

Lt. Col. Anthony Aguilar: Iran & US Just ATTACKED Each Other – FULL-SCALE WAR Next?

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#Nima

Hi, everybody. I'm back, and today is Wednesday, June 10th, 2026, and our dear friend, our brother, Lt. Col. Anthony Aguilar, is here with us. Welcome, Anthony.

#Anthony

Thank you. It's a pleasure to be here, as always. It's been another very busy 24 hours.

#Nima

Exactly. Anthony, I want to start with the ongoing attack. The United States—finally, Donald Trump said today that he's going to attack Iran. And the attack is happening as we talk. It seems that the first round of the attack has been concluded. And they attacked seven parts, you know, seven parts of Iran in the south—basically in the southern part of Iran: Bandar Abbas, Assaluyeh, Sirik Island, Qeshm Island, and then Kangan Island, which is close to Assaluyeh. Assaluyeh is in the south part, if you remember, that gas plant in the southern part of Iran. And they tried to hit the petrochemical plant in Assaluyeh, which is one of the most important facility areas in Iran, in the southern part of Iran. It was a cruise missile that was intercepted by the Iranian air defense system.

So it seems that the first round of attacks is concluded. And it all started with that attack. You remember yesterday we were talking about the Apache helicopter that was hit by a drone. The whole story is so fragile, in my opinion. But it all started that way. Then we had the Iranian response. It seems that the Iranian response was somehow too heavy for Donald Trump to digest, and that's why he's attacking again. And he said the objectives of this were going to be to force Iran into a new position, to facilitate negotiations with Iran. And this is the objective that Donald Trump stated. Your understanding of what's going on so far?

#Anthony

Yes, I've been keeping track and updating myself with everything that's been going on. And especially now, as the U.S. is striking again, the United States Central Command has released that there are a hundred targets planned in this next period of darkness, as it's dark in the early hours of the morning, and you look at strikes that are going to unfold. We know that an F-16 tried to interdict airspace and was ambushed by an air defense system and had to leave. We know there are now reports, potentially, that a U.S. destroyer was struck by a cruise missile in the Strait of Hormuz. Iran has made a formal declaration that the Strait of Hormuz is closed to all traffic—everything, no matter where it's flagged or registered—everything.

So Iran has now isolated the Strait of Hormuz to where anything that goes in is going to be considered hostile. So, looking at how the United States is now going to respond—like I said, Central Command said it's going to be, in their words, a busy night for Central Command, hundreds of targets planned. So my assessment is that I don't think the Apache helicopter was hit by anything. I don't think that an Apache helicopter even went down in any way. The story, when you think about it, there's just enough truth to make someone think that it's possible, but then the details don't make sense. If an Apache helicopter was hit by a Shahed one-way drone, it would have been completely destroyed.

The Apache helicopter does not have ejection seats. There's no way out. So if the United States went with the narrative that one of their drones destroyed our Apache, blew it up, pilot's dead, that would be a really black eye on the military-industrial complex and the technology of the United States military—that a \$30,000 3D-printed one-way drone was able to lock on, strike, and hit a \$100 million Apache Guardian model. So we can't say it was destroyed. So we say that it hit and the pilots, you know, crashed into the sea. Well, if that was possible, then there would have to have been a rescue. So then the United States comes up with this—well, it was rescued by a drone boat. Like, what?

And say, it's the first time in history. Well, the reason it's the first time in history is because it's stupid. It doesn't make sense. But if you had said that they were rescued by some type of naval asset, well, then you'd have to... Anybody can go on and look at the open source on what's coming in and out of the Strait of Hormuz and say, there was no U.S. vessel in there, so that's not true. It's not like we have the U.S. Coast Guard off the coast of Oman. So everything, in terms of factual, could have been discredited or debunked if it was real. So they made up this wazoo story of it was hit, but it wasn't destroyed. They went into the sea and they were rescued, but it wasn't by a U.S. Navy ship.

It was by a drone boat. Okay. Even if that's the case, how did they get back? Who are these pilots? What happened? What's the truth? Is there any wreckage? Is there any evidence of that? But now the United States has completely blasted past that. That's old news, even though it's only about 24 hours old, 48 hours old. That's old news now. Forget about that. We just want you to focus on the fact that they struck an Apache, so we're striking them. Okay. Well, in the midst of that, you struck

an Apache, we're striking you. Iran was still responding to what Israel had done in crossing that red line and their strikes in Lebanon and their retaliatory strikes against Iran.

So the U.S. kind of interjected in, like, not the start of a new quarter, but kind of like halfway in — not even during a timeout, but like halfway in during a play, in the middle of a quarter — and then said, "Oh, we're going to join this team because of this now, because of something you did last year or last season." Right? And it's like, so what people need to do is look through the fog and friction, or the smoke, look through this and say, the attack on the Apache was pretense, right?

The plan that we're executing now, the plan that the United States is now executing with the number of targets and the number of resources and the naval craft and the jets and the radar and the missiles and the refuelers and all these things that have been placed throughout Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, all these locations — this was all pre-planned. This was all already set in motion. All the administration was looking for was the pretense, the smallest reason to then say, to attach, "This is why we're doing this." So this has all been planned. What is coming and what we're seeing right now, despite the array of targets from Tehran throughout the coast, where we've seen the most concentrated amount, where we've been seeing hits over and over again, is that area that you just talked about here in the Strait of Hormuz. Here's Bandar Abbas.

#Nima

Yeah.

#Anthony

You know, Sadiq Island is down in here. So all these areas that the U.S. is hitting right now — concentrated and sustained strikes — also where there is indication, allegedly, that an Iranian cruise missile struck a U.S. destroyer in here. Remember, because in this blockade, the U.S. was not in here. The U.S. wasn't in the strait. The U.S. was doing a distant blockade in the Gulf of Oman. So if a U.S. destroyer was struck in this part of the strait, that means that U.S. forces are now moving into the strait, which would make sense for all this concentration of fire against forces in Bandar Abbas. Here's Qeshm Island, the Greater and Lesser Tunb Islands.

Like I said, Sadiq Island's further down here. But, you know, you hit Sadiq Island, you move up, you start hitting these, you continue to move up. And now we're seeing that there are actual U.S. naval vessels in the strait. This was all pre-planned. This was all already decided. The 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, the 82nd Airborne Division, the U.S. Army Rangers, Special Forces, Delta, Navy SEALs, the aircraft, tankers, and aircraft being moved to the airbase in Saudi Arabia under the 387th Bombardment Wing — all these things that have happened don't just happen like that. This has all been planned. Now we're seeing the execution of that.

And I think that we're going to continue to see the U.S. assault, U.S. attacks go on for the next couple of days and sustain. We're going to see it, you know, pretty... pretty, uh, you know, continuous, uh, and then some type of naval action. I'm not going to call it an invasion because we're not invading mainland Iran. What I think is going to be a naval assault, a naval raid, in addition to ground forces in a very limited way onto Qeshm Island, to seize Qeshm Island, to allow naval forces to then get into the strait in force. That's what I think is coming next. We want to get naval forces into the Persian Gulf.

#Nima

Actually, the new report says— it seems that I'm hearing myself. Is your mic connected to the system?

#Anthony

Yeah, my mic's connected.

#Nima

Okay. Yeah, it's good right now. And here is what Iran's Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters announced. They have announced the full closure of the Strait of Hormuz. It says that following the aggression of the American forces and considering the start of attacks by its invading army on some areas in the south of Hormozgan Province—Hormozgan Province is the province of Bushehr and that part. Yeah, yeah, exactly. In the Hormozgan Province, from this moment, due to insecurity in the region, the Strait of Hormuz is declared closed for the passage of any type of vessel, including oil tankers and commercial ships. And any passage will be targeted. And so far, they have targeted two ships in the Strait of Hormuz.

These two ships tried to cross the Strait of Hormuz. They were hit by Iranian drones or missiles. We don't know that yet. But this is what is happening. And Donald Trump is claiming—a Western journalist just reported—that Trump has not abandoned diplomacy with Iran, although his patience is increasingly strained. I don't know. Is that the way to communicate with Iranians? He had this sort of experience in 40 days of war. He wanted to force Iran into some sort of position. That didn't happen. And he's trying to do the same right now. If this strait is totally closed, it means that no Chinese ships, no Pakistani ships, no Russian ships, nobody is going to pass through the Strait of Hormuz. That's going to hugely influence the price of oil in the market.

#Anthony

Well, yes, and here's where we see strategic relationships, or at least strategic transactional relationships, come into play. Let us have no doubt that before Iran made the announcement that

the Strait of Hormuz is shut down to everything, they coordinated or at least communicated with Russia and China to say, hey, we are being attacked. In fact, I wouldn't say a lot of, but some of, and out of the some of it, the critical—because let's not forget the PLAN, the People's Liberation Army Navy—still has a reconnaissance and surveillance ship off the coast of Iran, somewhere up in there. So the U.S. better be pretty darn careful when it's conducting strikes along these coastal areas, because if it hits that ship, China's coming in, and that's a front we can't face right now.

So, um, it's very clear that the United States is planning a full-scale, or at least a fuller-scale, Navy-type operation into the Strait of Hormuz. I firmly believe that. Everything I'm looking at in terms of what's there—resources, planning, logistics, action, strikes, targets—all indicate such activity. Or it is a strategic distraction, a strategic feint, if you will, to draw all of Iran's resources to the Strait. And in order to do that, you have to present something real. You can't fake it. You have to put things in the line of fire as a great distraction to conduct some type of raid into Iran for the uranium piece. Because remember, that's kind of the thing that Donald Trump needs to show America and his base and the war hawks of the United States and everybody else that said, bomb, bomb, bomb, there's going to be a bomb.

He has to show something for that. The Strait of Hormuz—negotiable. But this Iranian, this uranium piece, the Iranian uranium piece, is something that Trump has to address. So this is either the opening phase of an operation to get naval assets into the Persian Gulf, to set up north of the strait in the Persian Gulf, seize Qeshm, hold that area in order to basically make a path, a route where the U.S. can freely come in from the south with nothing to interdict, while they try to do something into mainland Tehran. Or this operation is the great distraction, the great feint, to draw resources south, to then do something further north, in more north-central Iran, to seize that uranium. But we do know that regardless of if it's for that or this, Iran sees it, the world sees it.

I'm sure that Iran has been getting intelligence from China that says, here's how the U.S. is operating out in the Arabian Sea and even in the Indian Ocean, because our naval assets are emanating from the Indian Ocean. The U.S. carrier is not sitting in the Strait of Hormuz. The carrier group is out in the Indian Ocean. So these things kind of emanate from there. So that bigger picture—China's providing that bigger picture to Iran. Hey, there's more stuff coming, or they're moving this around, they're coming in the side door, not the back door, that type of stuff. So when you look at all those things happening, Iran knows that something's coming. China's providing the intelligence. I guarantee that they have communicated with China and Russia to a degree of, hey, you know what's coming.

We know what's coming. We all see what's happening. The only way we can isolate U.S. naval forces to where we can go guns free—meaning you can shoot at everything—is if anything that enters the Strait of Hormuz now is considered hostile, from the American side and the Iranian side, because Iran has made that edict that, hey, it's closed to everything, nobody goes in. So if you're the U.S., well, if something's in there, it's hostile. If you're Iran, if something's in there, it's hostile. So open, you know, guns free in the Strait of Hormuz, telling China and Russia the only way to

isolate U.S. naval forces in the Strait of Hormuz is to shut it completely. We know it's going to hurt you, so we're telling you ahead of time. And oh, by the way, we need your help.

So help is coming. Does it mean necessarily direct Chinese forces or Russian forces? No, but it does mean there's going to be support from China, from Russia, diplomatically, politically, and militarily to get the Strait back open and still under Iranian control. So that's kind of the battle we see right now, but that can change within hours, within the day, depending on what these next rounds of strikes result in. There could be, you know, if the United States were to, you know, the petrochemical plant that was struck near it—I don't think that that was a miss on purpose. I think that that was a close near miss, however you want to describe it, close hit, near miss, as a warning, as a shot across the bow, like the mafia leaving a dead fish on your front door.

Like, hey, we can do it. We can do it. Don't make us go there. And then even then, I think the next step of hitting petrochemical plants would be hitting the reserve tanks, because it makes for a big dramatic scene, right? You hit a tank, the big black smoke, the explosion. But really, all you got to do is, you know, that's oil that's already been produced. It's already there. You can transfer the rest to another tank. Tanks are relatively easy. You can put it in trucks. You can put it in other things. It's if the United States starts attacking the specific and niche equipment in these facilities that, if destroyed, sets the production or the processing of it back weeks. Let's say there's a specific part that takes weeks to remake if it's destroyed.

And if you hit that, that then shuts it down for... There are a lot of things you can hit that can easily be replaced by on-hand parts. There are some things that, if you destroy, it's going to take weeks to remake that part. So I think that's where the United States is going to be dancing around in these next 100 strikes, because 100 targets—that's a lot. Dancing around military targets, coastal defense targets, IRGCN and IRIN Navy assets along the coast. And Surique Island is the headquarters of the IRGC Navy 1st Naval Division. So you have these division headquarters throughout the Strait of Hormuz as well. But I also think in some of those strikes, there are going to be some that are going to come very close to or even hit some of these petrochemical or oil facilities. I think we're going to see that coming.

#Nima

It seems that the new wave of attacks, the new wave, is happening right now as we talk. Yeah. And it says on the Dashti Heights, it's happening on the Dashti Heights, close to the Bushehr region. Bushehr, you know, the Bushehr nuclear power plant. There is a nuclear power plant in Bushehr. The attack is happening.

#Anthony

I'm sorry, here's Bushehr.

#Nima

Yeah.

#Anthony

Here's the Strait. Way up here is Bushehr, and what's right off of Bushehr?

#Nima

Exactly.

#Anthony

Kharg Island.

#Nima

Kharg Island. And if they decide to go to Kharg Island, because they were talking about the invasion of Iran—whenever they were talking about it, Keith Kellogg, whoever, General Keane was talking about it—it's going to be about Kharg Island. Then they said about the Peshmerga Island. But it seems the main objective, if they try to do something, is going to be Kharg Island. And how do you see, with the concept of invasion? Since the war started, we've seen the United States attacking Iran, but Iran is not responding for the time being. And they're hitting targets in Iraqi Kurdistan, in Erbil, in Iraqi Kurdistan, you know. It seems that they're feeling if some sort of invasion is happening, they want to, you know, inflict a lot of suffering on the Kurdish terrorists, and here controlling the United States in the southern part, close to the Persian Gulf. Do you think that's going to happen with these new attacks?

#Anthony

Iran's response is always looking at how to prevent a future attack. Where are they staging future attacks? Resources for future attacks. That's why we're seeing attacks more on Saudi Arabia now than in the past, because we've moved so many of our assets to the air base in Saudi Arabia. Where are you going to emanate the tankers, the strikes, the munitions, et cetera, for these jets and assaults? Well, from there. That's now become a part of this calculus. So when Iran responds, they're looking at what can I hit that's going to stop this current wave of attack and prevent or degrade the next. What the United States is doing is full-on assault and attack, hitting a variety of targets, but always adding a little bit extra for those places that they know they're going to concentrate.

So you don't want to destroy and blow up Kharg Island, because then it's useful to no one. Then, you know, you take the crown jewel and you destroy it. Well, then none of us get it. So... the tactical task for Kharg Island would be to seize and isolate, to control it. Maintain it in a general level of capability, but seize and contain it. Cut it off from it. Well, if you're going to do that, you have to do that through some type of amphibious assault. You can't bomb Kharg Island into controlling Kharg Island. And like I said, you just destroy it and lose it. So where are you going to hit then to cut off forces, to isolate Kharg Island, so that maybe you can put a limited force on the ground to hold it?

Well, that would be Bushehr, right? I mean, that's where the naval bases are, where the majority of the IRGC Navy forces that defend or support Kharg Island are. So you'd hit that. And now that's what we're seeing in the south, right? With Qeshm Island. Well, you don't want to destroy all of Qeshm Island. You want to take out their communications, you want to hit the islands around it that would allow them to—again, you want to isolate it. You don't want to completely destroy it, because you want to keep the airfield, the airport, the airfield in Qeshm Island intact, so then you can use it. The U.S. can then use it as a forward platform now.

Now you have an airfield, an airport, right off the Iranian coast for further air interdiction. So what I've envisioned going all the way back to March when we fell into this war, is that if there's ever going to be a tactical solution to an operational problem, to some way to untie this knot of a strategic mess, you're going to have to do something in a three-prong, simultaneous or near-simultaneous approach when that comes. And everybody thought it would come—I didn't think it would come in the early days because we didn't have enough resources yet.

But what I see now is, from everything that we're doing with where we're striking, there's going to be—as naval forces can push further in and interdict into the Strait of Hormuz—you're going to see a lot of Iranian resources being focused on that. While at the same time, right off of, I mean, right off of Kharg Island, I mean, just a straight shot, you've got Kuwait. You've got Ali Al Salem Air Base. You've got Camp Arifjan. You've got Camp Buehring. Locations where you can stage a lot of soldiers and a lot of planes. So we know that things are being moved to Kuwait because Iran keeps striking Kuwait in their responses. So there's something happening at the bases in Kuwait that Iran wants to interdict.

So what I see coming is a limited operation, an assault, but limited on Kharg Island, some type of operation through the Strait of Hormuz with a temporary incursion, an air assault, a raid, airfield seizure on Qeshm Island, setting those conditions to where then you have the ability to bring in air assets, you have the ability to control, you have a way in and a way out for a commando mission to go in and get uranium. That's Donald Trump's ticket out of this. That's the ticket that Donald Trump can say, we got the uranium, we don't care about anything else, we're pulling back. Bases in the region, not our problem. We'll stay in Israel.

Gulf states, you figure it out. Strait of Hormuz, not our problem. China, Russia, you figure that problem out. And we'll find another way. Or pay the fine. Pay the \$2 million fine. We'll figure something out. But Iran, you're not getting your sanctions lifted. You're not getting your frozen assets. Whatever you want to do with the Strait, don't care. We're no longer a target, and we got the uranium. You can't have the bomb. Donald Trump wins, according to him. This is Donald Trump's calculus. So that's what I think Donald Trump is going for in this next escalation. He can. He has the pretense: oh, they shot down our helicopter, we're going to war. That's the reason. Look, we're at war.

It's going to escalate. He's not going to have another chance to get his hand on that, to punch that ticket to say we won. So it's coming. It's going to happen over the next several days, where we're going to see increased action in and around Kharg Island. Remember, just because it's not happening on Kharg Island yet doesn't mean that's not the objective. Increased activity and strikes in and around Kharg Island. Increased activity and strikes around Qeshm Island. A naval assault force with a ground assault force into Qeshm. Temporary seizure, not forever boots on the ground, not an invasion. I would not use the word invasion. Some type of amphibious assault or ground assault into Kharg Island.

Seize and control and isolate. Seize and control and isolate in the south. Set the conditions for a strategic raid, A, B, C, near-simultaneous, once conditions are set. So over the next 24 to 48 hours, we're gonna see a lot of condition setting, continued strikes, continued naval activity, continued force buildup, continuation of tankers being relocated to areas to facilitate. In order to fly in C-17s or C-130s full of airborne troopers to put them out of the sky, well, you've got to have gas in those planes. You can't fly a C-17 or a C-130 all the way from Israel. You've got to have them with forces on board and come in low to do a drop.

You want to have an intermediate staging base, and that intermediate staging base cannot be Israel because of the amount of strikes they're taking. So I think the United States is using Kuwait and using Saudi Arabia as intermediate staging bases for forces to do these operations, respectively in the south and the north. Iran knows that. Their fires, their retaliation, will be consistently against that. Also, to take out any critical communication at the 5th Fleet headquarters in Bahrain, with opportunity strikes against Israel, but right now focusing on the 50-meter target, while the U.S. is putting together this three-pronged simultaneous approach. That's what I think we're going to see. That's how I see this unfolding.

#Nima

Here is what Donald Trump said on Fox News: he claims that he called directly with an Iranian official and they asked him to stop. So he said he will stop the bombing soon. And he said on Fox News that if they don't make a deal, we'll bomb the shit out of them again tomorrow. I don't know what's the point of having this sort of ceasefire.

#Anthony

There's no ceasefire. It's Donald Trump saying that to where, hey, look at all this bombing we did. Iran's begging for a ceasefire. But if they don't, I'm going to bomb again. So the pretense will be the reason we're going into this next stage of bombing, or what's going to happen going into the next day is...

#Nima

Sorry for interrupting you. Iranian sources say that no Iranian official has contacted Donald Trump. Of course.

#Anthony

Of course. There is no negotiation. There is no deal. Donald Trump isn't talking to anyone in Iran. No one in Iran is talking to Donald Trump. Donald Trump is not talking to anyone. If everybody in the world hasn't caught on to that Ponzi scheme grift by now, that Donald Trump is not talking to anyone, and neither are his advisors talking to anyone in Hezbollah, in the IRGC, in the Iranian government. They aren't talking to anyone. There's no deal on the table. There's no negotiations being made. There's no close-to-a-deal that Iran just won't agree to. He's just putting that out there as further pretense to say, hey, we struck.

They're begging for a deal. We're out from a deal. They didn't want it, so we're going to strike again. It's all just pretense to continue these strikes. There was never an intent for a peace deal. There was never an intent for a negotiation. Donald Trump maintains his original position of total, unconditional surrender, which he will not get from Iran. So he's going to continue this charade, this kabuki theater of "I'm talking to so-and-so." He's not talking to anybody.

#Nima

Tony, do you feel, do you think—it seems to me that Iran's response is going to come in as we talk, and they're going to hit some target.

#Anthony

Yeah.

#Nima

What time is it in Iran right now? Right now, let me just check it out here. In Iran, it's...

#Anthony

Eight hours ahead?

#Nima

Yeah, it's 3 a.m. Yeah, so, yeah, three.

#Anthony

Are they off that half-hour time split, or is it 3:36 a.m.?

#Nima

Yeah, no, it's because I'm one hour ahead of you.

#Anthony

You're one hour ahead of me.

#Nima

I know, but you know, like Afghanistan—six and a half hours ahead of me.

#Anthony

Six and a half hours ahead, right?

#Nima

It's going to be seven and a half hours ahead of you.

#Anthony

Ahead of me.

#Nima

Okay.

#Anthony

Yeah, because some people don't realize that, like Afghanistan and Iran, they're not a full hour—they're a half hour. They have that half-hour time difference. So, yeah, it's almost 3 a.m. in Iran right now. So, yeah, now would be the time where, you know, these are when these things happen—

in the period of darkness and at night—because especially when you're talking about aircraft or things like that, it's not unheard of or impossible to do things during the day, but it's far more likely you're going to see things happening at night or in a period of darkness, early morning, before everything—what they call in the military, you know, we like to say BMNT, Before Morning Nautical Twilight.

#Nima

CENTCOM just posted that Iran's— the claim is Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps claims that the Strait of Hormuz is closed, but the truth is that commercial ships are continuing to transit in and out of the Strait of Hormuz. It's amazing to watch.

#Anthony

Who is saying that commercial ships are continuing? Yeah, CENTCOM. Anybody right now can go and look through Maersk's webpage or any other commercial traffic tracker for maritime shipping, and you will see that there may be ships that were there that are getting out of there now. You don't speedboat through the Strait of Hormuz. It's not like... it takes some time. So the only thing you're going to be seeing moving are either ships that didn't pass a certain point that are turning around, ships that were coming in that didn't pass a certain point that are turning around, or ships that came in that passed a point that have to go through to get out.

All the traffic in the Strait of Hormuz right now is everything trying to get out at this moment because the IRGC has declared a closure to it. Now, the IRGC said, hey, the Strait is closed. They're not gonna immediately start attacking everything that's in the Strait that's trying to get in or get out based on this new declaration. So are there commercial vessels that are still in the Strait that were transiting to get out? Sure there are, but it's closed.

#Nima

Yeah. Here is, Tony, here is what the American side, Donald Trump, said: this is the most violated ceasefire in the history of the world.

#Anthony

Donald Trump is saying that about Iran?

#Nima

No, he's talking about himself. The most violated ceasefire. He's basically saying it's the most violated ceasefire in the history of the world because he's talking about himself violating the ceasefire and keeping the ceasefire in place.

#Anthony

Okay. I thought Donald Trump's point in that was that this is the most violated ceasefire ever, and it's because Iran has been violating it, because Donald Trump continues to say that Iran violated it.

#Nima

The report doesn't show the meaning of Donald Trump's statement.

#Anthony

If Donald Trump made that statement, he's trying to put light on his way of saying that we have a ceasefire, Iran keeps violating it, which is laughable, right? And even if that were the case, it's nowhere in comparison to the ceasefire violations that Israel conducts on a daily basis. Right. And if you want to talk about the worst or upheld ceasefires in history, you only have to look to Israel, to Gaza, to Lebanon. That is a ridiculously laughable, out-of-touch statement. Because also in this, in any way, how has Iran violated the ceasefire policy? I would welcome anyone to give me one example of a violation of the ceasefire, because if you're a U.S. Navy vessel or a U.S. Navy aircraft and you are conducting an act of war—and I'll also tell you—a blockade...

#Nima

Which is a blockade, by the way.

#Anthony

Exactly. A blockade is an act of war. So you can't say that there's a ceasefire under the pretense that you're going to enforce the ceasefire with an act of war. That's a paradox. You can't have both. There never was a ceasefire. Ever.

#Nima

I think part of the agenda, Tony, is to reproduce the situation the way it was before this war started with the case of Israel, because they want Israel to attack Lebanon without having any sort of repercussions or response from Lebanon. Right. They want total impunity for Israel in attacking Lebanon.

#Anthony

I agree with you completely. In part, the U.S. is fighting to go back, to say, can we just go back to February 27th and pretend this never happened, and just forget about all that, and just go so we can allow Israel to continue the fighting in Lebanon without a response from Iran? But that's the

thing. Many have said it before, that this Pandora's box has been opened. Once the genie is out of the bottle, you can't get him back in, so to speak. The milk has been spilled. Whatever analogy or moniker you want to use, there's no going back. There is no return to the way things were.

#Nima

Yeah, I think those days are gone for Israel. They may try to do something in Lebanon, but tonight in his interview, Donald Trump said to Fox News that Israel was not involved in this attack on Iran. The basic point, in my opinion, by stating that Israel is not part of this attack is because they're worried about those aircraft in Ben Gurion Airport.

#Anthony

Absolutely. Absolutely. Yes. Yes. Absolutely. Israel pushed the line. They pushed the red line with Iran. They got exactly what Iran said they were going to do. And Iran then responded and said, do it again, and we're not just going to strike in the north, we're going to hit you in Tel Aviv. So Israel pushed the red line, got their hands slapped, and knows now that they can't push the red line again until Iran is taken out of the equation, or at least made incapable of responding. So even in this case, we're now seeing the fissure between Donald Trump and Netanyahu grow even more. Remember, there's no honor among thieves.

And as you look at these two, how their various agendas are now coming apart to where earlier, when Israel did their strikes, what did the United States say? Oh, we didn't have anything to do with that. It wasn't us. Wasn't us. And Iran was like, well, that's a bunch of BS because they couldn't have done it without you. Now the U.S. is responding across Iran, and the first thing Israel does is, that wasn't us. We didn't do that. Don't pull us into this. So you see now, each side of the alliance — right, the alliance of the U.S. and Israel and the Gulf states that are involved — that alliance is quickly fracturing with, was it me? Was it me? I didn't do that. Which is a recipe for disaster.

Because if you're Iran, you say, okay, that wasn't you? All right. Well, then stay out of it. Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom. You hit everything. And then if they do something, oh, I thought you weren't involved. Okay, well, now you are. And you respond quickly. And then you make them put their money where their mouth is, so to speak. Are you in or are you out? Because you've been in, and now you're saying you're out. Do you mean it? So that's, you know, that's Donald Trump's art of the deal, right? Unfortunately, the art of the deal doesn't work when you're dealing with people that have common sense.

#Nima

Yeah, here's what Iranian officials said — just a statement on Tasnim News — it says Iran will respond decisively to U.S. military aggression and will never give in to American military threats and foolishness. He added that every American aggression will be met with a decisive military response,

not political appeasement. Whatever day it may be, we have proven this in the past and we'll prove it in the future, whether tomorrow or in the coming days. Because Donald Trump said he's going to attack if Iran doesn't appease, if Iran doesn't come to terms, doesn't back down, he's going to attack Iran tomorrow again. And these new statements — they're going to respond, and they're not going to back down. And this is the message for Donald Trump.

#Anthony

Donald Trump's continued rhetoric, a lot of what he's saying is for domestic consumption. It's for the U.S. population. It's for the U.S. Congress. It's for U.S. consumption, really. No one else is buying it and believing it. And I hope at this point that the people here on Capitol Hill aren't buying it and believing it anymore either. A lot of them, unfortunately, still are. You can hear it in the halls. You can hear it in the halls of Congress. Literally, you can hear it in the halls. You can hear it in the cafeteria, people sitting around talking about how Donald Trump is doing such a good job and he's such a genius and he's got Iran right where he wants them.

And you just sit there and you listen to that in our capital, and you're like, are you just so out of touch? So, when you look at this, as we were talking earlier, right, Donald Trump hits back, "Oh, they want a deal, they want a deal. Hey, America, they want a deal." And most Americans would look at that and say, "Oh yeah, they want a deal." And then Donald Trump's going to come in tomorrow and say, "Hey, we offered them a deal, we offered them a way out. They wouldn't take it. They wouldn't take the deal from the benevolent Donald Trump with my gracious deal. So now we're going to hit them even harder." And everybody's going to be like, "Oh yeah, well, you should."

You gave him a deal. They didn't want it. When in reality, there's been no deal. There's been no negotiation. He's not talking to anybody. It's made up. It's a lie. It's a pretense to just continue escalating the intent. The plan was set, and everything along the way is almost scripted to where, sir, this happens, we need an event. We need something to happen now. That's our pretense, our precursor to remix and restart this. We can't just go into it saying it's about negotiations, because Iran suspended negotiations. So are we going to fight to negotiate that? We need something. Along comes this downed Apache, right? And then from there, it's like, OK, we're going to do this.

Donald Trump, you're going to do this. You're going to say this, this, and this. Then we're going to continue this. And then you're going to say this, and then we're going to continue this. And all along, we are going toward the plan that was in place. Back two weeks ago, a little more than two weeks ago now—14, 15, 17 days ago—when Donald Trump, in the Situation Room, brought in his senior advisors and military advisors and hatched this plan, Midnight Hammer—excuse me, Operation Sledgehammer, excuse me—what we're now seeing is Operation Sledgehammer beginning, the operational part of it. It's now beginning.

And I would even expect in the coming days that Donald Trump announces hostilities are fully back on. They don't want to negotiate. We were trying to fight to get to—we were trying to, we were

responding to them to get them back to the negotiation table. They don't want to come back. So now we're in Operation Sledgehammer. Here we go. And he's going to be on a time clock—60 days—because the U.S. Congress has already rebuked him under the War Powers Act once or twice, really, in the House and the Senate. So are they likely to do it again? Yeah. So the reason he hasn't announced it yet is because he's on the clock.

Drag it out. By that time, oh, this isn't war. This is a ceasefire. We're not at war. This is a ceasefire. We're just doing this to get them to negotiate. And I'm negotiating. I'm talking to them. This doesn't count. This doesn't count. But then in this next response of, we tried to negotiate, they didn't want to take the deal. We responded. We're now back at war. Then the clock starts, and he's already got a head start because he already kind of started the operation under the pretense of it's a ceasefire, and going to those objectives that I laid out in the beginning of this segment.

#Nima

Yeah. We had some reports from Israeli media that one of the American warships in the Sea of Oman was hit by an Iranian hypersonic missile.

#Anthony

Yes.

#Nima

And then right now, CENTCOM just announced that no American warship in the Strait of Hormuz has been struck by Iran. This is what CENTCOM put out.

#Anthony

US CENTCOM is going to deny everything. Why is it that every single thing, everything that has to do with anything that looks like a strike—nope, that was a laundry room fire. Nope, that was a dolphin that hit us. That was a... You remember Yemen?

#Nima

You remember what that is?

#Anthony

Yeah, in Yemen, right? Yeah. Yeah. I mean, just the ridiculous excuses. But then all of a sudden, out of nowhere, oh... Iran took down an Apache helicopter. So you're telling us, CENTCOM, that Iran has failed in every single mission that they've done. Every missile has failed. Every rocket has failed. Everything has failed. Everything has failed. But then this one time, they were able to hit an A864

Guardian with a drone and no one died? So we're supposed to believe that. But now that we have naval forces in the strait approaching from the Gulf of Oman, in this exact spot I laid out, right here is where that happened.

Right here. And CENTCOM is like, no, we're all fine. Nothing happened here. By tomorrow, we're going to see that there's another, I don't know, a laundry room fire, or, I don't know, the volleyball court fell apart and that wasn't a strike. I don't know. There's going to be some other excuse for the visible damage that is there. And it's just, at this point, you know, I think that anything that comes out from CENTCOM on their social media through their public affairs officers is garbage.

#Nima

Yeah. Let's see what will happen. I think right now the main point, Tony, when it comes to these Arab states, GCC countries, is that today we had a delegation from Qatar going to Iran, trying to talk with Iran. And Donald Trump said on Fox News, they confirmed that this delegation is going to Iran in coordination with the United States to bridge the gap between Iran and the United States. The irony here is that the United States itself is not able to communicate with Iran, and they need to send the Qatari government to communicate.

#Anthony

That's right. But apparently, at any given time on a Wednesday night or on a Thursday morning in Iran, Donald Trump can just pick up the phone and talk to Khamenei — the way he makes it sound. "I'm talking to Iran." What do you mean you're talking to Iran? He's talking to someone in D.C. that knows where Iran is on a map, and that's him talking to Iran? Tell me. They gave Stephen Miller a phone and put him in the office next door and said, "When this phone rings, act like you're Iran." And they tell Donald Trump, "Here's the number to Iran. It's 1-800-AYATOLLAH." And he calls, and he's talking to Stephen Miller, and he thinks he talked to Iran. Like I said, he hasn't talked to the IRGC. He hasn't talked to anyone in the senior ranks of the Iranian government.

He hasn't talked to Hezbollah leadership. Qain Nasrallah even came out and said he hasn't talked to us. So he's not talking to anybody. And I don't think it's delusional. I think he is delusional, but I don't think this is delusional. I think he is intentionally lying to the American people because the majority of Americans looking at this from the outside surely think, well, then, yeah, the president's talking to them. That's what you do in a war, right? You talk to the other side. But it's not happening because we aren't bringing anything to the table that's worth negotiating. We just keep bringing the same offering over and over and over again, right? Like if you're in a negotiation to buy a house, right? Well, hey, it's a little bit too pricey for me.

Throw in a new roof and I'll buy it at that price. You wait a couple of days, they come back with a new offer, and it's the exact same selling price with no offerings. You're like, this is exactly the same. And then they come back again, and not only are they giving you no offerings, the price of

the house went up. And you're like, whoa, now it's gone up, and you're still not giving me anything? This is worse than the bad deal before. The United States is renting bad deals — bad deals. That's not negotiation. That is trying to force capitulation, and that's not going to happen with Iran. I don't know where anyone in the Trump administration would ever think historically that that works. When has that ever worked, ever, in any conflict?

#Nima

Even against the Taliban, after 20 years, you know.

#Anthony

The Taliban? The Taliban left with the house, the kitchen sink, and the ex-wife's dog. They got it all. They took everything. I mean, we left them with an army. We left them with their leadership intact and trained. I mean, there are senior leaders in the Taliban now that I trained, that I trained with in the Afghan army, in the commandos. I mean, when you see the photos of the Taliban leader of Kabul, once we left Kabul and he goes into the presidential palace and he's sitting at the president's desk, and the two guys next to him with the M4s — those are guys that we, Special Forces, trained. We're like, oh, I know that.

We trained them. So we left them with a trained army. We left them with equipment. We left them with munitions. We left them with enough ammo to— we left them with enough ammunition to start the Soviet-Afghan war again and win. We've given them so much. So Vietnam, I mean, the North Vietnamese, they stayed in the North and we took the South. They took it all. They have it all. Show me any war where we've had complete unconditional surrender, and it didn't cost hundreds of thousands of lives to get it. And even when we did, those conditions didn't remain. Look at Japan.

Japan now owns most of the U.S. dollar. The country that we forced to capitulate into an unconditional surrender now holds the most power in our slowly or quickly sinking deficit. That doesn't sound like a loss. Things take time. So what are we trying to achieve with Iran? There's no— we can't win this. We can't win it because we went into a war where there's nothing to win. There's no trophy. There's the status quo and there's worse. And you maintain the status quo and you try to improve it incrementally. But to start a war to try to fix that status quo, there's no trophy. There's no winning. There's no win.

#Nima

Yeah. Today it was reported on CNN and Fox News that inflation in the United States is 4.2% in May, the highest since 2023. Yep.

#Anthony

It's going to go up from there.

#Nima

It doesn't seem like it's going to get better with this ongoing war and Donald Trump.

#Anthony

Has the price of gas gone down at all? It's not rising as fast, but it's still rising. It's not going down. So, inflation now in these numbers for May—we'll see what the end of June brings. It's not going to be pretty.

#Nima

No.

#Anthony

Especially now with the Strait going back into a complete closure. That's going to rock the markets. I mean, that's why when Iran said, hey, it's closed, the United States quickly came back with, no, no, no, no, it's not. Because it's only Wednesday. We got to wait till Friday to say that it's closed so the market tanks, so you can then do something so that it goes back up Monday. Donald Trump has turned into the weekend warrior to manipulate the stock markets on Fridays and Mondays. And if this isn't clear to every American by now, then I don't know what to say. You can lead a horse to water.

#Nima

Yeah. We have two days to get to the weekend, and it seems that... I don't know if... what would be the Iranian response? We're going to have some sort of Iranian... They said it's going to be a decisive attack, retaliation in the coming hours. Let's see what happens. And there we're going to have... it seems if they attack, then tit for tat, tit for tat.

#Anthony

Well, not only will we go into this tit for tat, the United States will... we'll do like tit for tat, but it'll be, they did tat, we're doing tit, but we're putting like some extra on it. Each response from us will have a little bit more because we're saying, well, their response was a little bit too mean. They were too mean. So we're going to do more. And then that, and then each tit for tat goes—that's what I've said for weeks now—that once escalation resumes, or kinetic war resumes, the escalation will become exponential. Each one builds upon the other exponentially. And that is exactly what we're going to see. The strike the U.S. is planning tonight with 100 targets. And we're going to see, I

think, that there's going to be a lot of reports of Hashem Island, areas around Kharg Island, the area, you know, right there off the coastline in Bushehr, where there's also the nuclear power plant. We're going to see a lot of those. Those names are going to keep coming up.

#Nima

Yeah. I don't know if Iran is going to attack Israel or not, but I'm sure they're going to hit somewhere in Israel. I don't know if that's going to be Ben Gurion Airport. If they go after Ben Gurion Airport, that would be a huge, huge target.

#Anthony

There's a lot of U.S. aircraft there, too. And in the vicinity of Tel Aviv, there's also a lot of U.S. forces because all those forces that we're sending over for CENTCOM headquarters aren't going to Qatar. They're going to Israel. So it's a lot of U.S. soldiers there.

#Nima

Where can they put those aircraft if not in Israel? They're going to put them in Greece, in the U.S.? Far away from the region.

#Anthony

Yeah, that's what I'm saying. You either got to look at Israel, and I think that they've moved some of them to Saudi Arabia. They built that up, which is why Saudi Arabia is now—because before we were like, oh, why are they striking Saudi Arabia now? Because we moved a lot of stuff to the airfield in Saudi. Yeah. And we moved a lot of stuff to Ali Al-Salem, which is why, again, if you look at the targets that Iran continues to hit in each of their responses, it's consistent—Kuwait, Bahrain, and now Saudi. So there's something in Bahrain of significance for the ability of the U.S. to fight this conflict or for something that might be coming.

There's something in Kuwait, and there's something in Saudi Arabia. And I think in Saudi Arabia, we've moved a lot of aircraft, moved a lot of stuff out of Tel Aviv, moved a lot of tankers, a lot of jets, a lot of munitions, actual bombs. You know, the bombs—you don't send them from the U.S. over two-day Amazon mail. You have to have them there, bunkers and facilities for all these. There's not a lot of places you can put those. So Ali Al-Salem has it. Saudi has it. So if you're moving those to those things, that's what you would be doing it for. I think that there's, you know, there's obviously something in Kuwait, the buildup of forces or something that Iran is aware of.

And if you look at where the United States would build an intermediate staging base for any type of operations going into Iran or the islands—Saudi, Kuwait—you would attempt to command and control that from Qatar or Bahrain. But Qatar has, you know, moved a lot of stuff out of Qatar. So I

think that's why they're trying to hit Bahrain so hard, to eliminate that as a command and control position for the U.S. Because if you have to push your command and control back and you're not able to synchronize everything as effectively, that slows down your momentum. That slows down your operational tempo. And as these kinetic episodes kick up, it's all about timing, timing, timing.

#Nima

Yeah. Let's see what happens in the coming hours. Thank you so much, Anthony. Thank you. It's always a pleasure.

#Anthony

And thank you very, very much.

#Nima

As always, and good luck.

#Anthony

We'll see you soon. And I'll be in D.C. until Friday.

#Nima

Okay, see you soon.

#Anthony

Talk to you soon. Okay, thank you. Bye-bye.

#Nima

Thank you.