

Andrei Martyanov: Iran Just SHOT DOWN Trump's Blockade...

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#Nima

Hi, everybody. Today is Thursday, April 23rd, 2026, and our dear friend, our brother, Andrei Martyanov, is here with us. Welcome back, Andrei.

#Andrei

My pleasure.

#Nima

Please hit the like button, helping us reach more people, and follow Andrei right below his name at smoothix12.blogspot.com. You can follow him on Smoothix12 on YouTube as well. Andrei, let me start with what's going on right now. Moments ago, we learned from RT, Russia Today, that Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz said they're prepared to attack Iran but are waiting for some sort of green light from the United States. What does Israel want? What are they capable of? We've seen so far, basically, the war that we've been witnessing for 40 days was basically the United States attacking Iran and Iran responding to the United States. Israel was not that much part of the picture. What's your understanding of that?

#Andrei

Well, remove whatever, the 50 nuclear warheads which they have, from Israel's order of battle. They are a second-rate, at best, military power with some air force, which is provided by the United States. And what do you mean he is ready? They are ready only to commit atrocities. As a ground force, they are really, you know, a laughingstock. They are good at killing civilians. That's what they are good at. So whatever he means by ready, he means that they, the Zionists who surround Trump and control him, including his chief of staff, who was the—oh, good Lord—I mean, the manager of Netanyahu around Trump. So it's... yeah, I mean, yeah, she was campaign manager for Netanyahu, for crying out loud.

We literally have the President of the United States who is controlled by Israel, by Mossad, I mean. So, yeah, there you go. So, yeah, they're ready in the sense that they're going to be pressing the United States to commit some kind of idiotic act of bombing Iran with no effect whatsoever. They might kill, again, some leader, part of the leadership of Iran, but it has basically redundancy in this respect. So new people will come in and, you know, just take the place and continue on. And so that's it. That's pretty much all those, you know, hyperbole, you know, chest-thumping. They are good at assassinations.

They, for some reason, consider themselves masters of intelligence. In reality, as you know, two Iranian agents have been found now inside Mossad. I don't know, man, it's all primarily mythology, all exaggerated by Hollywood. And so, yeah, that's their readiness. The only thing they have is, you know, some options and those nuclear warheads. That's about it. In reality, they cannot prosecute a war with Iran. They don't have staying power. Their society is completely demoralized. It's now hated by the whole world and the United States. Inside the United States, there is a dramatic tectonic shift against Israel. So, yeah.

I don't know, he can say whatever he wants, but they will be pressing Trump, who is essentially a Zionist stooge, and they may convince him or basically order him to start this attack again. The thing they want, Israelis, because they are not bright people in the sense of military, real military, I mean, warfare issues and things like that. They would love nothing more than the United States getting bogged down in the quagmire of a ground operation, which actually might not necessarily last that long because the United States doesn't have the ability to sustain it. And as long as Netanyahu stays out of prison, they will do that. And again, they essentially have their materials on everybody from Trump to the U.S. Congress. And so, yeah, they will get their way eventually.

#Nima

I think they were starting to call Donald Trump in Iran a gossip guy because this guy is so much... Look at this, just what he published, what he reposted — that there are two factions in Iran. One of them wants a deal, and one that doesn't, let's kill, you know, those people who are not. You know, it's just making things up and basically deciding about these sort of delusional thinking on their part. This guy, you don't see any sort of seriousness in the eyes of the President of the United States. That's hugely problematic, in my opinion, for others.

#Andrei

It's catastrophic. First, it's national humiliation the likes of which the United States has never experienced before. They literally have the president first. He's not the president of the United States. He's an Israeli stooge because he is surrounded by the Zionists. And again, let's call it — there's no Christian Zionists. They are not Christians. It's a death cult based on the essentially pro-Israeli Bible, which is also heresy. And they are, as some people with Tucker also stated, you know, the Jews wrapped into Christian rhetoric — Talmudic Jews, that's what it is.

And this is not to say there aren't many Jews who are decent, hardworking people, American patriots. So I want to make sure that when we talk about Talmudic Jews, we're talking about the most extreme part of Judaism, essentially, and those offsprings, derivatives, which we call Christian Zionists. This is what Trump's administration is. It's utterly corrupt and utterly incompetent. It has the same imbecile who is the minister of war, you know, the guy with the psychology of an NCO, alcoholic. So, yeah, you look at this. This is a huge problem. You have the nuclear superpower, the second nuclear superpower in the world.

And you have the guy who is not himself. I mean, the only, you know, hope now is that there are some people who can at least control him from doing stupid things. But he is surrounded, as you already stated, by people who control him completely. He doesn't even know what reality is. He lives in this made-up world. And he is under enormous pressure in the sense that evidently we have the guy who is omnipresent in the Epstein files — make up your mind, whatever you want, about this. And yeah, he is just becoming also senile. So we have this catastrophic confluence of factors, and he is absolutely not fit to run the country.

#Nima

Based on what we've heard from the Iranian sources, since the war started on February 28th, since March 10, if I'm not mistaken, they were asking, somehow begging for a ceasefire. Donald Trump. And right now with the ceasefire, two weeks of ceasefire being, you know, somehow we had the end of two weeks of ceasefire, then he unilaterally decided to go with an indefinite ceasefire while he's trying to make some sort of conflicts close to the Persian Gulf and with these tankers. And the question is, what is happening in the mind of the Trump administration? Who are these people? What do they want? What is the basis? Because with the first round of negotiations, there was no sign of seriousness in the American delegation. That's why the Iranian party is so much confused. What is happening in the mind of these people?

#Andrei

Well, that's schizophrenia. And my video today, which is going to come up after we're done speaking, is called **Schizophrenia**. It's downright political and mental schizophrenia, essentially. And again, keep in mind, you prosecute or conduct your foreign policy based on understanding your capabilities, understanding your opponent or ally, what have you. There is no strategy. If you read my latest book, which came out already, you know, essentially two years ago, more like a year and a half ago, **America's Final War**, the United States doesn't do strategy. They don't understand what strategy is. They come up with all these grandiose plans, having no understanding of what kind of resources you have to match those lofty goals and things of this nature.

They are not skilled people. Simple as that. We, again, as I already stated, are not gaining many, many friends from saying this, but it has to be said. Suddenly it was revealed America is a paper

tiger militarily. It is a paper tiger economically in the sense that it cannot produce even a workable, functional weapon system, which actually it can produce in some quantities. And so when you look at that, and especially considering the fact that any foreign policy is, essentially, power policy, it is driven by your capability, by your potentials. They don't understand what they're doing. They react. That's the only thing they know. They run there because, again, it's very important to understand.

They look at those idiotic numbers from Wall Street. They think that this is the real economy. And then they run to those Gulfers, for example. Yeah, they think that, oh, because we sold you some number of that equipment which doesn't work properly, you know, in real combat conditions, and because you have so much money, you somehow have to represent some kind of force which we can arrange. Look at Dubai. Dubai is gone. It's over. Look at all those Gulfers. They are not just paper tigers. They are nobodies. They are absolute zeros, if not negative numbers. And that's how the United States views the world outside, thinking that, oh, look at us, we drive Rolls-Royces. Because of that, we are cool. No.

You have to understand that the world operates on a completely different plane. It works differently. You need to have all kinds of things which are material also, which are tangible. You can touch them. You can develop from them some kind of, what, policies, what have you. They don't understand what strategy is. As I already stated, it's a Wall Street virtual world. And as a result, when you look at what they are trying to arrange, what they are trying to do with whatever they have, they suddenly recognize we don't have resources, we don't have military capability, we don't have any, essentially, moral high ground anymore. Especially when the United States supported the atrocity committed by Israel, which is, I mean, just absolutely, I mean, a crime against humanity in Gaza.

And you only have the president who is so, I don't know whom he worships. We know he is not Christian. He never put his hand on the Bible during the oath. This is the first. I don't know, maybe he's a Satanist, I don't know. But you have to be an absolutely abhorrent human being if you think that, yeah, let's kill tens of thousands of innocent people, children, women, you know, in Gaza, and then put the hotels there and casinos. These are not normal people. These are perverts, they are, I don't know, it's like the level of, basically, the evil level of SS punitive battalions or something like that. I mean, this is Hitlerist. Hitlerist level of evil. That's what it is. It's a Lebertron in a smaller way for Israel.

And when you look at this, this is just, wow. But this is, in the end, the symptom, if you wish, the manifestation of the complete decline, moral decay, and debasement of the combined West, including Europe. No matter what Europe does, these imbeciles will end up that Russia will have to wipe them out. You know, simple as that. These people do not understand a thing. It is a result of the negative selection for the last, well, not only 30, I would say the negative selection in the combined West started about 40, 45, 50 years ago, especially when we had the new generation of the baby boomers, which is the most disgusting, essentially, you know, generation in the West, which was coming into power.

And you have those, you know, spoiled brats and wusses, you know, who for some reason decided that they are the owners of the world. And we have the result today. Trump is actually the product of that, too. But he is the swamp. But then we have to look at what is in the Epstein files and what is... I mean, it's unbelievable. We are at a historical turning point. And the way the West exists today, it's going, and it must go, because it has to either reform itself or it has to be thrown into the dustbin of history as the... you know, and again, we're talking about historical change. Human life is too short to view this, you know. But even within the last, what, 10 years, look what happened to the world.

#Nima

Andrei, when you hear Pete Hegseth firing the Secretary of the Navy, and right in the middle of this war that is happening, what does that mean to you? And is that some sort of, I would say, substantial difference that is appearing from within the Army, the Navy? Maybe the communication is not working between the people who are in the field and the people in leadership.

#Andrei

Pete Hegseth has the mentality and level of knowledge of war, real war, at the level of an NCO, fresh from—yeah, he is not an officer, despite the fact that he went through ROTC, was sent to Afghanistan. The fact that he tattooed himself and believes his most knowledge about warfare comes not from Afghanistan—Afghanistan is not a real war. It wasn't a real war. It was a high-intensity police operation where you get—yeah, you still get killed by IEDs, you might come under small arms fire, maybe an RPG will fly your way, you call in close air support—that's about it. So now he says the thing when you have the consistent and incessant delivery of high-level explosives, you know, on their bases, which essentially—13 American bases are destroyed.

The guy cannot comprehend it. He doesn't understand it. As I already stated, his level of knowledge is lifted from the Schofield Bible. That's about it. And so he fires another guy who is political, who was whatever, Trump's buddy or what have you, the donor class. So you can imagine what the professionals in the U.S. Navy, for example, feel. Because obviously the U.S. Navy still has retained, as does the U.S. Army, many professional people who are really militarily educated. They went through the appropriate, you know, steps in developing their officers. They understand operations and things of this nature, and they know what it all entails.

And so what you have here is this apparatus of games, which is an indication of panic, complete panic, which has been set already in the Trump administration. So they're going to be eating each other, you know, simple as that. And this stooge, alcoholic Pete, minister of war, who doesn't understand the first thing about real war, he is fighting for his life because obviously he understands now that in the end somebody will have to hold the bag with some substance, which already did happen. It doesn't matter if they will resume it with whatever is left in the arsenals of the United

States. It's a catastrophic military defeat. They can spin it however they want, but the reality is, the United States cannot win militarily, period.

I was saying this nonstop for almost two decades. It's not the military that's configured to fight a real war. It's configured to fight Iraq, I'm sorry, and that's about it. Well, maybe Panama, maybe Cuba, I don't know. Venezuela, they... basically, Venezuela sold their president for cash, and yeah, sure, military success. But the reality is, in purely military terms, the United States is not the power it always thought itself to be, not even close. And so, as a result, when you begin to face a little bit of reality, the cognitive dissonance sets in, and you begin to panic. And you already heard what, a few weeks back, when Trump stated that, oh yeah, it was Pete who convinced me, you know, to go and, you know, just fight Iran.

So, and Pete Hecksher, his face was—his expression was precious, you know. So the guy understood he would be thrown under the bus. So what's happening now? Okay, the United States Navy cannot conduct operations without being absolutely threatened by the anti-ship missiles from Iran. Then we have, yesterday, Navy people come up and say, yeah, under the present conditions, you cannot demine if there are mines in the Strait of Hormuz. But even if war happens and everything is favorable, oh, it's half a year to demine. So these are just—it's a catastrophe.

It's an economic catastrophe for the whole Trump team. Of course, for Europeans, it's all together. It's their sentence. Basically, that's what it is. And so, yeah, and that is why—well, it's not that he is not getting anymore completely this alternative universe or alternative reality. He evidently begins to sense and feel that, oh my God, we're screwed. That's why he was manipulating markets. But nobody buys it. If you look at the futures, they can fluctuate however they want. But the reality is that the spot price for oil is so much higher. Again, Brent, for example, may go like \$104, okay? Today, I don't know if it was \$105 or something like that. You will go and you will buy the Brent.

Well, Saudi sell it with more than a \$20 markup, and so suddenly the spot price is \$125 if you're lucky. So, and... you can see this schizophrenia spreading, including through the so-called economic circles, which are nothing more than, at best case, a bunch of MBAs who know only how to speculate. They do not understand the real mechanisms which drive this whole thing. And the critical thing they lack is, of course, the military-political factor of that, because they are not trained. They are nincompoops. They don't understand what it is. Their level of understanding of this is from Top Gun: Maverick. That's about it. That's the level. Hollywood, essentially.

And so we have the situation. It is complete decomposition of everything. For example, people in Washington, D.C. never knew about the world outside. They never knew the world outside. I can tell you that. And so they are in shock and awe. They are absolutely in, you know, yes, schizophrenia. And you have to admit, Iranians, in terms of their behavior, are making fun of it. Let's put it this way. They excel so much. It's unbelievable. The whole world watches now the Legos and all other memes which, you know, Iranians produce. And yeah, it's unbelievable. I never saw anything like this. Never. It's just, I'm 63-plus years old, and this is like my jaw is on the floor.

#Nima

Andrei, I think the big picture shows that the way the United States treated Russia, then Iran, is putting Russia and Iran in a position regarding the future of the energy market. I think these two combined together, they have everything to decide.

#Andrei

It's already happened. Yeah. That is why today there's a bunch of critics from OilPrice.com. Yeah, those analysts, you know. Oh, yeah, the United States wants to control choke points. Control with what? As large and impressive visually as the U.S. Navy is, if they want to interdict Russian convoys escorted by the Russian Navy, sure, they will start World War III, and the U.S. Navy will be sunk. Because it simply is, that's the Navy from the 1990s. The only thing it has, it has the SM-6, which doesn't work that well, even though that air defense—how U.S. air defense works, or rather doesn't work. And it has Tomahawks. That's about it. You want to go against Zircon or Onyx or whatever. So it's just like, yeah, strategy.

They love this work. But, of course, Saturday Night Live was generous enough with Will Ferrell with the strategy. So that's strategy. That's the only thing they can do. They don't understand how to even approach this modern world. And it was remarkable that, yes, Iran is now controlling the Strait of Hormuz. It is official today. Russian media, including RIA News, which is a respectable news organization, report that Iran is already taking first payments in currency, not in dollars. It takes in yuan and rubles for the control of the Strait of Hormuz. And obviously, we also have the situation with Bab el-Mandeb. And then there is another bomb: Indonesia wants to charge for the Strait of Malacca.

You know, it's just, oh my God, we are just facing something which is a geopolitical shift, which these idiots in the White House are... That's what happens when you are ignorant, when you are pathetically educated, and that's what you do. You screw things up so badly that now, again, I have no words to describe the tectonic shift. These morons, they thought in 2014 that, yeah, let's get Russia in there, because obviously they don't. They don't teach real military history in the U.S. military academies. That's now, oh, yeah, Mujahideen defeated the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, which is not even close. But yeah, let's get them, you know, like into a quagmire in Ukraine, and then Putin's regime will fall and just dissolve.

Just, you know, let those humanities degrees from your Ivy League go. It's a bunch of shysters and fraudulent, you know, PhDs who believe, you know, deliver this BS. And you look at this in media and everything, it is complete madness. These people live in an alternative universe. They have no toolkit to understand what is going on around them. The only thing they know is how to make that fake money, which is zeros, as we already saw in Dubai. Suddenly, everybody is gone. Everybody's gone. And those who cannot go, they have to stay there because they are underwater with their

mortgages for this overpriced bunch of apartments in the middle of, literally, sand castles. That's exactly what happened. And the whole world like this is collapsing.

We're in the process of this collapse. We're in the process of the reshaping of global trade. We're in the process of reshaping. The shift in the balance of power already happened. It happened in 2022, officially. It was happening before, but in 2022 we saw what happened. NATO was militarily defeated. It was demilitarized. And now the final nail in the coffin of Atlanticism and essentially Western dominance as it existed prior, based on imperialism. And so, yeah, Iran will be getting richer, obviously taking their toll from whoever passes through, with the exception of China and Russia. China and Russia have a free pass. Not that Russia really needs it. China certainly needs it. And then we have Bab el-Mandeb, and we'll see where it goes with Indonesia and the Strait of Malacca. That is a wowser. Now we also have the news that the Panama Canal is actually charging more.

So Mr. Trump achieved a lot of things. By Trump, I mean collective Trump, with a bunch of Zionists and neocons in the United States. They screwed up the United States so badly. I cannot even, I mean, I do not have verbiage to discuss it. Well, here we are. And we have to live with the consequences of all that, including in the United States. I am, for all intents and purposes, Russian-American, if you wish. And I live here. I understand. I voted for Trump because, obviously, he lied to us convincingly. But then again, I voted not because I believed it. I stopped believing him already in 2018. And that's why I love the Internet. It retains all records. When I wrote, he's done. But, of course, between this Catholic idiot Kamala Harris and Trump, it was preferable because Democrats would want to start a nuclear war because they are imbeciles, you know.

So we have this situation. So Trump didn't start a nuclear war. He simply blew up the global economy, and there we go. So we live with essentially those, you know, shrapnel and all those remnants, you know, rubble flying all over our heads. And we have to wait and see for a few years more until it settles and the new world completely emerges. It's already emerging. And there was an excellent discussion on RT today. First time when I commend RT for actual geopolitical analysis, they correctly stated all these GDP numbers are basically fraud. It's all about money and consumerism. What is the measure of real happiness and prosperity? It is much more complex than Wall Street. In fact, Wall Street doesn't even reflect real prosperity. And we are in this new world.

#Nima

I think not only GDP is some sort of fraud, but military spending is fraud as well.

#Andrei

It's fraud, absolutely. It's fraud in terms of people saying, oh yeah, we have 13. You have to understand, the average Western journalist is an imbecile. So normal people do not go into this profession. And so when they write, oh yeah, America's \$13.9 billion aircraft carrier population, okay,

that's fine. Guys, do you understand that \$10 million worth of cruise missiles can sink this \$13.9 billion? They don't understand it. They put equivalency into this. For example, American GDP is counted by means of also inflating dramatically the real estate prices. Oh my God, our GDP grew! No, you had a house in 1999, which you bought for, let's say, \$150,000 or \$200,000, and today it is \$500,000. It doesn't mean that it grew two and a half times.

It's the market, these fluctuations of speculation which made it. It is the same house, and actually older now. I mean, it might have grown somewhat in terms of value, but that's what they count, okay? FIRE economy — finance, insurance, real estate. And they cannot even understand. You take any of them from whatever Ivy League economists, you cannot explain to them that your money, your value, which you grew up by speculation, is worth nothing. It's worth nothing. You just cannot substitute the actual tangible value. But because obviously it is also the hiding of inflation. And then, yeah, then you look at the combined West — they deindustrialized themselves to the point of, well, Germany will be first to fall.

France will follow next, but France will fall not only economically, it's going to fall essentially ethnically. And, you know, they lie even about the immigration statistics there in France. And yeah, they will continue to elect idiots. That's what the French do, you know. So will Germans. And yeah, that's what we have. And, well, I cannot even emphasize enough how important it is to understand, when I was writing for so many years, that the real war is the only indicator of the true power of a nation. It is always a very bloody and cruel indicator, but that's what defines it. And we saw what the United States militarily is.

It lost in Ukraine, and it lost now in Iran. And that's it. It's over. Pepe Escobar stated that the United States is not a superpower anymore. I would say it's not a superpower as it, you know, pretended to be. It still is a nuclear superpower, albeit the second one. It lags dramatically by a generation in the delivery systems behind Russia. But it is still, you know, a major economy, obviously, but it's not what it thinks it is. I mean, it's obviously accumulated a lot of wealth. Make no mistake, the United States is a wealthy country, not only by resources, but still it retains a degree of technological competence, scientific competence, and a lot of achievements.

And of course, yeah, it didn't experience war since, what, 1865? It had, you know, a good 170 years to, it's a good run to accumulate their wealth, you know, in a country which hasn't been touched by war. And as a result, it's still prosperous in a sense for some people. For many others, it's not; they can barely make their ends meet. And so this United States is becoming poorer, and it will become more poor. But Europe is done; it's going to be a proper continent, and they have nothing to sustain themselves as they did before. So pure consumerism is not a good indication of how wealthy you are.

#Nima

Andrei, just moments ago, it shows that Brent crude oil jumped 5%. Right now, 107.1.

#Andrei

So, yeah, it means that probably spot is going to be, what, \$130, \$135. So, yeah, they lie. You go to all those analysts, you know, primarily from the United States and Britain, who write all kinds of nonsense about it. Oh, yeah, I mean, you know, Russians, you know, the refinery near Samara has been destroyed – okay, they might have gotten one drone there. Do they even understand what it takes to take a refinery out of service? Then today they suddenly come up, but Russian oil flow continues. You just two days ago said that the Russians do not provide oil. Now it's – they lie, they just spin things. They cannot accept the fact that you lost, period. You're losers. You always were. It's just that you were able to hide it. But now you don't have competencies. You don't have knowledge. You don't have skills. You don't have the toolkit to understand it.

And the only thing they know is how to spin it. And they judge everything only within their stock options and their capitalization. That's the thing — capitalization. Yeah, Apple capitalization. Apple is produced in Southeast Asia. It produces nothing in the United States. Oh yeah, it's an American company. Yeah, try to get it back on American shores and see what's going to happen, how this capitalization will go down, you know, like several orders of magnitude, you know. So yeah, that's what we have. In the end, only tangibles, only things which serve people and which serve the economy — that's the only thing that counts. And how's this renewable energy thing going for Europe? Yeah, they — Germany — yeah, build more solar panels and windmills, you know, so yeah, that's going to provide you with the level of existence circa the start of the 20th century. That's where they're going.

#Nima

Hmm. Andrei, there are some reports — basically, one was reported on CNN — about the capabilities, the stockpile of the United States in terms of the capability of interceptors and cruise missiles. Here's what they said.

#Speaker 03

According to this new study by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, their findings were confirmed by three sources familiar with recent Pentagon assessments of U.S. stockpiles. The U.S. is running dangerously low on some of these key munitions that would be required to confront a near-peer adversary in the short term, like China, for example. So while the U.S. does still have sufficient munitions to continue bombing Iran, for example, if the shaky ceasefire were to fall apart, if they were to need to confront an adversary like China or like Russia, for example, then that could pose significant problems for the United States.

Now, just to give you an example of how much the U.S. stockpile has been depleted over the last seven-plus weeks of war on Iran, according to this assessment and the sources that we spoke to, the U.S. military has expended at least 45% of its stockpile of precision strike missiles, at least half

of its inventory of THAAD missiles, which are designed to intercept ballistic missiles, and nearly 50% of its stockpile of Patriot air defense interceptor missiles, which are, of course, very key air defense munitions. Now, the U.S. military...

#Nima

Yeah, it's, you know...

#Andrei

In 40 days, they have defeated... Yeah, people in the Center for Strategic and International Studies, all those generals, former officers, you know, former military people, they better get their heads out of their behinds and start learning real war, real models. Many of them will not be able to. They have degrees in sociology, English literature. They went through the ROTC fraudulent preparation schools, which prepare the so-called officer corps, which doesn't understand the physical and mathematical foundations of warfare. So they are incompetent people there. They do not understand anything about real modern war. So when they begin to, you know, speak about the near-peer — the United States as a near-peer, for example — if it decides to go with what it has now against China, let alone against Russia, it's, I mean... Hello, wake up.

You didn't win a single war against people who are freaking living in the Third World. The only thing they have, like this famous Al Bundy from Married with Children, who holds up his four touchdowns while playing for Polk High, is this: oh my God, we defeated this dumb, retarded Saddam's army after he allowed us six months to gather forces. Jesus. You just saw yourself what long-range fires and standoff weapons do to you. And still, these people continue to think that this is just about numbers, quantity. Quantity is important, correct. But I have news for those people, including those from the commands. If you look at how the Russian General Staff works, which, by the way, commands military resources the United States can only dream about, they operate on the basis of models which are updated.

24/7, and they do have actual inputs — verifiable, high-veracity, if you wish, high-probability, high-trust information, combat data — which goes in and goes out, providing appropriate decisions and appropriate planning and things like that. So the United States lives in an alternative universe. It doesn't know the real data. U.S. military history was written by the German generals who wrote the history of World War Two and things of this nature. So what do you expect from those people? Those few who, say, get something wrong here — no, they still believe it. They believe that the United States won, defeated Hitler. There are some people who do not understand that the reason the United States Navy is nowhere near that — somebody in the United States Navy recognized that.

If we are getting within the range of 500 to 700 kilometers, even a salvo of subsonic — forget about supersonic — subsonic missiles, a salvo of 8,000, six, it will get the leaker. It will hit one of the American destroyers, which immediately will mean one of the critical parts, which still doesn't work,

of the Aegis system — SPY-1, six — radar going off. And that's it. Suddenly your carrier battle group is exposed. Those people don't understand what they're talking about because they never studied anything. Everything they studied about Russia and the Soviet Union is garbage — primarily 80% of it, I can tell you. I can testify. Unlike those people, I've been through the system. I lived in it. And they really believe it. They really believe this garbage of the F-35, which is the butt of jokes all over the place. You know, they believe in the... Remember, the F-15 was the most, you know, undefeated fighter.

Well, it's encountered a little bit of who knows what. And suddenly they started to fall from the sky once they actually met the real enemy, the people with the... So they have now the audacity to talk about near-peer. The United States is not a peer to Russia. Operationally, any American general, or for that matter, any command or Joint Chiefs of Staff, they are not even in the same league. They will not understand what is going on. They will try to learn all those teeny-weeny details. They don't have the fundamental toolkit to understand what is going on. And we see the results. The system itself, the clockwork, is broken. And it took the last 10 years to expose it completely. Iran is merrily, as I already stated many times, nailing the last nail, actually, in the coffin of the American military's self-proclaimed supremacy.

#Nima

Andrei, how long does it usually take for the United States to get their stockpile back to the way it was before this war started?

#Andrei

If you go just purely by count, they can probably produce 700 missiles for PAC-3, Patriot PAC-3. Now, the problem is it doesn't work like this. You calculate expenditure, and this is a model, okay? It is not just merely calculation. It is the expenditure that matters under certain circumstances. And let me tell you, you can see it visually. They can launch five missiles and they will still miss. So what's good in that? So it doesn't matter if they produce 700 or 1,000. They will expend it within two weeks again because, again, those people there in the Pentagon, they don't learn anything from what happened in Ukraine. Why Patriot PAC-3 is being laughed at by Russians. They cannot intercept modern ballistics. They can't.

They can shoot down aircraft. They can shoot down some subsonic cruise missiles. But Iskander—forget about hypersonic things. They simply... they can see it sometimes, and they launch, like, what, five? The whole load of the battery, you know, as you saw yourself when they were reacting to Kinzhal. Everything failed. Thirty-two missiles went out, all missed. So in this case, it doesn't matter if they produce, I mean, 1,000. You need to produce an order of magnitude more, but it's not just that. You need to produce weapons that perform well, that have the effectiveness not stated in those marketing booklets, but which actually have, let's say, the expenditure of two air defense missile salvos.

At least you will have the combined probability of shooting down something at least 80%. Forget about 90%. Forget about 95%. The United States is nowhere near this capability. Same goes for THAAD. THAAD was designed to intercept a classic ballistic trajectory. That's how they calculate things. They have a good radar, a very expensive one. They can see the launch from 1,000-plus kilometers, and they have time to do the track to basically, you know, develop their firing solution against the classic non-maneuverable ballistics. What do we have? The United States used to have seven of those. Now it's down to three. Four of them have been destroyed by Iranians.

That tells you everything. And it's like the famous anecdote. It's not only in Russian, in English too. You know, the guy looks at the brothel, and he takes charge of the brothel. He becomes the manager, and for some reason, his profits still fall. He says, "OK, let's redo the wallpaper." OK, they redo the wallpaper in the brothel. But still, the audience continues to drop. The visitors say, "OK, let's buy new furniture." They say, "OK, let's buy new furniture." They move in the new furniture, but still, everything continues to fall. No matter what they do, they paint outside, they put in the new lawn. And then at some point, they talk with the guy.

He says, "You know what? Nothing works." He said, "Did you try to change the prostitutes?" And that's exactly what is happening. It doesn't matter how many they produce. If they do not work, they do not work. You have to come up with a new technological, so to speak, be up to the new technological paradigm. The United States is not there. I remember the name of my first book, which was written nine years ago, *Losing Military Supremacy*. At that time, the United States was already lagging by a generation in the new weapon systems and the tactics and operational art of using them. And there you go. The only thing they're good at is PR, you know, Hollywood, entertainment. There you go.

#Nima

Andrei, we've learned that France and Poland plan to conduct Air Force exercises in the Baltic Sea. What is that all about? What are they trying to do? Because the use of these fighter jets, which are capable of carrying nuclear weapons, is a particular concern, I think.

#Andrei

It is a concern, but it should be a concern for France and Poland because, as I quote Vladimir Putin, if they really want to, Russia will have nobody to negotiate with. I mean, it doesn't matter. I mean, if Paris wants to cease to exist, which is fine, it's not going to be... Yeah, granted, you remove their Louvre treasures first. You know, you have this boy, teller boy in France with this chihuahua of a country. It's pathetic in economic and cultural terms today. It's a bunch of pedophiles and satanists around it. Essentially, it's a navy and especially its army—I joke, you know—so the only thing they

have is this, you know, the indigenous, primarily naval nuclear deterrent. Poland altogether is a non-entity. So, but yeah, if they want to play those toy soldiers, I mean, yeah, so I don't know, I mean... Hitler was even nice to Paris.

Russians may not, although they took Paris in 1814. But this time they will not take it. There shouldn't be any foot of a Russian soldier anywhere in Europe. It's just, if it comes down to it and if they really decide to do some stupid thing—although I believe it's mostly posturing—but if not, then Russia can turn France into a parking lot really fast, you know. Those boys and girls don't understand, again, what they are dealing with. If you especially look at the performance of French troops in the Sahel, which have been kicked out by the Russian-African command, they're not that good. I mean, okay, so they can, you know, thump their chest and say that we are great. No, you're not great. You're just a second-tier power, and you should stay there. Poland, not even second-tier. It's a third-rate power, and it should stay there.

#Nima

Andrei, before wrapping up, I think the other point that is important is Finland and the behavior of Finland. They have a new proposal to allow the import and storage of nuclear, you know, weapons. What is that? Why do they need it? Because Finland, together with Sweden—you remember, these two countries were neutral. Somehow they survived the Cold War. They were never...

#Andrei

It was the course of Paasikivi-Kekkonen. That's how it's called, after the prime ministers Juho Kusti Paasikivi and Urho Kaleva Kekkonen. It was very smart and very profitable, actually, for Finland. And the Soviet Union and Russians were just, yeah, that's good. It was the neighboring country. You go there for the weekend. So the Finns, even during Soviet times, they had their dry law there, and they were going to Leningrad to get drunk. But evidently, they decided that they wanted to live an interesting life.

And I think, since it's already been stated, if they want to move nuclear weapons into Finland, the Russians might as well just stop it by physical means, you know. So Finland lost any economic significance for Russia. And if they continue to allow their airspace—which already has had warnings issued recently—for Ukrainian drones or for the Baltic states, Russia will take care of it by physical means, destroying some, you know, how to say it, installations, just to demonstrate that Russia is in control there.

#Nima

Yeah, thank you so much, Andrei, for being with us today.

#Andrei

My pleasure. Great pleasure, as always. Bye bye.

#Nima

See you soon. Bye bye.