

# Nima R. Alkhorshid: BREAKING: US and Iran Exchange Fire – Ceasefire COLLAPSES

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## #Nima

Hi, everybody. Today is Thursday, May 7th, 2026, and I'm here to talk about what is happening right now in the southern part of Iran, in the Strait of Hormuz, Persian Gulf. Moments ago, we've learned from CENTCOM and from Iranian media as well what has happened in the southern part of Iran. What is happening right now is important in the way that I was talking about it before, because in the last talk I had on Sunday, I told you that this sort of blockade is going to bring many problems to the region. And right now, the same thing is happening. CENTCOM just reported that it intercepted unprovoked Iranian attacks.

And what has happened in reality, there were two Iranian tankers, one of them close to Fujairah port in the UAE. It was transiting from Fujairah, entering the Strait of Hormuz, and the other one close to Jask city, one of the southern cities close to the Persian Gulf in Iran. And two tankers were attacked. They targeted two tankers, the United States. It seems that they used this. They had three destroyers in the region that they attacked them. They used missiles to attack these tankers. And the Iranian response, from what we've heard so far, is that Iran, the IRGC, attacked three of them with ballistic missiles, cruise anti-ship missiles, and drones.

It seems that it was reported by Iranians that huge explosions were heard during these attacks on the U.S. destroyers. And even CBS News confirmed that two U.S. destroyers faced intense Iranian assault while transiting the Strait of Hormuz. And this is the... We're going to see a lot of this, you know, after the failed Project Freedom that the United States tried to use to open up the Strait of Hormuz, and it has failed. And Donald Trump came out and said that after 24 hours, it didn't work. So what is the alternative? They're trying to do everything because the blockade is not working, let's put it this way.

And they cannot force these tankers to go around or just to get back to their... whenever they're entering the Strait of Hormuz or getting out of the Strait of Hormuz. That's why they have to attack them, because nobody would care about the announcement on the part of the U.S. destroyers or the way they're trying to force Iran not to let anything come in and out of the Iranian ports. And this is the fragility of the situation that we're living in with the case of the blockade. It's not going to... I

think we can talk about the ceasefire. The ceasefire is not there anymore. It wasn't there, by the way. It's some sort of pause.

I would say, because Israelis are talking about Iranians, the assessment on the part of Iranians is continuing. They're talking about, let's assess who was participating in these sorts of attacks. It was an attack on the city of Bandar Abbas and the city of Minab. If you remember that primary school in Minab that was attacked in the initial day of the 40-day war, they attacked that primary school. One of the naval bases in this city was attacked again. And it seems that Iran is attacking again, is responding. And I don't know so far how many targets were, you know, how many targets were hit by Iranian missiles or drones in the UAE. But they are responding as we talk.

The attacks are going to, you know, they're sending missiles and drones to the UAE. I don't know if they're going to respond to Israel because right now they're... basically, they're in the process of assessment to see if Israel was participating in these sorts of attacks or if they were prepared for that. We don't know from the news so far. We don't know what is happening. And the Iranian media didn't report on that. But the basic question right now is, what is the path forward for the current situation? Is the blockade happening? I think Iran is forced to react. Right now they're forced to react. These three destroyers just left the region. They're not in the region anymore because they were attacked, and it seems two of them were hit and massively damaged. I don't know.

It seems that CENTCOM didn't mention that in their latest announcement. But as CBS News reported, it seems that something important has happened to these destroyers. Let's see what will happen. But after all, Donald Trump—what is happening with Donald Trump? He's preparing to go to China, and he wants to do something in the Middle East. He's in the process. He wants to force American terms on the Iranian people and the Iranian government. They said, no, that's not going to happen. It doesn't matter if you're going to continue with this blockade. We're going to respond, as you see right now. They're firing at each other, and the United States is not going to be able to stay there close to Fujairah or wherever.

It's going to be in the Arabian Sea or maybe in the Sea of Oman. Because right now, the new reality of the ceasefire—it's not a ceasefire—the new reality of this pause is just escalating. They're escalating the situation. And Iran is just, you know... There was some sort of red line so far. They didn't attack each other directly. But right now that red line is not there anymore. That's why it's some sort of pause. I would say this ceasefire has totally collapsed. There is no ceasefire anymore. And this pause—let's see what would happen in the coming hours and maybe tomorrow and the day after tomorrow, on Saturday or Sunday—because the market would close and we will see what would be the American policy.

I assume, because what we've heard so far from the Iranian source, they're preparing for a major attack on the part of the United States. Channel 14 in Israel reported that the ceasefire collapsed. They're preparing. There is a security meeting in Israel that was reported, that Benjamin Netanyahu is having some sort of security meeting using phone calls. They're not getting together. And on the

part of the Iranians, they're doing the same. They're just gathering the information to see the damage that these attacks have caused so far in the southern part, basically in the southern part of Iran. Some ports were attacked so far. And the escalation is coming. And I would say that, again, the UAE is going to be attacked by Iranian drones and missiles.

Let's see if they want to attack the American sort of assets in the UAE, or if it's going to go beyond that. It's going to attack the sensitive areas or points or sites in the UAE. We don't know that. And the blockade, I think, somehow shows how the United States and Donald Trump are so desperate. The desperation is there. And I don't see Donald Trump changing his mind. I don't see any sort of agreement happening. And there are two ways to put an end to this conflict. You know, one of them is not putting an end to this conflict, in my opinion. It's the continuation of this blockade and this sort of fighting. The two sides are attacking each other and gradually escalating the situation. The other solution would be what has happened with the case of the Yemenis and so on.

The United States announcing capitulation, announcing that they have Iranians capitulated, so we are announcing victory and getting out of the region. I don't know if that would happen. But so far, Donald Trump is not gaining anything. He's trying to do something with the attacks, putting a lot of pressure by attacking these Iranian tankers because these are huge tankers. I don't know the size, because the size of these two tankers that were attacked today was not mentioned in the reports that we've seen so far. But some of these tankers are as big as an aircraft carrier. And you can imagine how big these tankers are. So they want to put pressure on the Iranian economy. The blockade didn't work, so they have to attack tankers.

And the capabilities of the U.S. Army, they have their limitations when it comes to the blockade. You have to go there, you have to capture the tanker, you have to keep it somewhere. We've learned that they sent two of them to Diego Garcia, and one of them was handed over to the Iranians through Pakistan. And these are the difficulties that they're facing. And somehow, I would say that Israel is just itching. Somehow they're preparing for war. They literally want to start a new conflict, a new round of war. I don't know how prepared the United States is. On their part, Iranians are telling us that they're prepared. In the United States, we've seen a lot of refueling tankers moving around in the region, and fighter jets were reported.

And from what we've seen so far, the United States has some sort of stockpile in the region to continue or start a war for something like, it depends on the intensity of the war, for 10 days. And not more than that, because if Iran decides to escalate, the United States has to intensify as well. It's not just about one side. They can just deplete their assets in the region in less than 10 days, I would say a week. They can deplete everything. So what would be the next solution on the part of the United States? What would they do? Is Iran going to accept a new ceasefire? Because we haven't seen any sort of ceasefire. I don't know what is going on with this.

The United States is turning into some sort of Israel 2.0. There is no point in having any sort of ceasefire with Israel. So Donald Trump is becoming the new Benjamin Netanyahu. He's announcing

a ceasefire while he's attacking Iranian tankers. When you have a ceasefire, the blockade is the tool, you know, the violation of the ceasefire, the blockade itself. It doesn't make sense. That's why Iran has decided to fight back. They're going to attack, and they don't care. You remember during the 40 days of war, Iran decided not to attack aircraft carriers. Most of these destroyers were far away. They were coming and going out. But it seems that the policy is changing in Iran as well. If they decide to attack one of these aircraft carriers, they're going to attack it.

And easily they're going to hit the aircraft carrier. If they can recognize that this aircraft carrier is in the region of reach, I would say that they can reach it. And by the way, they have the missiles. They have everything to reach these aircraft carriers. But there was no political decision or political will in Iran to go that far. But it seems the blockade is forcing Iran to do that. And I assume that's the end, you know, that's why the ceasefire is not there anymore. And let's see what would happen. I'm trying to check the latest news here. If we have some sort of, on the part of Iran, they didn't report anything. You know, so far, what has happened? The latest news is what I've just said about the Iranian ports, and the United States has announced.

It seems that the announcement of the CENTCOM was just to announce that nothing has... CENTCOM said the destroyers weren't damaged, but I would say they were hit. I'm sure that the reports on the part of the Iranians are valid because it's not just one source. Multiple sources in Iran reported huge explosions on these destroyers. So going forward, what we have—Donald Trump has less than seven days. Tomorrow is May 8th, and on May 14th he's going to go to China. Is he going to be prepared for that? We've seen the Iranian foreign minister going to China. You saw how the two foreign ministers were hugging each other, and the tone is changing, and the states are getting closer—not only Iran and Russia, but Iran and China.

And China totally, perfectly understands what's going on with the United States and how important these two fronts are—one in Ukraine and the other one in the Middle East—for the position of China. And as long as you keep the United States in this fight, they're not gonna be as strong as they were before these two wars started. The war in Ukraine weakened the United States in terms of depleting the missiles, you know, interceptors, everything. The war in the Middle East just destroyed, in my opinion, all these radars in the region together with the missiles, the rest of the missiles. You remember in the 12-day war in June 2025, they used 25% of those interceptors—25% in the first round of the war.

I would assume our friend of this podcast, Larry Johnson, his assumption or his assessment is that the fact that, you know, interceptors are less than, right now, 10%. Is the United States prepared to start this war? Because they're going to use the rest of them to defend Israel. So what else do they have? The Patriot system? The Patriot system is not, you know, as good as that from what we've learned. They're not—none of them is capable of intercepting with a hundred percent precision every missile that comes in. It depends on the missiles, by the way. Whenever Iran used a hypersonic missile, they couldn't intercept Iranian hypersonic missiles. But those old ballistic missiles that Iran used from 10, 15 years ago were intercepted by THAAD and Patriot systems.

And basically, when they deplete all of these interceptors, Israel will be naked because the Iron Dome is not an air defense system. It's just an air defense system that could work against rockets, you know, handmade, some sort of rockets that are coming from Lebanon or from Palestine. They're not able to intercept ballistic missiles. So there is no way for Israel to, if the new round of war comes, to survive the way, you know—I think the Israeli government understands that. Because the damage, we don't know what has happened in Israel during 40 days of war. We don't know how devastating the Iranian attacks on Israel were. Nothing was reported. But on the part of Iran, we know the damage, you know, in the cities, schools, hospitals, you know, all were reported.

Not only by, you know, Iranian media — we had CNN in Iran reporting, the reporter of CNN in Iran going to the sites, reporting on that. And the United States is somehow desperate. On one hand, they have these sorts of shortages when it comes to cruise missiles. They need these cruise missiles if they decide to attack Iran — JASSMs — because they cannot go deep into Iranian airspace. The air defense of Iran, so far, we did more than three weeks of the ceasefire, they have improved tremendously. It was reported. I don't know what they did, but they have improved it, and they're prepared for the new attacks. And if the fighter jets get close, they're going to get hit by Iran's air defense system.

And the United States knows that. That's why they need these cruise missiles to hit Iran from outside of the Iranian airspace, not going deep into the Iranian airspace. So they're short of those missiles right now. They're short of interceptors. And Israel just yesterday attacked Dahiya, in the southern part of Beirut. They tried to assassinate one of the Hezbollah commanders. That assassination has failed. It was reported by Israeli media. They were not successful in hitting the target, the Hezbollah commander. And on the ground, they're getting beaten by Hezbollah and these FPV drones. Just moments ago, before coming to this live, there were multiple attacks by FPV drones on Israeli forces.

And the situation is getting complicated. On one hand, in the Middle East, we see Saudi Arabia and Qatar wanting to distance themselves from the Israeli and UAE position. They don't want to be part of these attacks. That's why they didn't cooperate with the United States on Project Freedom. And when it comes to the UAE, the UAE is just putting each and every egg in the basket of Israel and the United States. The attack on Fujairah was a major attack. Iran has denied that. They didn't confirm that Iran attacked Fujairah. But the attack was such that it reduced the capability of the UAE to export oil from that port — reduced it from 5 million barrels a day to 500,000 a day.

Drastically, a huge change, a huge reduction. And then they have nothing. I don't know how far they want to go because the UAE is nothing. They can just cease to exist if they want to continue with this war. And after all, the United States and Israel, they're not going to stay with them forever. If they get hit, as yesterday we've seen with Fujairah, what happened? Donald Trump came out and said that was a little thing, nothing important, and we don't need to escalate it. It wasn't that important to respond. They want to sacrifice. If they want to sacrifice themselves to defend Israel,

they can go that way, because they decided to get out of OPEC, OAPEC, and GCC countries. They're not part of that.

So how far would they go? I don't know. It depends on the decision makers in the UAE. Do they want to go down? After all, you have to remember, the UAE, it's all about security. It's all about security. If there is no security, nobody is going to go to Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and all these fancy cities that they have created for these multi-billionaires in the UAE. This is the reality. They're going to lose everything. And just imagine, one third of their economy is dependent on oil and gas. One third means that two thirds of their economy is dependent on these people who are going there with the case of participation, with the case of AI, and all these projects they have there.

That's going to just evaporate overnight. If they want to continue this war this way, they have to understand the region needs some sort of security architecture. I would say it over and over. And in that security architecture, if they understand it, if they want to be part of it, that doesn't mean that you can let Israeli forces on your soil, Israeli air defense systems on. I don't know what they need from the Iron Dome in the UAE. What is that? How is that going to save them? How is that going to help them intercept missiles? They may be able to hit some sort of drones, but that's it. The ballistic missiles are going to hit each and every target in the UAE. And the UAE is so close to Iran, they can use short-range missiles to hit them. And this is what's going on, and let's see what would happen.

I assume that maybe we're going to see some sort of escalation, but so far it seems that everything is just dying down, and it's nothing like a continuation of the war. But let's see what would happen on Saturday and Sunday. If they decide to attack, they're going to do it on Friday night or Saturday morning. And Sunday, Saturday, Sunday, because the market is closed and they can attack and then wrap it up. Because Donald Trump, it seems that he wants a major attack on Iran to do huge damage. And let's see what would happen. We know that the Iranian reaction would be devastating. They're going to hit everything in the UAE — desalination plants, everything, oil facilities, all those beautiful things that they have. They think that they're going to stay with them forever. They're going to evaporate overnight.

And I'm not happy about what's going on with this case of war. I hope that we can find some sort of sanity, but there is no sanity. The problem is with the Trump administration. That's the reality with the Trump administration. No negotiations. Just imagine they have added a former IDF to the negotiating delegation, to Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner. How is that going to help the negotiations? Nobody cares about Jared Kushner and Steve Witkoff. You add a former IDF force to the negotiations. That's just unbelievable. No diplomacy. No, the government, the Trump administration is not capable of, you know, of considering any sort of—there are no diplomats in this government. Who's the diplomat? We were supposed to have J.D. Vance as a diplomat. How did that work out?

Nothing. And Donald Trump doesn't, he doesn't seek any sort of agreement, to be honest. There are no negotiations going on. They're sending some sort of messages. And every time you see Pakistan

coming up, "Thank you, Donald Trump, for this and for that." What does that mean? Just amazing, just ridiculous what's going on. His phone calls, sending messages through Pakistan. When it comes to real negotiations, as we've seen with the Iranian delegation going to Pakistan and the American delegation going to Pakistan, when it comes to the real negotiations, they're not prepared. They don't know what they want from these negotiations. And all they know is to force their terms on Iranians. It doesn't work this way.

Look at what has happened in Ukraine. When you're losing a war, you're not going to be able to force your terms. Who's winning the war is going to force its terms to make some sort of agreement. Donald Trump is not winning. He's not winning. And the new report shows, you know, the Washington Post reported that it shows that Iran, the Iranian economy can, you know, outlast the American sort of strategy in the Middle East with the case of blockade. Iran is prepared. I keep telling you that Iran is, the Iranian economy is prepared. And the latest, just today, it came out on the Washington Post website that Iran is prepared for months ahead and the United States is not prepared for that.

And this is the reality. I think Iran knows how to deal with these sanctions, blockades, and they've had these difficulties for such a long time. And Donald Trump doesn't know that. And the people are asking him, what was the outcome of this war so far in the United States? And he has no answer but telling us that "I have destroyed everything. The Navy is gone. Air Force is gone. Everything is gone. And they have nothing." But I cannot open up this radar for most. Yeah. How amazing is this sort of argument? Let's see what would happen. Tomorrow I'm going to talk with you. I'm going to have Larry Johnson and Carl Wilkerson. I'm going to have Ambassador Chas Freeman. I'm going to have Professor Ted Postol.

We're going to talk about what has happened so far, and let's see what would be their sort of understanding about Saturday and Sunday, and are we heading towards some sort of escalations, or are these measured, or some sort of unpredicted attacks, firing, that both sides are trying to define their positions. But I would assure you that the United States is not going to be able to continue with this blockade. This is the end of the blockade. And anything they do, trying to seize or trying to, you know, fire at a tanker, a ship, some sort of boats, they're going to get hit by Iranian missiles, drones, and torpedoes. Let's see what would happen. Thank you so much, and see you tomorrow.