

Andrei Martyanov: US vs Iran: Is the Strait of Hormuz the Next War Zone?

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#Nima

The conflict between Iran and the United States is basically over the Strait of Hormuz. The United States says this is international waters, and Iran says that's not the case — this is territorial waters. The reality is that the Strait is 21 nautical miles wide, which is 24.4 land miles, and territorial waters are usually 12 nautical miles. So it seems that 12 plus 12 would mean the territorial waters of Oman and Iran would overlap. That's why, to the mind of Iranians, it doesn't make sense what the United States is trying to do. And Donald Trump yesterday said that he's going to bomb Iran. Amen.

#Andrei

Good Lord.

#Nima

Andrei, you remember when they were talking about the Strait of Hormuz in the initial talks, Donald Trump said, I'm okay with that. Let us be part of the toll system that you're involved in.

#Andrei

Go ahead, your understanding. Yeah, you cannot take him seriously at all. I mean, you have to take him seriously as a man who lost any kind of touch with reality. He is a coward, and he is also a very aggressive bully. That's his life. But now he actually faces what he faces, which is the humiliating defeat of his administration and his idiotic decision, driven by Israel, to get the United States and himself into this position. And his administration is dumb. He is a lame duck. In fact, I'm not going to go any further in terms of his international status as an aggressive, essentially war criminal unleashing the war on Iran. But the truth is, there are all kinds of mechanisms in the law of the sea. I don't remember off the top of my head, for example, when you can go and settle the issues of these overlapping, so to speak, territorial waters.

By the way, this is what we saw with those Baltic statelets. Estonia, which faces there, also has a shore on the Gulf of Finland. You know, they try to play it. You know, it's narrow — we have territorial waters between Finland and Estonia, and you cannot go as easily. It's a complex issue, but the main thing that really matters here is the fairway. This is their shipping lane through which you can get all those tankers in and out. It is within the territorial waters of Iran, period. And so there are other kinds of ways, but this is why there were some idiotic ideas that, well, let's dig a canal, you know? Some dude offered such an idea — let's place those nuclear bombs there, they will blow the whole thing, and they will give us a canal. I mean, yeah, there are many idiots in the so-called think tanks.

Actually, most of them are idiots. But yeah, that's what they were trying to do. But the reality is, no matter how you play and how you write treaties and everything, the main fairway, the main way, is in the Iranian territorial waters. If Trump wouldn't have started this, there would have been just normal flow of the oil, you know, whatever, fertilizers, what have you. But the idiots unleashed this thing. And now, yeah, he, as you correctly stated, wanted to put his own share of the toll booth. If you look at Trump's business history, everything he touched failed, okay? Everything, you know? So, I mean, the guy doesn't know how to run business properly, and it's all over the financial machinations, and although he's a real estate mogul or what have you, that left him some heritage, so to speak, you know?

But the reality is, the world is not New York City and its mafioso-style real estate, you know, which is dirty and, you know, so, um, and here we are. I mean, he can say whatever he wants, it doesn't matter. You know, reality, like gravity—pardon my French—is a bitch, you know? It's gonna bite you in the ass, and it's gonna hurt like hell. And now that they did, and so, um, we have all kinds of their, um, symptoms or manifestations of the complete panic and decomposition of essentially his administration, and the way the United States military was paraded, involved. And, pardon my arrogance, so to speak, you know, but I have to—I warned about it nine years ago. Well, I warned about it earlier than that, but I mean, I wrote a book on that. A real war? Forget about it. I mean, the United States is not ready to fight it. And so, there we are.

#Nima

Andrei, what do you make of these confrontations between Iran and the United States? They're sending messages back and forth, but at the same time, Donald Trump is trying to do his business. Last night, they tried to get one of those American tankers in the Strait of Hormuz to pass through, but it was forced by the Iranian Navy to turn back. What is he trying to do? It's so strange what he's, you know, the project, you remember...

#Andrei

He is not rational. He actually—all his administration, second administration—is not rational. And when you look at what is happening, they are driven by the blackmail and control from Israel. He has a truckload of neocons in, obviously, in his administration. He has essentially a Knesset 2.0, which supports his idiotic ideas. And the more he goes—you know, the first principle when you are in a hole is stop digging, okay? This guy doesn't understand things. First, it could be attributed both to the onset of dementia, but he was always an uncultured man. He was always primitive. He never read a book in his life. His level was those girls from the beauty pageants. That's pretty much it. We're not going to go further anymore into him being mentioned five and a half thousand times in Epstein files. Let that for now rest in the sense that that's a whole other can of worms.

Let's not go there. So, yeah, he doesn't understand what governance is. He doesn't understand what strategy is. So everything about this, you know, his idiotic idea about deals—he loves the word deal, the term deal. He doesn't understand what a deal is. And you cannot talk to the enemy, which is Iran, who defeated you militarily. The only thing he can do is use nuclear weapons, but then it's going to end up for the United States extremely badly. So that's what we have. And whatever he says, as I already stated, you cannot go out into the psychiatric ward, into the asylum, you know, and start interpreting the delirium of people, of patients inside there, unless, of course, you are a doctor and psychiatrist who can kind of define what is happening, and you prescribe proper medicine, you know, whatever you prescribe, those psychotropic serious pills—let's put it this way.

And in this case, commenting on this delirium, commenting on these convulsions, because he changes his views basically not on a daily, on an hourly basis. He says one thing, then he contradicts himself after that. This is what we have on our hands. And so Iran knows that. And so, yeah. What can I say? Iran already established the red lines and essentially the criteria or basis on which any kind of agreement could be concluded with the United States. But I think the Iranian government finally matured enough to understand you cannot make deals with the United States. And so they play this long game. And we'll see where it goes. But again, militarily, the United States doesn't have solutions.

#Nima

Here is, Andrei, what Pete Hegseth had reported yesterday.

#Speaker 03

Oh, good Lord. So whether it's their Navy that's at the bottom of the Persian Gulf, their Air Force, their air defenses, or their defense industrial base, they may have missiles, but they can't build more right now. And they can't build more drones right now. And they can't build more ships. And so they came and cried uncle to talk, which Steve and Jared and the vice president and others are doing so ably. And during that time, we put in a world-class blockade.

#Nima

I want to remind everybody who's listening to us, who's watching and listening to us, that this is the head of the Pentagon.

#Andrei

He is a general who went through this military fraud of ROTC. That means he doesn't have real cadre officer education. He was thrown into Afghanistan for whatever the hell reason there. I mean, yeah, ooh, Afghanistan, oh my God, real serious war. The guy is utterly technologically incompetent. In terms of operational strategy, he wouldn't understand the first thing about it. You need to have a very serious fundamental, usually military academy-level education. And even that is not guaranteed. And he's a complete idiot. He is... fanatic. He's a Christian Zionist. He's a Zionist. He's not Christian, he's a Zionist. And so he doesn't understand what he's talking about. And you know what?

It's really pathetic that he won't understand the basic things about combat control, about how to design operations, what the technological requirements are, you know, including on the tactical level. You know, you cannot explain to him what the U.S. Navy is, the surface fleet. I mean, the submarine fleet of the United States is world-class. It is basically a collection of obsolete ships, which are designed to intimidate and attack people. I don't know, Papua New Guinea—nothing wrong against this fine country, you know, I'm just saying, you know, third world, really third world. You go in, and, you know, like Iraqis or something like that, and even there, it's a question. So they just, for some reason, he thinks that the... well, he is incompetent.

He is, simple as that. He literally is not a real military leader. He doesn't understand what is required on the strategic and operational level because he was never taught. And even if he had been taught, even if he had gone out there and defended his master's degree thesis or specialist thesis on the issue of the organization of combat control of some specific theater of operations with whatever heterogeneous forces he would have there—how you conduct this combat control, what are the means of communication and things like that—no, his level is the level of the average general who understands all those fairy tales, you know, essentially primitive views on warfare.

He helped in Afghanistan. Irrelevant to modern warfare. Irrelevant. It's a high-intensity police operation. Big deal. You know, yeah, they died and all that. But, you know, what happened even after that, you know, after that, with the United States Armed Forces running away, essentially, you know, on the orders of Biden. So, what do you have? Did he graduate from the—okay, let's go, let's say even Army War College. Did he go through at least, you know, Command and General Staff College in Leavenworth, Kansas, which in itself is not much considering the professional level of what we observe at the American top brass, which is a systemic failure across the board.

But at least he would have had some, you know, basis or foundation, of which, for example, Mr. Gilday, whatever his name is, the Chief of Naval Operations today—he was pretty blunt, and he is obviously, you know, a very educated guy—and he stated to Congress, what, a week ago? We cannot do anything, period. The U.S. Navy can do nothing. And the only way they will be able to actually demine, if it comes down to it, the Strait of Hormuz, is if and only after the peace settlement, not under combat conditions. So, Pete Hegseth lies. But then again, if you look at the Trump administration and his immediate circle, they are all Zionists. They all operate on the foundation of their perverted system of beliefs, and they are not responsible people, really. Simple as that.

#Nima

The Chief of Naval Staff is Darryl Caudle, yeah?

#Andrei

Yeah, Darryl Caudle, Chief of Naval Operations. Chief of Naval Operations. These are the extremely important people who actually define the outlook and operations of the Navy. Of course, the actual combat operations are being conducted through the commands. You know, so, and his admission was, I mean, the guys in Congress, you know, whatever committee he was talking to, they were like, yeah, you can do nothing. Learn about it. This is the new reality. It's not new. It's really old. It's just that the United States was hiding behind the backs of its proxies so well. Not really well. Still losing wars. But at least now it was one mano a mano, and guess what? Oh, there we go. And you have the guy who does understand the issues. American sailors, U.S. Navy, is one of those last vestiges of their military competence, which remains in the United States. The rest of it is pretty much Hollywood.

#Nima

Andrei, look at the Pentagon today, and I would say, let's compare it to one of the worst presidents of the United States, Joe Biden. And we remember during those days, they went, Stoltenberg went to Washington, wanted to send long-range missiles to Ukraine, and the Pentagon said, no, that's not going to happen. Who's today... Who are the decision makers in the Pentagon? Is it Pete Hegseth? Because I don't see this guy that much capable of deciding about these important issues. I don't know if – is it Donald Trump? Is it something – because look at the administration so far. Look at what it was when they started and look at what it is today. Joe Kent is out. We have Tulsi Gabbard is out. Many people who were somehow some sort of voice of sanity in the Trump administration, they're out. They're not there anymore. And Donald Trump himself, for example, you remember during Joe Biden, we had Antony Blinken, Jake Sullivan, Victoria Nuland. These people were responsible for those disastrous policies. Who's today, who's in charge today?

#Andrei

Israel? The Pentagon is infested with Zionists, as are most of the American power institutions. The governance of the United States is conducted essentially through the prism of Israeli interests. And considering the extremely low professional level of Israel in terms of the military and warfare, it's one disaster after another. And they still cannot grasp it. Well, I mean, they write now that Trump is upset with Netanyahu. Well, I'm sorry, dude, you are not a kindergarten child. You are in the position of the President of the United States. What did you get? You get your... Again, he doesn't have the governance skills. He doesn't understand what has to happen because he's incompetent. Trump is incompetent.

Apart from now getting incompetent in terms of the onset of dementia and all kinds of the configurations that come with all kinds of mental disorders. But if you take a look again at his administration, look at this. I mean, who conducts so-called diplomacy? Sam Kushner, who is probably a Mossad asset anyway, whose daughter converted to Judaism. And Vitkov, another, you know, what, New York Jew real estate dude, you know. So, where are American diplomats? None to be seen. I mean, American diplomacy died as a craft, statecraft, long ago. Now it is completely decomposing. Mr. Rubio, who is a lawyer, you know, and he was Miriam Adelson's, still is, you know, cabana boy, as is Trump, for example.

You know, so you have this collapse, decomposition of American governance. And now, what can I say? I mean, the same goes for the Pentagon. They still have people, you know, obviously who understand realities—tactical and operational realities—on the theater of operations, like the Chief of Naval Operations. But I listened to this dude, you know, what's his name, the Central Command Commander—Brad Cooper? Brad Cooper, yeah. I was like, are you freaking kidding me? Are you freaking kidding me? These are the officers who are supposed to be the stalwarts of military competence and reality, and talking in a very, you know, what, unnecessary, non-interpreted way.

Otherwise, you know, terms that—here it is. Here's the definition. This is what we do. This is how it unfolds. And that's it. No, you listen to them—they are PR. Again, the only guy who was—I applauded him—he was absolutely nonchalant and said, we cannot do that, period. The U.S. Navy cannot do that. He's responsible for the U.S. Navy, you know. And we already saw what happened, you know. Again, many people don't know it, but Gerald Ford is now going to be in the dock, if not already. It will have its flight deck completely torn out. It will have this gigantic radar, two-band radar, completely removed. So it will have everything removed. So this is a \$13.8 billion ship, which is now being rebuilt—essentially, practically rebuilt from the hull up. And you look at this—these are insane people.

They don't understand what they are doing. What can I say? I mean, I wrote books on that, but we now see this whole thing. It's like, you know, those bubbles popping up here, there, everywhere. You know, it's just unbelievable. And so what can I say? These are all those manifestations and symptoms of the collapse of Western civilization, albeit the United States—I don't know if we can

vote ourselves out of that. You know, Europe is done. It's over. It's going to be destroyed, including militarily, if it comes down to it. But the United States, my God, what did they do to the country? Well, they did it. The oligarchy did it, you know. So there is no democracy. There's nothing. I mean, there are just some remnants of the Constitution hanging here and there. But they work hard to stop that too, you know.