

# Larry Johnson: US STRATEGY COLLAPSES: Iran Closes Strait of Hormuz!

See Full Interview: <https://www.youtube.com/live/YE7JBvJ-h6M?is=5OP-XVOxzpJA7WGn> Follow me:  
Substack: [https://substack.com/@dialogueworks?utm\\_campaign=profile&utm\\_medium=profile-page](https://substack.com/@dialogueworks?utm_campaign=profile&utm_medium=profile-page)  
X (Twitter): [https://x.com/Dialogue\\_NRA](https://x.com/Dialogue_NRA) Patreon: [https://patreon.com/Dialogueworks?  
utm\\_medium=unknown&utm\\_source=join\\_link&utm\\_campaign=creatorshare\\_creator&utm\\_content=](https://patreon.com/Dialogueworks?utm_medium=unknown&utm_source=join_link&utm_campaign=creatorshare_creator&utm_content=)

## #Nima

Let me give you what has happened so far. The attack is happening as we talk, Larry. What we know is the air defenses are active in the western part of Tehran. The naval base on Sirik Island was reportedly targeted by two strikes, and one strike hit close to Minab — that city where those kids were killed, five kilometers from Minab. And Iran, at the same time these attacks are happening, is attacking Iraqi Kurdistan in Erbil. They're attacking them with drones and missiles. And there was some sort of report that the United States Navy carried out attacks on Syria from warships in the Gulf of Oman.

And there is a confirmed strike on Deshm Island, and they tried to hit a petrochemical plant in Asaluyeh. It seems that the air defense system intercepted it, and there was some sort of limited explosion, but because the air defense system hit the missile, it didn't achieve anything so far. There are explosions in Bandar Kangan. Bandar Kangan is close to Asaluyeh. Asaluyeh and these areas are close to Bushehr, that nuclear power plant.

## #Larry

So they're on the coast, the west coast of Iran. Exactly.

## #Nima

All of these — then Syria, Kashf, you know, Kangan — they're all close to the Persian Gulf. And a U. S. official said that the strikes on southern Iran will continue, including hundreds of targets, and continue for hours. Right now, as we talk, Iranian Army Mi-28 helicopters are active over Tehran to intercept these little drones. And Mehr News reported — Mehr News reported — you know, the fighter jets, they reported some activities of the fighter jets, Iranian fighter jets, in the sky of Iran. And here is the latest news, Larry — the attack is happening as we talk. Your understanding of the situation, and what is the main reason for this? Donald Trump said, we want to change Iranian

decisions, we want to force Iran, our terms on Iranians. I don't know. What is your assessment of these attacks? Are they going to change it? What would happen? What would come through these attacks for the United States?

## **#Larry**

Well, a couple of things come to mind. The attacks that Iran launched last night in response to the U. S. attack must have done some serious damage. Otherwise, if it was light damage and inconsequential, I don't think the United States would be responding. Now, the United States, as you notice, doesn't talk, doesn't actually describe damage that has occurred. So there's that. But it comes back to the point I was making yesterday on some other shows, which was the attack yesterday combined with that leak to the New York Times, David Sanger, about the negotiations surrounding the nuclear issue. I think all of that, this was all designed to stage, to create a narrative so that Trump can now walk away from peace talks.

I think over the weekend, it was a battle for the mind of Donald Trump. Initially, there were those who thought he would sign on, that there was a deal that would have required some concessions from the United States. But the Zionists — not just Bibi, the Zionists, which covers both the Jews that are Zionists and the Christians who are Zionists — they mounted a full-court press on Donald Trump. And whatever inclinations he previously had to support the agreement that was being hammered out in Islamabad, he decided to blow it up. That is exactly what he's doing. This is the end of the negotiations, the end of the agreement. I think this will now spark a sustained escalation. I think, you know, Iran hit them last night and then didn't continue.

It limited its response. It had a limited response last night, just going after Bahrain, Kuwait, and Jordan, the Muwaffaq Salti Air Base. But I would think now, in light of what the United States is publicly— I mean, they come out and say it in public— yeah, we're going to hit them hard tonight. It's like, I don't even begin to understand that. You know, there's no justification. Again, there's no justification for this attack. So this is the end of the ceasefire, and we'll return to battles until we see, at such time, that the United States will come begging again for Pakistan or whoever to see if they can talk Iran into another ceasefire. And hopefully, from my standpoint, Iran tells them to go fuck off.

## **#Nima**

Yeah. Here is the latest news, Larry. The anti-ship missiles were launched toward U.S. warships in the Sea of Oman. And that report here from Mehr News in Iran just confirmed that they have intercepted a cruise missile that was supposed to hit the petrochemical plants in Al-Saluyah.

## **#Larry**

And that's important right there, that they've now—they are intercepting a cruise missile. We weren't seeing them do a lot of interceptions of cruise missiles previously.

## **#Nima**

Yeah, it seems that the improvement they were talking about in terms of the air defense system is working. Because with all the attacks—the Israeli attack on Iran and last night's American attack—they didn't get close to the Iranian borders. It's far away from the borders. They're trying to hit targets inside. That's why you see most of the attacks happening close to the Persian Gulf, close to the borders.

## **#Larry**

Yeah, no, I think part of it is also premised on the belief that the U.S., if they destroy enough sensors, weapons systems, and communication systems that are right there on the line, the strait, that that will then prevent Iran from being able to stop the U.S. from sending ships through the strait. And again, I think the U.S. grossly underestimates and misunderstands Iran's capabilities, which extend not just—they're not right there on the coast—but extend inland and underwater. You know, we haven't seen any of the engagement yet from Iran.

Underwater drones. Of course, Iran now, they do have those reportedly Chinese anti-ship missiles that might have a range of more than 200 miles. So they could conceivably start engaging U.S. ships offshore. I think now Trump and his team have screwed themselves. They really think that this is going to break Iran. They really do believe themselves when they say, oh, Iran's army is broken, the military is defeated, they have no capability, the economy is a disaster. So it's up to Iran.

## **#Nima**

Breaking news, Larry.

## **#Larry**

Well.

## **#Nima**

Yediot Ahronoth, the Israeli publication, the Israeli media, just reported that it seems that a U.S. warship got hit by an Iranian anti-ship missile. And it's reported on Israeli media that they hit the U.S. warship. And there are some reports that at the airport in Bandar Abbas, again, close to the Strait of Hormuz, close to the Persian Gulf, they hit the airport in Bandar Abbas. And that remains to be confirmed—the Iranians hitting a U.S. warship. But it was reported in Yediot Ahronoth.

## **#Larry**

Yediot. Yediot.

## **#Nima**

Israeli, Israeli. Yeah, there it is.

## **#Larry**

I see it. Ahronoth. Ahronoth, I think it is.

## **#Nima**

Ahronoth, yeah. Yediot Ahronoth.

## **#Larry**

Yeah. Yeah. Hey, that'll be... If that happens, and, you know, again, if it sets the ship on fire, if they sink a ship, good Lord. You know, this is... this is going to really bring the pressure on Trump because, again, he initiated this. They tried to create—I think they absolutely lied about—Iran didn't fire on that Apache helicopter. So that was used as an excuse, a pretext. Because I've said all along, if the United States was really serious about negotiating with Iran and about ending this through negotiations, they would have overlooked it, even if Iran had done it. I think it's, you know, one possible scenario is that the helicopter shot hit a drone, it exploded, shrapnel from that drone got sucked into the engines of the Apache, and that's what caused the helicopter to go down.

Trump's explanation that the head of the drone, you know, because it was one of these big-ass drones, was embedded in the cockpit, you know, that's just a complete lie, complete fabrication. But, you know, the other big news, what we're seeing today, is we've now got confirmed interceptions of cruise missiles by Iran, something they were not doing 12 weeks ago. So that's going to—and maybe the U.S. saw the deployment of these new systems, because I bet you these are—they're either Russian or Chinese. And now Iran has deployed them, and maybe that's what the United States is going after to try to destroy. And instead, the U.S. is losing its cruise missiles, which it doesn't have a lot to lose.

## **#Nima**

But when it comes literally to that story about the Apache helicopter, is it possible for a drone to, you know, go after a helicopter and hit the helicopter? It's too difficult.

## **#Larry**

No, it's possible, but if it hits the helicopter, the helicopter's coming down. If it's a drone with an explosive warhead, that would cause that helicopter to fall from the sky like a brick, and the pilots would have been killed. So the story they're telling doesn't make sense.

## **#Nima**

Israel, Larry, has an objective in this war, and they want to change the equation that Iran has established in the region — the attack and Iranian response to any Israeli aggression on Lebanon. On the other hand, Donald Trump is talking about the only reason that he's trying to do this. He said that today he wants to change the Iranian position in the negotiations. If that was going to happen, it would have happened during the first round of the war.

## **#Larry**

I mean the second round of war. Okay, yeah. So I'm negotiating with you, and you're not giving me what I want. So therefore, I'm going to kick you in the balls and punch you in the nose in order to get your cooperation. He's been watching too many mobster movies. Yeah, that's what you do to somebody who's weak and can't punch back. But when you are wrong and you're quite capable of punching back, you're strong enough, all of a sudden doing that is only going to further enrage. It's not going to make you want to cooperate with me.

It's going to make you want to destroy me to stop me from hurting you. You know, God, it's, you know... I can't express enough my complete disgust with what Donald Trump has become. Maybe he was this all along. But he's now starting the war up. I guess he waited until the markets were closed today. I just wanted to check here to see. Well... yeah, the NASDAQ went down 950, almost 1,000 points. So the chip sell-off worsens. Trump threatens more attacks. Oh, there's a good idea. Well, what's oilprice.com doing? Have you looked at that?

## **#Nima**

Let me check it. But what's so amazing to me is that today we had the Qatari delegation in Iran talking with Iranians, trying to make...

## **#Larry**

What is that? Trump waited. They waited until the Qataris had left the area, right?

## **#Nima**

Yeah, exactly.

## **#Larry**

They waited until they left and said, okay, now let's attack them. So this is, I don't see the other Gulf Arabs, including the UAE, starting to line up and say, by God, we're going to have to, we're going to stand by the United States. This is, you know, I think this is headed towards a level of escalation that will go on for, you know, another couple of weeks. And then the United States will be begging to stop it, which will send a further message that the U.S. is much weaker. I mean, for Trump to do this, it darkens, it puts a cloud over the World Cup, you know. It puts—and plus you've got the coming up, the Fourth of July celebrations now are less than three weeks away, three, four weeks away. So you've got three weeks—yeah, exactly four weeks away. So—and the United States is going to be embroiled in a war of choice.

## **#Nima**

Israeli Channel 11 reported that Israel is not involved in the attacks on Iran. And this is just amazing, that Israel is putting the United States on the front line, and then they're saying that they're not part of this, which we know—the whole agenda is the Israeli agenda.

## **#Larry**

I mean, this makes no sense. I mean, it really does. It's like, what is Trump doing? Why are they doing this? Because, you know, it's not like yesterday I thought Iran could have, because of the attacks that took place in southern Lebanon and in Tyre yesterday, that Iran, under its new doctrine, would have attacked Israel as well. They stood off. They didn't do it. As I said, they had a limited response yesterday. So I guess I'm curious to see what they're going to do today. Are they going to expand their attacks, or are they going to, again, limit them?

But, you know, yesterday Jordan said, oh, we took down five out of five missiles. Not a one got through. I don't believe that for a minute. And, in fact, maybe, as I said, the U.S. did more damage yesterday than they've admitted, which is one of the motivations for this strike. But the one thing Israel has—I mean, Iran has—is it's got intelligence support from both China and Russia, including the location of U.S. ships, including inbound attacks, turning aircraft, taking off. And I suspect they're getting it in real time now.

## **#Nima**

I think the reason they're saying Israel is not part of this operation is because of the Ben Gurion Airport, which is full of American aircraft. And I don't know if Iran would attack Israel on their airport, Ben Gurion Airport, which is full of refueling tankers, aircraft, and all over.

## **#Larry**

I mean, just from a pure tactical standpoint, yes, they should. They should wipe it out. So... sorry, I just got a notice. One of my older cousins died. Wow. You know, she had a good long life, but she was a big fan of the blog. Of course, she was yelling at me recently for being anti-Trump.

**#Nima**

Wow.

**#Larry**

Now that she's passed, she may discover the truth. So, anyway, sorry.

**#Nima**

Larry, Iran is right now—the second round of attacks is happening in Iraqi Kurdistan—is attacking them. I don't know what is happening in Erbil, because every time something happens, they're attacking Erbil. Right now, there are two attacks on Erbil.

**#Larry**

My guess is it's a CIA operation that's equipping and training Iraqi Kurdish fighters to be able to penetrate Iran and take territory, assassinate officials, et cetera. And I think, I don't know if Iran got it through its intelligence or through Russian intelligence, but whoever provided it, they are certainly going to preempt it.

**#Nima**

Yeah.

**#Larry**

And it'd be interesting now to see what Turkey does in light of the latest threats from Israel. You know, the fact that Bibi Netanyahu threatened him today.

**#Nima**

Here is the footage. It seems that the footage is coming out from the region. I don't know if that's... Let me just bring it up. The footage of the American warship being hit. Yeah, being hit by, you know, an Iranian missile. Of the ship on fire? No, off the coast of Oman. It's not a warship. It's the ship off the coast of Oman that's on fire.

**#Larry**

Yeah. Isn't that the ship that the U.S. hit? No, it didn't say who did it. No, I'm telling you, the U.S. earlier today off the coast of Oman hit a ship. That wouldn't—I mean, look at the—it's dark over there now. So that picture doesn't make sense because it's clearly light, the sun's still up. And if I'm not mistaken, it's 6:30 here, is it not? Yeah, it's not—it's because it's, what, 2 a.m. in the morning.

## **#Nima**

Yeah, it's something like, yes, it lets me see, yeah. It's gonna be, yeah, 1, 1:30, 1:30 a.m. Something like that. Larry, Israeli media reported that Iran hit the warship with a hypersonic missile.

## **#Larry**

Uh-huh.

## **#Nima**

It's still unconfirmed. It's still unconfirmed. They're saying that. It's still unconfirmed, the Israeli media, Yediot Aharonot. The name is so difficult to pronounce. And I think, Larry, what happened last night with the attack on Sirik Island—they attacked two water tankers, the water supply on Sirik Island. If things go in that direction, because as we talked, a new attack is happening on Bandar Abbas. If the United States is starting to attack the water supply in these cities, we're going to see the same thing happening with the GCC countries, maybe going to Israel. I don't know if Iran would hit desalination plants. My understanding is that's not their policy. But if the United States continues with these sorts of attacks on water supply, they may change their attitude. Well, yeah, it's...

## **#Larry**

I guess I don't see Iran punishing—if the Saudis were not involved with these attacks or the Qataris—then I don't see Iran punishing them for the sins of the United States. But Iran could—if they retaliated against anybody, it would probably be against Israel, knock out Israel's water supply. And so that would, well, send a message. This thing, it's escalating. And for no good reason. I mean, that's what's crazy about this. This is another war of choice by Donald Trump. He had a ceasefire—well, it was sort of a ceasefire. The United States has been violating that ceasefire for weeks. But now it's escalated to a new level.