

Nima R. Alkhorshid: MIDDLE EAST ON THE BRINK: Is Full-Scale War Now Inevitable?

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So just mentioning that, today what has happened, as I mentioned before, I had a long sort of explanation of what's going on between Israel and Lebanon. So everything is happening right now. What we were talking about early this morning, I was saying that if something happens, they're going to respond too. My understanding was that Iran is not going to respond to Israel. Maybe Yemen would respond to Israel. Then we had the Iranian government coming out and saying there is no point in this sort of behavior on the part of the Israelis. We have to respond. We have to do something about it. Then we had five waves of attacks on Israel — something like 20 missiles were fired at Israel, the northern part of Israel — and at least four of them have hit the target.

And because the footage is coming out, we don't know. Israel said none of them hit the target. But at least we've seen four pieces of footage coming out, four from different sites. And for any of these targets, we had two or three videos. But at least we can say, we can confirm four of those missiles hit the target. Then we had a phone call. Donald Trump said, you know, this is so amazing to watch what's going on with the Trump administration. It's unbelievable what's going on. And he said that he's not happy with the Israeli attack on Dahia in Beirut and said they didn't coordinate with the Trump administration, with his administration. Then he thought that Iran is not going to respond.

Then Iran responded. And he said that I'm going to call Benjamin Netanyahu to not respond to Iran because we are negotiating. Everything is going well. And I'm going to have, you know, we have to sign an agreement on Monday or Tuesday because everything is going perfectly well between the two sides, which, by the way, is a big lie. The guy is just... It's unbelievable what is happening with the Trump administration again and again. I'm going to repeat this sentence because it's amazing. It's just amazing what's going on. And Iran... The Iranian response, we had Israel coming back and hitting Iran in Isfahan, in Kermanshah, basically in the western part of Iran, which is close to the Iraqi airspace or Saudi Arabia.

They came in and hit the targets, but they didn't go, they didn't invade Iranian airspace. All of these missiles hit outside of Iranian airspace, on Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Maybe they were using Saudi Arabia. The United States said they're not providing anything to the Israelis with this attack. But the

calculation on the part of the Iranians showed totally the opposite. And it shows how deeply the United States was involved in this attack. They were using Saudi Arabia and other GCC countries in the region. They were using those bases. They still have information coming out of these countries. So what was the Iranian reaction? They hit the targets in Saudi Arabia and the American bases in Saudi Arabia.

And what's going on right now is Yemen joining the fight. And Yemen is targeting one of the missiles, at least one of the missiles. They fired one missile toward Israel so far. I'm just checking out what's going on right now, but it seems that the missile was intercepted. The Yemeni missile was intercepted. But the new waves of Iranian attacks are happening as we talk right now. And it's going to be a long day because in the Middle East, in West Asia right now, it's daytime. Here it's night. I'm here in Brazil, it's 12 a.m., and there it's something like 6:30 or something in the morning. So the attacks are happening as time goes by. And I don't see any sort of... The Trump administration is just messing everything.

Just imagine. He said, they didn't tell us. But Israelis are talking about the Trump administration green-lighting the attack on Dahia, then green-lighting the attack on Iran. Donald Trump said, no, you cannot attack Iran, we are negotiating with Iran. And who's going to believe this guy anymore? I don't know why they are talking to this guy anymore. What is the point of negotiating with this guy? Go and fight him. Israel is not going to be—Donald Trump said that Israel, if they want—Israeli media reported, Channel 12. They said after the phone call between Benjamin Netanyahu and Donald Trump, Israel has decided not to attack Iran.

You know what's amazing? The Iranians—you look at the Iranian media, the Iranian media say it doesn't matter what they're talking about. We are prepared because the attack is coming. And they were preparing for everything. They were so prepared for the attack, so they were not surprised at all. And the attack has happened. They hit some targets in the cities that I've just mentioned, in Isfahan, in Kermanshah, in the western part of Iran. And then, as we talk right now, the new waves of attacks are happening between Iran and Israel. And I think this is a recipe for disaster. The Trump administration has lost everything.

There is no credibility to talk with this administration. What is the point? There are no negotiations. Coming back to the basics, there are no negotiations between the two sides. Some messages are going back and forth—going to the Iranians, Iranians sending to the United States—that's all. Everything is just some sort of messages. And they green-lighted it. They said that if they're honest in the way they're negotiating with the Iranians, then put an end to the war. At least put some sort of limits on what the Israeli government is doing. You know what has happened? Right after the Iranian attack on Israel, Israel announced that they're going to stop any sort of humanitarian aid to Gaza.

What does it have to do with Gaza? What is the relation between what's going on between Iran and Israel and Gaza? Why are they putting pressure on the people in Gaza? These people are not

rational people. And I hope the Iranian government comes to some sort of understanding that there is no point to negotiate with Donald Trump. The guy is basically useless. Benjamin Netanyahu is doing everything he wants. And he felt, he literally felt that there is something going on between Iran and the United States. They may reach some sort of agreement. What's the point to attack Dahieh, to bomb an empty building? The building that they hit was an empty building. But they thought that Hezbollah commanders were there. They wanted to attack them.

They wanted to assassinate them. Then they said when they didn't hit the fighters, the Hezbollah forces or commanders, they said, no, it was a symbolic attack on Dahieh. Why do you need to do such a thing? What is the meaning of that? What is the strategy behind it? What is the tactic behind it? There is no meaning to what they're doing. It's all about death and destruction, nothing else. If the United States wants to stay with Israel and the way that Benjamin Netanyahu is behaving and supporting them behind the scenes and on the scenes, saying that we are not supporting them, we don't care what they're doing, and we're not helping them—Israel is nothing without the United States. They know that.

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cannot attack Iran. But what we've learned so far practically is that they go ahead and do it. And they attacked Iran, and right now the attacks are coming and Iran is responding to that. And I know that the United States is again going to beg the Iranians to put an end to the war. Because Israel's air defense system is not working, by the way. They said tonight, they intercepted each and every missile, which was a total lie. They couldn't do this. Yemen is joining.

I think the reason that Yemen has joined the fight is because they have perceived, or they have some sort of information, that the United States is involved in this attack. Without the United States being involved in this attack, there would be no Yemen in this fight. So it's bigger than what's going on, what Donald Trump is talking about. I think there is a statement right now by the IDF. It says Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir is conducting an assessment and is approving plans for the future. The Iranian regime made a mistake by firing into our territory. We will continue our attacks in Lebanon despite the equation Iran is trying to impose. They're talking about how Iran...

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I think, after all, there is no way to negotiate with these people. And Iran is getting to that point. Why do they need to attack Dahiya? The basic question. If everything was good, if Donald Trump was to sign on Monday or Tuesday an agreement between the two sides, which would include Israel and Lebanon, why Israel? Why does Israel need to do that in Dahiya? Basic question. The simple way of asking yourself what is happening. Why do they need to attack? Let's assume you kill two commanders, three commanders of Hezbollah. What is the outcome of that for Israel? Nothing. They don't want any sort of agreement happening or any sort of deal happening between the two sides.

That's why they're killing, they're trying to assassinate people. That's why they stopped this sort of communication to send aid to Gazans, to Palestinians. It's all about it. It's all about annexation. It's all about killing people, putting pressure on the people. They're incapable of fighting Hezbollah because Hezbollah is strategically defeating them in Lebanon by using drones and rockets and ambushes. They're so powerful in the way that they're implementing their plans, their strategy in the southern part of Lebanon. That's why Israel needs to go to Dahiya, which there is no point. There is no point in attacking civilians in Dahiya.

They know that. But there are two points to that on their part. One of them, they want to distract. They want to put pressure on the Lebanese people. And they said, the way Israel is fighting us, we're going to kill you. We're not going to be able... It's the same way that Ukrainians, by the way, are behaving. They cannot fight on the battlefield. They're killing civilians. The same way. These are the same sort of mindset. And that's why they're going to die. And the United States is... The Trump administration is just... They're gone. There is not enough. There is no diplomacy. There is no policy. There is no communication.

And I think what we're going to see in the coming days, we're going to see an escalation because Iran is going to respond. As we talked, they're responding to what Israel did in Iran, and Israel is going to respond to Iran. And this is going to be back and forth. I don't know what the scale of the Yemeni participation or Yemeni involvement in this war would be. It depends on the United States. And the question here is, is Donald Trump going to join the war? And how far do you want to escalate the war? Is it going to be some sort of tit for tat, or is it going to be a full-scale war? I think from what we've seen so far, we are escalating. The war is escalating.

This conflict is escalating toward a full-scale war between the two sides. That's why Yemen is joining the fight. And it's going to be the same. We've heard it from the Iranian general who is the main military advisor to the Iranian Supreme Leader. He said that the escalation is going to be, we're going to fight the United States in the Mediterranean. It's not going to stay in the Persian Gulf. That's why they're hitting Saudi Arabia. And all these GCC countries are, you know, here is the new report coming out. The attack on Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia was also carried out by Yemen. So it wasn't just an Iranian attack. It doesn't mean that it was an Iranian attack.

It was a Yemeni attack on Saudi Arabia. And we thought that it was an Iranian attack on Saudi Arabia, but here the new report shows that it was an attack on the part of Yemen hitting targets in Saudi Arabia. And there are lines of communication between, you know, among the axis of resistance, different parts of the axis of resistance. This communication is just dividing the duties between the two sides right now, Yemen and Iraq. Yemen and Iran, we know that Kata'ib Hezbollah in Iraq said they're going to join the fight. Still, I didn't see any sort of news that they have joined the fight because they said they're going to hit targets in Iraq, American bases in Iraq and in the region, maybe in Kuwait.

And this is little by little moving toward huge escalations. And this is the disaster that is happening for Donald Trump. The guy is incompetent. There is no way. He's amazing to brag: I'm the biggest guy, I am the one who calls the shots. He said today, he said that Benjamin Netanyahu is going to respond. The reporter asked him after the Iranian attack, he said, no, he's not going to attack Iran because I am responsible, I'm running the show, not Benjamin Netanyahu. He has nothing to do; he has to follow what I'm asking him to do. That's totally the opposite. Just seeing how Israel attacked Iran shows how useless and weak the president of the United States is. He's just bragging. The guy is a showman.

He's just bragging. He wants to show himself as a big guy. Everyone is going to follow him and take his orders. Benjamin Netanyahu is just humiliating him. Just bragging. What happened tonight is showing how this guy, Benjamin Netanyahu, who's not popular, by the way, in Israel, but he has the leverage to put pressure on Trump. And the Zionists are just surrounding Donald Trump in Washington. There is nobody right now in his administration to go against these sorts of policies. Who's there anymore? Are you hearing anything from J.D. Vance? The guy is not there anymore. Pete Hegseth? Who's Marco Rubio? Stephen Miller? Jared Kushner? These are ultra-Zionists. The administration is just done.