, all those workers in factories burned alive by the Americans and Israelis. And the fact that Trump wants to send Iran back to the Stone Age—you don't see any Western media outlets threatening to send Iran back to the Stone Age.

These are threats of crimes against humanity. You don't see any outrage in The Guardian or among these European leftists who pretend to be anti-imperialists. You don't see anything from anyone. It just shows the utter moral bankruptcy of the entire political class in the West. And I'm not just talking about Democrats and Republicans—I'm talking about those mainstream critics of U.S. foreign policy. You know, the language that Trump is using to dehumanize people. And, of course, all of them are complicit. I mean, all these people have been saying the Iranian regime is this and that, and lying. Even people like—anyway—even the so-called leftists and others who are sort of on the margins of the mainstream political sphere, who, on the one hand, say "don't attack, don't bomb."

Yes, they're bad, they're evil, they murder, they slaughter tens of thousands of peaceful protesters, and all that nonsense. And of course, just today, Trump admitted he was sending weapons to the protesters, according to Fox News journalists who spoke to him. But of course, that's all ancient history. They'll just repeat the same nonsense over and over again. But it is quite stunning that we're living in a time when the leader of the United States can threaten to send people back to the Stone Age repeatedly—and no one, no one is saying, "This is a monster." These are monsters who are in charge. And that basically means they're all monsters. That means everyone at The New York Times, The Guardian, The Washington Post, Fox News, MSNBC, the BBC—they're all monsters.

There's no difference between any of them, because many of them have Twitter accounts. I don't see any of them screaming and pulling their hair out over these threats being made against the Iranian people. But in any case, this is no victory, even if they pretend it is. This war was supposed to be over in two days, and then our missiles were supposed to finish it in one week. And here we are, in the sixth week, and the Iranians are hitting hard—targets in this sinister apartheid regime,

this genocidal regime, and across the Persian Gulf, U.S.-affiliated assets. And it's clear that Iran is in control. So if this is all a big victory for Trump, well, okay.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, well, people may forget, especially in the West, that this F-15 was shot down trying to enter Iranian airspace in the south. And what was it trying to do? Well, it was obviously going to conduct strikes against Iran—likely, if not entirely, on Iranian civilians and civilian infrastructure. So that's really the basis of where we should be starting. Of course, the Western mainstream media doesn't do that. But here's the farce news report—I couldn't find the link, but this is from someone. Just one thing before you continue— Yeah, sure. Almost exclusively, the targets are now civilian, because they've failed to take out Iran's defense capabilities. They're all deep underground.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

Iran's Air Force is in underground tunnels, as are its air defenses. I've tweeted a clip showing Iran's air defenses deep underground. They take them out when they need them. The Air Force brings them out when they need them. Iran's Navy, as I think I said before on your show, is also deep underground along the coast of the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman—speedboats with missiles, all prepared. They destroyed nothing of significance in the Navy. They bombed a few ships that were in port, ones not used for fighting. So the Air Force, the air defenses, and of course the drone and missile underground cities—their factories—they're all intact.

And that's why Iran is firing missiles and drones on a daily basis. That's why they're still shooting down planes. They get frustrated and start bombing ships—more and more civilian targets. They bomb apartment blocks, they bomb hospitals. What they've been doing in the last few days is looking for new types of civilian infrastructure to target. So now they're targeting universities. They bombed Shahid Beheshti University a couple of days ago, and before that, another technical university in Tehran. They're bombing universities, they're bombing, you know, all sorts of civilian infrastructure.

And of course, simultaneously in Lebanon, they're bombing. And today they bombed an ambulance in Iran, as they've been doing regularly. When they see an ambulance, they bomb it. They bomb truck drivers. I may have told you this last time—I'm not sure if I'm repeating myself, sorry. A friend of mine, his brother-in-law has a business, and he hired two truck drivers to take goods from their city to another city. They bombed them, killed both drivers, and destroyed the two trucks that belonged to them. So, you know, this is the sort of thing... They bombed a big bridge that had just been completed. People were...

## **#Danny**

At the Karaj Bridge—is that what it's called?

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

Yes, in Karaj. And it was newly built. I think it was about to be inaugurated. People were picnicking under the bridge, and then lots of people were badly wounded and many killed—families, children—when all the rubble and shrapnel fell down on them. But in the West, it's okay. I mean, the New York Times doesn't care. The Guardian doesn't care. Just four or five nights ago—I said this on another show—very close to where I am right now, a 15- or 20-minute walk at most, in a place near here called Artesh Square, they bombed a gathering of people. I told you about these gatherings: every night there are gatherings of people across Tehran and across the country in defiance of the Trump regime and the Epstein coalition. And they fired missiles at them—just 15 minutes away from here. A woman was killed. They killed a protester.

Someone who was defending the constitution and the armed forces—and they did that. I think I told you, on the last Friday of Ramadan, I was there, and there's footage of it. I think you probably recall—people were on the streets, and they bombed it. They fired missiles at the demonstration. There's actually some very striking footage of a young woman, a PhD student from the University of Tehran, talking about why people don't run away and why they chant "Allahu Akbar." And while she was speaking, a missile blew up behind her. I don't know if you saw that clip. You'd think that in Western media that clip would go viral, that she'd be invited on all the news channels—the BBC, Sky News, ABC, NBC, CBS. I mean, she'd be everywhere telling her story—a woman, you know—but they won't do that.

That's, you know, that goes against the rules. So all these young women who are on the streets at night under fire—they don't stampede, they don't run away. Or during the day, when they gather—these teenagers who could just joke around, go home, and do what teenagers do—they stand their ground on the streets. These are the ones they want to "emancipate," these women, these young women. These young women have to go and emancipate these, you know, regime-affiliated activists in the United States and across Europe—and these fake leftists and former presidential candidates and former Greek government ministers. I don't know if you hear it—the car is carpet-bombing. Bomb after bomb after bomb. That's carpet bombing. Yeah. So, yeah.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, yeah. Well, uh, yeah, Professor Armani, I mean, those are all great points. This is, I think, why we'll never see a U.S. victory in this war—because it's the people, the ordinary Iranians, alongside their military. I can't. Maybe the audience can. I can't, though. But we've heard it before on this program. It's for sure an absolute crime, what's going on right now.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

Just one second.

## **#Danny**

Yes.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

There's a demonstration right here, and people are gathered.

## **#Danny**

I heard a blast—right when you said that. Lots of blasts.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

Very close by. There are people on the streets, very close by. They're still bombing. Anyway, let's go.

## **#Danny**

Absolute criminal. And, well, just to wrap up this point on what happened in this ridiculous operation for Serrano—that goes in line with everything you said. This is according to Fars News, citing local sources. Of course, we already went over the destruction of the aircraft, transport planes, and helicopters. They also mention Reaper drones and Hermes drones. But this is the thing: field sources do report the killing of several American forces. I think Iran has said that about nine people were killed on their side, but it's unclear how many Americans died in the so-called operation—which we don't even know was a rescue operation to begin with. Lots of fog of war, and it all comes from Professor Morandi. CENTCOM was silent throughout this whole ordeal, from the beginning of the downed aircraft all the way up until now.

And now we have Professor Morandi. As you're hearing, the bombs are going off behind you. We're having Donald Trump on Easter—people have to remember, this is Easter Sunday, right? This is supposedly the holy war, the super-godly president he claims to be. On Easter Sunday, he's giving out ultimatums, Professor Morandi, to Iran. Absolutely ridiculous ultimatums. Here they are. Today he said, "Tuesday is power plant day and bridge day all wrapped up into one. There will be nothing like it. Open the effing strait, you crazy bees, or you'll be living in hell. Just watch. Praise to Allah." And then, Professor Morandi, he put out the time of the deadline—here we go—which is a delayed deadline, by the way: 8 p.m. Eastern time, 34 hours. So...

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

First of all, what do you make of this?

## **#Danny**

In terms of the overall shape of the war, the bombings continue. The U.S. media, though, is reporting that these bombings will have to use different weapons very soon because they're running out of these JASSM standoff missiles. We might see more F-15s, more F-35s, more aircraft going down soon as they have to get closer. But what do you make of these threats on Easter Sunday—just so distasteful, disgusting, and totally racist, you know, citing Allah? I mean, how do you react to this? How do you think Iran is reacting to this? He's a psychopath, and Iranians are—well, he's a psychopath, and Iranians in particular are disgusted with those Iranians in the diaspora who've been calling for the war.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

And, uh, you know, there was one of these women from the diaspora—apparently, I haven't seen this myself—she went on a show and kept calling for Trump to bomb Iran. Then the host said, "Well, you know, civilian targets are also being hit—like he hit a bridge." And she said, "No, no, he didn't. He always lies. He didn't hit the bridge." I didn't see this myself, I'm a bit vague, I may get it wrong a bit. And then the host said, "But he claimed that he hit the bridge." So, because she was saying no, he didn't hit the bridge, the host repeated, "Well, he claimed that he hit the bridge."

He said, "No, well, Trump always lies." So this is how detached from reality these people have become—live on air—in order to justify the crimes being committed against the Iranian people. And, of course, those Trump supporters, the MAGA base, they're all implicated in crimes against humanity because they support it. So they're partners in crime. But also all those who repeated the lies of thirty-some thousand—or now Trump says forty-some thousand today. He said forty-five thousand or so. Those who repeated these lies, whether it's—what's that guy's name? Whatever.

## **#Danny**

Maybe it's best not to mention names.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

All these people are complicit in crimes against humanity—every single one of them. Those who repeated the lies of 35,000, 80,000, 20,000, 10,000—the regime murdering people on the streets—they're all criminals. Every single one of them. They're all criminals.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, yeah. And for some reason, now that we've gotten into this ultimatum—another one by Donald Trump—DropSite News is saying that his whole thinking right now is he wants to get this war wrapped up in a couple of days. And if not, he just wants to blow everything up—to hell. That's the way he's thinking about it. But Iran does not seem fazed by this, and now even the Western mainstream media has to admit that not only is Iran not fazed, but it has the means not to be. It's

not just psychological; there's a material basis for why they aren't fazed—it's because they can keep going. Before the show, we were talking about these decoys, and this is the New York Times admitting that Iran is quickly repairing its missile bunkers, according to U.S. intel alone. And these are conservative estimates—conservative assessments.

But here it says Iran is deploying a significant number of decoys, and the United States is not sure how many of the apparent launchers it has destroyed were real. While the U.S. had an estimate of Iranian missile launchers from before the war, that number was not precise. It's been difficult to assess how many launchers may be in bunkers or caves, struck by American or Israeli airstrikes. So they're not even sure—this whole war, other than the civilians, the infrastructure, anything else they've been trying to hit—they're not even sure if they're hitting anything. And Iran is showing every single day—I mean, yesterday: Bahrain, UAE, Haifa, every Barashiba—these are Israeli sites. Every day. Every single day. It doesn't stop. And so that makes me wonder, Professor Rodney, this ultimatum—is it purely meaningless? And do you believe that the United States, Donald Trump, is really trying to seek a quick exit out of this?

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

Well, there are a number of things we have to discuss. One is that, yes, he is seeking a way out. And as we speak, he's apparently looking for one. But we have to see what he actually does, because what he was proposing before was complete nonsense, and the Iranians are not going to accept that. The Iranian demands are quite clear, and of course, key to all those demands is control over the Strait of Hormuz. I have no doubt that after this war, they'll continue to control the Strait of Hormuz. Already, two countries besides Oman in the Persian Gulf have spoken to the Iranians and agreed to work within the framework of this new situation.

And so we have to see what Trump does, because nothing he says has any meaning. He's constantly flip-flopping, and a signature by Trump is meaningless. He's a serial liar, a psychopath. So for the Iranians, negotiating with the United States is meaningless. The facts on the ground have to change—not just in the Persian Gulf, but across West Asia. The facts on the ground have to change. Part of that change Iran is already implementing. It's changing the status quo, changing the status of the Strait of Hormuz. That is permanent, and there's nothing the Americans can do about it—meaning the regime in Washington.

But we'll have to see how that plays out—whether he carries out some further monstrous attacks against Iran, that remains to be seen. As we've discussed repeatedly before, and as I've been saying for seven or eight years now—actually, someone reminded me that I spoke on Press TV years ago. I don't know where the clip is, but years ago, before Corona, a few years before Corona, I said that if something like what we're seeing today happens, Iran will destroy all the countries in the Persian Gulf. And it went viral. That was the first thing I said that actually went viral.

And this is not new. It was clear as day from the beginning that this sort of aggression would lead to this sort of response. And for Trump and the United States not to know how many missiles we have, and then, based on their ignorance, launch a war—not to know that we had deployed. I knew that we had deployed. I knew, and I'm not in government. I knew that we had deployed tens of thousands, if not more, decoys. And many of them are very advanced. I think a lot are Chinese, and they actually produce heat. Right. So they've been bombing decoy air defenses, decoy planes, decoy missile launchers, decoy trucks for weeks. And they continue to do so, spending billions of dollars and wearing out their jets, destroying decoys. I don't know how much each costs—probably like a drone.

But in any case, for them not to know this—well, then again, they don't know anything about Iran. What do they know when they keep saying that the so-called regime is unpopular, that it kills its own people? Well, the people are the ones on the streets, and they're the ones who defy the airstrikes. So where are those American and European public intellectuals who've been talking nonsense about Iran and contributing to this narrative of an unpopular regime? You know, they're completely wrong. No one is going to rally around a flag of a government that kills its own people. There are tens of thousands of people on the streets—no one should believe that lie. They use this “rally around the flag” argument to say that, despite everything, people still support the government. No. If they had killed peaceful protesters and tens of thousands of people were still in the streets, that would be impossible.

Who would rally around such a flag? No one would. That's why Saddam Hussein's regime collapsed so easily. That's why it was a walkover—because people were sick and disgusted, sick and tired of the regime. The only reason Saddam could fight against Iran was because both blocs were behind him. They gave him chemical weapons. All the Arab regimes were funding him, sending in troops to help, and sending people to work so he could take ordinary people to the front lines and others to fill their jobs. That's why he could fight.

When that was all gone—when the Americans invaded Iraq—there was no real resistance. It was only after the regime fell that we gradually saw people begin to resist, but not for Saddam Hussein. So that “rally around the flag” nonsense is not a valid argument. Yes, they rallied around the flag, but around what they considered to be the legitimate government—that's the reality. But these people in the West are as ignorant about the reality on the ground, on the streets of Tehran, as they are about the reality underground in Iran's missile bases, drone bases, naval bases, air force bases, and air defense bases.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, if anyone knows anything about history—if the Iranian government were really doing what the United States, the mainstream corporate media, the think tanks, the Pentagon, the CIA, all say about Iran—if that were true, they'd be aligning with Iran. They wouldn't be at war with Iran.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

You know, Danny, there's a good book I recommend all your viewers read. I've actually talked about it elsewhere. It's called *\*Going to Tehran\**, written by Flynt and Hillary Leverett. They worked in the White House under Condoleezza Rice—he was head of Middle East affairs, and she was head of Persian Gulf affairs at the National Security Council. Very important people. That's where they met and got married. In any case, they eventually resigned because of the Iraq War and wrote *\*Going to Tehran\**. It deals with a lot of the myths about Iran, and I think it's very much worth reading.

But also, the book is basically saying that the United States should try to come to terms with Iran. It talks about the history of Iran. There are very few good books in English on Iran—they're almost all garbage—but this is quite a good one. I don't agree with everything in it, but it's a very good book. And, you know, they were hammered by both Democrats and Republicans; all the corporate media attacked them left and right. And these were people who weren't leftists or, I don't know, obscure political figures—they were people who were in the center of everything that was happening.

And so they were hammered and marginalized. But if people had listened instead of attacking them, we wouldn't be where we are today. Instead of listening to what Joe Kent admits were the Zionists and the Israeli regime that pushed the U.S. toward war—if U.S. analysts had listened to these people—but they can't, because they get their money from these oligarchs and the Epstein class. That's why all the analysts write the way they do. That's why all the experts who get published by major publishing companies write the way they do—because that's how you make your living. And that's how these two people were marginalized. Hillary Mann Leverett is Jewish.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

You know, attacked and slandered—but it's a good book to read. In any case, the United States chose death and destruction for the last two and a half decades, and I believe all of these wars we've seen, these countless wars, were to bring us to this war. Yeah, yeah. Remember what Wesley Clark said—seven countries in five years, ending with Iran? Well, those five years took 25 years, but that's what happened. Yeah.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, that's what happened, and Iran has been preparing every step of the way. So that begs the question then, Professor Moran: if we look at the landscape of what General Wesley Clark said—a lot of people have noted that Libya, Syria, Lebanon, I think Somalia, Sudan, Iraq, and then, or was it Afghanistan? I think it was Afghanistan, Somalia, and then Iraq—all those countries have faced some level, some very extreme levels, some less extreme levels, of destruction. And many note that Iran is the only one left. But now, when I read the reports of what Iran is saying about its Operation True Promise 4, there's a whole section on joint coordination with Hezbollah, Iraq, and Ansar Allah in Yemen.

Uh, and this is big, you know—it seems to have come as a surprise that every single day now, there's still, despite what—what are we on, week five of U.S.-Israeli strikes? Yeah, week six. Oh yeah, we're now into week six, I think the first day of week six. Now that we're here, Professor Morandi, these operations are not letting up. I mean, just yesterday, Kuwait was hit very hard—energy facilities as well as a naval base. So, strikes on energy and a naval base. Iran is saying they killed 25 U.S. personnel in the UAE overnight. Israeli targets were hit. You know, multiple ships in the Strait of Hormuz were denied passage. So Iran is very active, despite supposedly being isolated, if we take the formula that was supposed to happen. So what went wrong here, Professor Morandi? And how does this shape the future of how this war will conclude?

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

It's the arrogance of empire. You know, you underestimate the other—the other is backward, it's Third World, as they like to say. They're despotic, they're broken, they're not sophisticated like us. They're "camel jockeys," they're "sand this" or "sand that"—that's how they think. They look down on everyone else, and now they have to confront that.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

The reality is that Iran is a very sophisticated country under maximum-pressure sanctions. And, uh, while the United States has been undermining it through terrorism—as we saw two or three months ago during that armed insurrection that these Western elites pretend didn't happen—despite all that, Iran has been able to develop indigenous technology, to have advanced missile systems and advanced air defense systems that are underground, and we're still seeing them being used. The Iranians have better missile systems than the United States does, despite all this. And then you have a nation, a country where the leader was martyred on day one of the war.

And so our senior commanders were not with him; they were elsewhere in a different meeting. He was martyred. He refused to leave his home because he said many ordinary Iranians had nowhere to go. And despite losing those commanders and him, within an hour the military response began. Even though we didn't have a leader for a week, the country was completely stable. There was no rush on shops, supermarkets, gas stations, or petrol stations—nowhere. Not for a day, not for an hour. Everything went on as normal. And that's basically because the people were with the state, with the Islamic Republic.

And basically, for a whole week before, according to the Constitution, a new leader was chosen, they were leading the country. The population was leading the country. The people were running the show. They were running the bureaucracy and the armed forces without a leader. Of course, the Constitution states that a three-man leadership is to take charge, but, you know, under those

circumstances—where the superpower and all its regional proxies, and even countries like the regime in Azerbaijan and the Erdogan regime, were contributing to the war through different means, like allowing AWACS jets to fly over—it was remarkable.

And of course, they were providing the Israeli regime with cheap fuel to help it carry out its genocide in Gaza. Despite all that, we saw the resilience of the Iranian people keep the country not just afloat, but create this impressive and extraordinary pushback—where Iran stood up against the collective West. I mean, Western regimes are too afraid to bring their boats and soldiers here because they know what would happen, but they contribute in other ways to the war by helping the United States. You know, these Arab dictatorships—this entire front was created against Iran and that axis of resistance. And by the way, the same can be said about Lebanon. We've had this discussion together multiple times. Hezbollah is incapable. It's dead.

## **#Danny**

A lot of people said it was dead.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

It was dead. But now we're seeing Hezbollah, and the Israeli regime is so frustrated that instead of targeting Hezbollah, they target homes and apartments. Western media contributes to that—Epstein-class controlled media. Their journalists are in Beirut. In Gaza, they pretended that since they weren't there, they couldn't confirm anything. But they are in Beirut, and they still won't tell the story. They'll say that Hezbollah is hitting, or that the Israeli regime is hitting Hezbollah strongholds in Beirut—in other words, bombing apartment blocks and slaughtering people. So Western media tries to give them cover as much as possible, even though those journalists all know they're lying and misleading the public.

So across the board, we're seeing miscalculation after miscalculation—whether it's about the support Iran has among the people, whether its military capabilities are effective or not, whether Hezbollah has public or popular support, or whether it has the capabilities to resist. And then, of course, there's Iraq and the resistance in Iraq and Yemen. If the United States escalates under Trump, I have no doubt that if he goes after Iran's vital infrastructure—which would be crimes against humanity that he's openly boasting about—and no one in the West seems to have a problem with it, then we will do the same. All the infrastructure of these Arab family dictatorships will be gone within the next three or four days, and those regimes will collapse. Iran won't collapse, but those regimes will.

They'll be gone. And whenever there's a new regime, they'll definitely be close to Iran. Those slaves, indentured servants, and workers—many of them aren't even from this region—maybe they'll control the country. Who knows? The people of Bahrain will finally be able to have their own government, and in Kuwait and elsewhere, they'll finally be able to have a government without a despot. So I don't think the Americans—I have no doubt the Americans won't have the upper hand. All their assets in

the Persian Gulf, worth trillions, will be gone. And there will be no more oil, no more gas, no more petrochemicals—nothing coming from the Persian Gulf for years. So even if we have an agreement and the Strait of Hormuz is open, if there are no ships, no oil, no gas, no LNG, no fertilizer—then what's the point?

## **#Danny**

Yeah, and if those are the material conditions, Professor Mani—which are very likely going to be the conditions on the ground—then what you have is, as you predicted and have said here many times, a global economic crisis. That's what the situation will be, and we're already headed there.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

And then imagine, Mikey—let's just look at India. We've seen how the Israeli regime doesn't care about the Indian people or anyone else. A lot of Indians, unfortunately, because of their worldview, support the Israeli regime and its genocidal policies. What has this Israeli war against Iran caused? It's caused the shutting down of the Strait of Hormuz, and now the Israeli regime keeps trying to escalate and destroy Iran's infrastructure to push Iran to do the same. So what will happen to India? The Indian economy will implode. It's already in deep trouble. Will the Indian government last? There'll be crisis in the country for years. The country is, you know, very poor for the most part. So, you know, India, Brazil—all countries—they're all going to face a very dark future because of Zionism, because of Israel, because of Netanyahu and Trump. Yeah.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, and I just want to put this out there for somebody. You know, I have this article here on the channel. I mean, all the sources we use here on this channel for the topics we discuss—especially about war—right? All you have with wars is, you have Iran, you have what Iran is saying and what Iran is putting out in their media, as well as other kinds of information to help us understand the U. S. side and the Israeli side. That's really it. That's how we can glean information about what's going on. Now, Israeli media is always so interesting, Professor Morandi, because while the Hasbara and the penchant for lying are really strong—the force of lying is really strong with Israel—nonetheless, it's so, as the MAGA chuds would say, such a snowflake.

It can't really handle any reaction, any response, any retaliation, any resistance to it. When there is, it automatically panics, and it actually starts to put out some truth even among all the lies. And here's one: the IDF admits Israel overestimated the damage to Hezbollah and believes Iran can keep firing missiles as long as the war continues. You'll see this—this is from the Times of Israel—you'll see it all over Israeli media almost every single day. You'll see these little nuggets of truth. And, you know, just yesterday, President Rouhani and Hezbollah said they hit Israeli naval assets.

I mean, this is—it's only—the level of retaliation that Israel and the United States face, it doesn't get, despite what Pete Hegseth says, any less severe. It seems like it's either just as severe or getting more severe, especially as the consequences mount around Israel: dwindling air defense interceptors, dwindling standoff long-range missiles. And then, of course, the fact that the longer Iran goes, the more the United States and Israel start to panic about how they can get what they want out of this, and they start making really disastrous moves—like, for example, sending U.S. troops into Iraq.

I mean, this has been the level of escalation we've been witnessing for us, Morandi. What are your thoughts on this? How do you see the overall trajectory, given that we do get, especially from Israel—the U.S. actually is probably, especially now that it's put itself out front—it feels less trustworthy even than the panicking Israeli media at this point, because Israel seems to have a much thinner skin when it comes to what's happening to it. Well, you know, in the past we used to always hear how brilliant the Israelis were at Hasbara. Actually, they're pretty dumb, pretty foolish, and pretty ignorant—and even their policy right now of perpetual war.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

An extended war. The Iranians want to prolong this conflict because they want the United States to be punished. They want to make sure a war like this doesn't happen again. The Israelis, though, don't seem to understand that the longer it goes on—every day it continues—it's turning the world further against them. As I was saying earlier, when the global economy collapses, people are going to say this was done by Trump and Netanyahu, and that it's all about Zionism. People around the world will attribute their misery to the Israeli regime and to Zionism. They already see it as a genocidal and monstrous regime because of Gaza, and now because of Lebanon and the unprovoked war against Iran.

But now, in addition to all that, you're going to have global misery—we're just seeing the first little bit of what's to come. There's going to be huge upheaval in the weeks ahead, and it's not going to be pretty. And, you know, I don't, uh, I don't welcome it, because people everywhere—all of us, your viewers, your listeners—everyone's going to be affected in a negative way. But everyone is going to attribute this to the Israeli regime. And also, the Israeli regime is a tiny, puny, vulnerable, weak regime. Its strength comes from all the support it gets from the West, and the United States in particular.

Well, if there's a global economic crisis, I'm not quite sure how much an angry American public is going to accept continued support for the Israeli regime as if it's business as usual. So I'm not sure this is a smart move by the regime. I think it's actually going to hurt it a lot. But this is, again, the arrogance of empire—they overestimate themselves and underestimate everyone else. And

ultimately, that's how empires collapse. We've already seen over the last couple of decades how the U.S. empire has been going downhill, and I think now, with this war, it's going to go downhill much faster than anything we've ever seen before.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, and the support for this war is already very low. It's going to get even lower. And yet we have the Trump administration—Donald Trump himself—requesting, believe it or not, Professor Morandi, a \$1.5 trillion military defense, quote-unquote, budget, arguing that everything else needs to be cut in order to make this happen, despite the fact that this war already doesn't have public support in any kind of majority, let alone a plurality. It's minority support. It's only getting worse, and it will get worse when those conditions strike, Professor Morandi, that you've outlined and that are already happening.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

So as the economy goes downhill and people are paying more at the pump, he wants to take more money from the people and give it to the military-industrial complex that's controlled by a handful of billionaires. But, you know, I think that reality is going to—unless Trump seriously backs down—I think the events that are coming, the global economic hardship that's coming, are going to change things in ways we just can't foresee right now.

## **#Danny**

No, no, we only see what's already apparent—which is that despite everything that's been invested in the \$1.5 trillion, it feels like a plea: "We need this to rebuild everything we've lost." But that's not the reality. It's not that simple. As many analysts on this show have talked about, you can't just throw money at destroyed fabs, destroyed Patriots, destroyed military bases. You can't just do that. Yep.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

You know, first of all, one thing I should point out is that the Persian Gulf region is going to become very warm very soon. You'll have sand, you'll have sandstorms, it's going to be dry—and these are all desert countries. In fact, in Iran right now, just during the first couple of weeks of the war, we had snow, a lot of snow in the north of Tehran and on the mountains. It's also been raining a lot over the last few weeks, so the mountains here are full of snow. If you look up at the mountains in Tehran, it's a very pretty sight. But in the Persian Gulf region, these are all deserts, and it's going to get hot very fast.

And if there is an escalation and the United States destroys our critical infrastructure—if it's destroyed on the other side of the Persian Gulf—everyone will have to leave. Tens of millions of

people will have to move. But in addition to that, all these U.S. weapons they've placed here, the sensitive ones—air jets and so on—they're all going to be severely affected by the sand. And it's going to be very costly to repair all of them. So if anyone thinks that that one and a half trillion dollars is going to go to futuristic weapons, I think a lot of it is just going to go to repairing the trucks, the vehicles, the equipment, the planes, and all that, because things are going to go downhill very fast.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, and over a number of years—everyone, remember—over a number of years, in a very limited amount, that's how the military-industrial complex works. They maximize.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

And they don't have the infrastructure here to protect their hardware. They're not in military bases because Iran has destroyed all those bases. So they're out in the desert, to the west of Saudi Arabia, in Jordan, and elsewhere. When they carried out the war against Iraq—or both wars—they brought in infrastructure for a long-term stay to protect their assets. But here they just rushed them, and they're not in places where they would normally stay. This is going to be—there are costs, hidden costs that just aren't being calculated. And also, the cost right now—you see, this war is costing, I don't know, a couple of billion dollars a day. It's much more than that. The oil, the gas, the fertilizer, and the petrochemicals that these Arab family dictatorships are not exporting right now.

They're all damaging the U.S. economy, because much of the money goes to U.S. stocks and bonds. A lot of it also goes to purchasing U.S. weapons that they can't even use, because they don't have, you know—like, I thought it was 400,000 people. How are they going to use all those planes? They're basically for kickbacks, for commissions, for both sides—you know, people of influence in the U.S. government, princes on this side. So that money, you know, that money isn't available anywhere, because they're not making any money and their infrastructure is being damaged. And if it's destroyed, then everything changes. So there's a multi-layered kind of damage to the U.S. economy that's going to gradually reveal itself over time.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, and final two points I want you to comment on. There's an audience question, but first I want to share some breaking news. So, you know, coming full circle—as we're talking, a lot of things are being revealed. Patricia Marins, who's very reliable, does great independent work on military affairs and geopolitics, posted this. DD Geopolitics, a friend of the show, published an image I won't show here because of censorship issues. But they've already released an image that they say proves that in one of the C-130s downed by Iran in this so-called rescue operation, there was an American, a U.S. pilot, who was essentially incinerated.

You can see it, so everyone can check that out next if they want to go to DD Geopolitics. But nonetheless, Professor Marins is breaking some news about how U.S. forces tried to use an old agricultural airstrip in Iran. Iran was already prepared for the ambush, and then she goes into all the costs of the losses that Iran was able to inflict—in terms of the helicopters, the two transport aircraft—and then, I mean, just this alone, Professor Morandi, is devastating: F-15s, A-10s, MQ-9 drones, another A-10 damaged, Black Hawk helicopters. I mean, it just goes on and on and on.

And this is only in the last 72 hours or so. We're talking about massive damage to what's supposed to be the unflappable, unstoppable, invincible Air Force. On top of all the damage to the bases, all the damage to Israel, all the damage to Gulf infrastructure—oil, gas—I mean, yeah, to say the cost is what they're claiming, \$2 billion, is ridiculous. \$2 billion a day? Absolutely not. If you count what Hezbollah is doing to Israel, they've destroyed over a hundred tanks—that's like \$600 million. So we're talking about a massive amount of money.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

And Yemen hasn't shut down yet.

## **#Danny**

Which will—I mean, when that happens, we're going to see oil. People think oil markets right now are absolutely in crisis, but we haven't seen anything yet. So, your final reaction to this. And then the last question that an audience member had—I think it's the only one, but I'll check. No, there are a couple, but here's one of them: how does Professor Marandi feel about most of the world being behind Iran?

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

It's quite stunning, actually, how popular Iran has become across the world, and how Sunnis have been taught by the Qataris, Erdogan, Saudi Arabia, and the Emirates to hate the Shias. They've been taught to be sectarian. And, you know, these regimes have been supporting ISIS, Al-Qaeda, and the dirty war in Syria. But now everything is being exposed. So we see huge support among Sunnis across the world for the axis of resistance. They see right through the propaganda now. They see right through the nonsense about Syria and Iran. All these regimes are supporting, or have continued to do business as usual with Netanyahu. And it's the axis of resistance that's making the sacrifices. We also see a lot of cooperation in Lebanon.

And among the Global South, you see the left and much of the right supporting Iran. In Latin America, Africa, and across Asia—including India—there's a lot of support. I find that in the West, I was speaking to one of your guests, someone you've had on your show before, a very old friend of mine for 20 years. He was telling me that in the West, there are people—not necessarily the majority, but a very interesting segment—whose views on the war and on Iran have evolved

dramatically. So, you know, this is their own doing. The West has behaved so shamelessly and shamefully—with regard to Gaza, to Lebanon, to the Palestinians, to the entire world.

But especially in these last two or three years, the façade—the mask—has been removed, and people see the reality of what the Western elites are. People in the West are seeing it too. So the world is changing, and that's why I think people should read more about Iran. People should read, like I said, the book *\*Going to Tehran\** and that sort of thing. They'll see that Iran is actually, in my view, part of the axis of resistance. These are shining stars of humanity. It doesn't bother me if anyone attacks me, calls me names, or threatens to kill me or whatever. I don't care. We do what we have to do, and this is what I believe. I think a lot of people are beginning to see that the propaganda is just propaganda.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, indeed, indeed, Professor Morandi. I'm just putting up the rest of the super chats. Somebody asked, is the rescue pilot alive? We actually don't know. We only have word from what Pete Heggseth and Donald Trump are saying. Someone brought up a good point here: would closing the Strait of Hormuz and raising the price of oil over \$200 spur the world to significantly reduce the use of fossil fuels and be positive in the fight against climate change? I mean, China's renewable energy sector is certainly going to be booming because of this. But I don't know if you have any reaction.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

This is not going to be a good thing. This is going to be tragic. We have to always remember: Iran did not start this war. If you watch Western media, you'll think Iran did. Iran did not want this war. At no point did Iran initiate escalation—at no phase. They waited for that. And people criticize Iran. They say, "Why don't you hit back?" But the Iranians have moral boundaries. Yes, the Islamic Republic of Iran has moral boundaries based on its religious beliefs. It has moral boundaries. It's difficult for many people—"Oh, the mullahs in Iran, they kill people on the streets, they gun them down day and night," and all that nonsense. Women—women are the ones who are preserving the revolution.

They're the ones on the streets every night, out there in the cold. It rains and snows—it's cold. Tehran is cold. It's still cold. Iran is not all desert; we have forests in the north, and there's lots of snow on the mountains around Tehran right now. And these young women—remember, I'm talking about the young women—are out on the streets in the rain and snow. There's less snow now, but still rain. We had heavy rain yesterday and the day before in Tehran. They're on the streets under threat of death and destruction because these monsters, these pilots, fire missiles at them.

So, you know, all these narratives about Iran are nonsense. But yes, Iran has moral boundaries, so they wait for the other side to escalate. But when the other side does escalate, they hit hard—just like when they hit our petrochemical plants and the bridge the other day, yesterday and the day

before. Those were all civilian targets. Now the Iranians have retaliated. But what do the Iranians do? They announce beforehand that they're going to strike, even though it helps the other side prepare its defenses. They still say so in advance.

And they've been striking petrochemical plants and other sites in some of these countries in the Persian Gulf because they have a sense of morality. In Iran, we didn't want this war—it's been imposed on us. But hopefully, with the defeat of Trump, this madman and psychopath, and Netanyahu, the great evil, and Zionism, the great evil of our time, we'll have peace. But no—if you suddenly take oil and gas and fertilizer and petrochemicals away from people, it's going to create a global catastrophe and probably starvation. So people have to put pressure on the Trump regime to bring this madness to an end. We'll see what happens.

### **#Danny**

Yeah. Somebody raised the point that two MC-130s can carry 180 paratroopers, or 120 if there's equipment. So what were they doing when they landed, only to be abandoned or destroyed? That means, you know, of course, we don't know exactly how many were on there, but there are likely many casualties if we can't account for them at all.

### **#Mohammad Marandi**

But also, you know, there may have been more casualties. There may have been many casualties—I don't know. And if the pilot thing is true, then that indicates they're not telling the truth. But why so many troops?

### **#Danny**

Exactly.

### **#Mohammad Marandi**

So this is more than just that—this is what the Iranians are saying: they were planning something, and it didn't go well.

### **#Danny**

Yeah, it seemed like they were testing. I mean, it wouldn't be a surprise if they were using this F-15 pilot being shot down as a kind of test run for something. You know, how far can they go?

### **#Mohammad Marandi**

In any case, the generals were resisting something stupid, obviously.

## **#Danny**

Yeah.

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

That's why they were removed.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, yeah, yeah. And it failed badly—I mean, just the aircraft alone. I guess more will come out, Professor Morandi, as details emerge. But I want to thank everyone who gave us Super Chats. Ask questions, of course—that's great. Everyone, you know, Professor Morandi said multiple times in this stream that there were bombs overhead, very close. He's working very hard here. So if you want his voice to be heard after this stream, hit that like button, because that tells YouTube this video is worth watching after we're done live. So do that—that's the best free thing you can do. And, of course, you can support this show in the video description below. I'll be back tomorrow with Justin Podur and Jon Elmer. They're going to do a sit-rep interview, and we're going to get into the military situation they've been following. 4 p.m. Eastern Time tomorrow, Monday, April 6th. Professor Morandi, anything you want to say before we head out of here?

## **#Mohammad Marandi**

No, no, nothing. Just thank you, and thank your audience for listening. No one should ever be discouraged—that's the reality of human existence. We should just do what we have to do, and if we do that, it's enough. Sometimes people get depressed or discouraged—they shouldn't be. Or they feel guilty for what their government is doing. But if they're resisting, opposing it, being active, raising awareness, they have nothing to be ashamed of or to apologize for, because it's not their doing.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, great way to end the program. Everybody, hit the like button before you go. We're out for some time, but we'll be back.