

# Iran's 'Finger on the Trigger' After Trump Deal! | Stanislav Krapivnik

Stanislav Krapivnik joins the show to discuss the US-Iran MoU deal, the B-52 crash, and the suspicious events that have transpired as Israel attempts to derail the ceasefire agreement in place of all out war. Subscribe to Stas: <https://www.youtube.com/@MrSlavikman/videos> Subscribe for more in-depth geopolitical analysis! Leave your thoughts in the comments below! Support the Channel: Patreon: <https://www.patreon.com/dannyhaiphong> SUBSCRIBE ON RUMBLE: Rumble: <https://rumble.com/c/DannyHaiphong> Follow Me on Social Media: Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DannyHaiphong> Telegram: <https://t.me/DannyHaiphong> Support the channel in other ways: <https://www.buymeacoffee.com/dannyhaiphong> Substack: [chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com](https://chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com) Cashapp: \$Dhaiphong Venmo: @dannyH2020 Paypal: <https://paypal.me/spiritofho> #iran #b52 #iranwar

## #Danny

Welcome back to the show, everyone. Welcome back. It's Danny Haiphong. As you can see, I am joined by a friend of the show, returning guest Stanislav Krapivnik. He's a former U.S. Army officer, military and political analyst, as well as a supply chain executive born in Lugansk. Stanislav, Stas, good to see you again. Good to see you. Always good to see you.

## #Stanislav Krapivnik

And living in Moscow, which is the best city in Europe by far. Not like the slums of Western Europe.

## #Danny

Hot take, yeah. Yeah, yeah, great. All right, everyone, hit the like button. That helps boost the show in YouTube's algorithm. Okay, so Stas, first things first, as people come into this program, hitting the like button. What I wanted to start with was this deal, this memorandum of understanding. And the first thing I wanted to ask you about it is, you know, we have Iran already warning that Israel has violated this memorandum of understanding, which has a Lebanon clause. They say 84 times already, warning their finger's on the trigger and they're ready to implement a harsh response. Trump has just said that.

You know, Israel needs to cool it. The IDF needs to leave. There's Lebanon. There are various takes on this. Trump at the G7 said Israel would not exist without the United States. Mike Huckabee just said that the United States wouldn't exist without Israel. And this is his so-called U.S. ambassador to Israel. So help us understand. I know that you've been posting about and talking about it. What

exactly is in the Memorandum of Understanding now that we're getting more reports about leaks? And how serious is it that Israel is completely uninterested in following the clause in it that pertains to Lebanon?

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Well, I'd like to begin with the Israeli ambassador to Israel. Where was the U.S. until 1948, for God's sakes? Nowhere. There was no America. It was, you know, yes, these people. There's, I think, Haspel and what's his name that runs the CIA? I cannot remember his name at the moment. Oh, Ratcliffe. John Ratcliffe. Ratcliffe. That's it. That's it. Ratcliffe. They were supposedly threatening to resign over this and all that. I highly doubt Haspel is going to resign. He'll hold on until he gets fired and then probably beg and whine to stay. Well, first of all, it's, you know, Trump comes out on his birthday. He had to have something for his birthday. How else? It wasn't just enough testosterone that he was getting his testosterone boost by having half-naked guys beating each other.

And then one of them jumps over the chain-link fence of the Thunderdome and hangs his gold chain on Trump. I think Trump was having an ecstasy moment at that point. But he announces, yeah, we will have peace in our time. We've signed the deal. But it's not a deal. It's a memorandum of understanding. How many of these memorandums of understanding have I signed in business, and memorandums of intent? They're nothing. They're not legally binding anything. They're not a device that's legally binding. They're not a treaty. They're not a contract. They're not a deal. I mean, it's kind of one of those spit-in-each-other's-hand deals. That's even more than a memorandum of understanding. I mean, a memorandum of understanding is saying, hey, Danny, you want to go get lunch tomorrow?

## **#Danny**

It depends on what you're cooking.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Your answer is, sure. Sure, let's do it. That's a memorandum of understanding. Yeah, we're going to go get lunch tomorrow. Then we'll work out the details—where we'll meet up or who's paying. That comes later. But the memorandum of understanding is we're going to have lunch tomorrow. Yeah, that sounds good. We'll sign the memorandum of understanding.

## **#Danny**

Memorandum of intent.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

I have intent that we should have lunch on Friday. Okay, yeah, that's a good intent. But that's the same thing. That means nothing. And if you look at these 14 points, a lot of them, I don't understand how the hell they're going to get around them. I mean, okay, sure. Stop all military activity. That's not hard. De-blockade the blockade of the blockade. That's not hard. The U.S. removes its presence out of the Middle East.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

The U.S. Department of War.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Even started considering they have no money for this. There's only \$200 billion in damages. But they've started issuing petitions for bids on repairing those bases. I mean, I don't want to see what potential they have of going back. I think several of those countries in the end will tell them to go pound sand somewhere on the other side of the Middle East, somewhere around Israel. But yeah, they have no intention of leaving. You know, I was talking with Larry, and Larry was at a meeting with a bunch of generals, retired generals and active-duty generals. A bunch of them think that they can beat Russia on land. Okay, good luck with that. And several, he said, believe they won the Iran war.

We're dealing with very delusional people here. That's one. Two, you know, lifting sanctions. I mean, there are some sanctions that the president put on. There are some sanctions that are U.N. sanctions. But then again, France or England could veto lifting those sanctions. They do have veto rights. So depending on what positions are taken, those could be lifted. But any sanctions that the U.S. Congress put on there, are you kidding me? Those senators would rather cut out their own liver, fry it up, and have it with onions before they're going to lift any sanctions off Iran. To be realistic, Iran's supposed to get \$300 billion to rebuild.

After they finish with their liver, those Congress critters will cut out their own kidneys and boil them up and eat those too before they have to do that. I mean, there's a lot of things on there. I don't see how that's going to happen. And I don't think the U.S. is going to do anything about it. They'll walk away from it the moment it's convenient. And Israel is the state that's going to make it convenient. You know, as far as Israel goes, the last two American presidents that had any control over Israel versus vice versa was Reagan, who told the Israelis, "Get the hell out of Beirut now," after he saw pictures of butchered babies and children, committing genocide, "Get the hell out now," and they got out.

And the next one was Papa Bush, who cut them off. And that hurt. Not cut them off like Biden, you know, oh, we'll miss one shipment, but we made sure you have enough munitions to keep bombing women and children and apartment buildings to show us that, you know, we're the boss. We'll skip one ship and then we'll get you double later. You know, the Biden approach or the Trump approach.

Every president since Papa Bush and Reagan has just bent over backwards, but they were still not stupid enough to start the Iran war. And then comes along Trump, too. So yeah, Israel is going to continue doing what Israel is going to do.

They don't see themselves in a problem. They've got America as a backstop. The American taxpayer will pay to rebuild Israel. The American taxpayer is now not just going to be given \$13 billion, it's going to be given an unlimited amount of funds. Israel is now going to be absolutely a part of the American procurement system inside the American military, plus all the secrets that are in any of the weapons developments. And if Tom Cotton gets his way, Israel's going to have access to all American satellites and intelligence. So, you know, the state of Israel, it's the one flag to rule the other 50 flags, the one ring to rule them all. So,

## **#Danny**

Yeah, well, let's now talk about, you know, does this mean then, Stas, that the war just begins again shortly? Because there are some pretty— you published what— guys like Barak Ravid, the New York Post has come out with leaked terms. Now, none of these sources are exactly, how should we say, foolproof or credible even, given Mr. Ravid of Axios is a Unit 8200 former Mossad operative. But nonetheless, there are lots of terms coming out, and they all seem to favor the fact that Iran, at any point— and the CNN U.S. intel assessment just said this— could restart blocking the Strait of Hormuz, or at least make sure that their control over it has consequences.

So do you just see this restarting soon, or is this all kind of Israel's bluster? They've done this before—continuing on striking, hitting, you know, pretending like they are confronting the United States. And then they eventually get their act together and take a pause, a breather. Because I would not stand, I would not even ask the question whether the war is going to fully end. But do you find that there won't even be a breather to this thing despite this new so-called deal?

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

I don't think there will be a breather in this yet. So let's look at a little bit of Israeli society. See, in Israel, you get about 25, maybe 30 percent of the population that's against all of this. Now, out of that, the majority are traditional Jews, the majority of whom were there before the Europeans arrived and started creating the modern Israeli state. And most of those say, you know, we were here before Israel, we'll be here after. And to them, to the traditional Jews, the Zionists are heretics because they believe that they're punished by God, and until the Messiah comes—they don't accept Christ as the Messiah—until the Messiah comes, they're not allowed to have their own state again.

They can live in those territories, but they can't rule those territories. So they look at the Israeli state as an illegitimate entity. And it just kind of landed on top of them. And it did, you know, it did land on top. And these people, you look at the interviews of some of these—I mean, most of these guys are very old, the ones that remember, you know, they were kids in '48. Obviously, they're in their

80s. You listen to what they're saying, and like, yeah, I was friends, I had my Christian friends, my Muslim friends. We were all around, everybody just lived together. It wasn't an issue. It all of a sudden became an issue. So they're not thrilled with Israel.

Then you've got the more progressive Israeli society, which doesn't mean leftists or liberals, but quite a few of those leftists and liberals became very, very bloodthirsty after September 11th. I know some. There are some from my father's extended family that are there, that were all liberals until all of a sudden they became bloodthirsty maniacs, and you can't talk any sense into them. They don't particularly talk to me anyway. I'm Russian, and I'm Orthodox Christian, so I'm not a conversational member of the extended family. But, you know, whatever. But you can't really talk to them. When you talk to them, they're the victims. They're constantly the victims. But remember October 7th. Yeah, okay, October 7th was horrible. Part of the victims, of course, were IDF doing the Hannibal directive. Part was Hamas.

And then you turned around and killed half a million people. Yeah, you know, kind of proportionality just went out the window. And there's a lot of other issues about how it all even happened. Because Haaretz, as a journal, as one of the oldest newspapers in Israel, at the very beginning, they published a lot of interviews with people that used to serve on that wall, in that area. They said, you know, you couldn't get a dog running by without having a response, let alone wind up with several thousand people in a tractor gathering at the fence and nobody knows about it. So it was a setup.

One guy was even smart enough that he audiotaped—well, with his phone, he video-audiotaped the radio as he was being given orders to stand down. "Go have a coffee for the next couple of hours." And he's asking, "Why?" And it's like, "We're given orders from the top to stand down." So it was staged. It went very efficiently for Netanyahu to stay in power. And that's where we get to the point, because we've got this other 70%, or maybe more—somewhere between 70% and 80% of Israeli society—that are quite happy with what Netanyahu's doing. Actually, they don't like Netanyahu necessarily, and a lot of them don't like Netanyahu because he's not doing enough.

So the opposition, the real opposition to Netanyahu, is even more psychotic than Netanyahu. And there's the problem with Netanyahu. What he's facing is, as soon as this war is on pause, he's looking at jail time, like for the rest of his life. I mean, he's a very corrupt individual. So is his wife, so is his kid, who are both, by the way, in Florida, living for Israel in Miami with their little, you know, the little Mai Tai drinks. Not that his little boy is going to be ever fighting on the front lines. That's for the peasants. You know, that's just how it is. So Netanyahu's got all the incentive not to stop this. And he damn well knows all he has to do is keep doing what he's doing.

Sooner or later, Iran's going to—sooner than later—Iran is going to be faced with one of two choices: lose face and look like a hypocrite, just like all the Turks and everybody else who talked a big game and did nothing, or do something. You do something and it's back on. Not that Iran would lose from this. I think Iran would actually gain from it being back on. But the point is, the Israelis and the Netanyahu regime have absolutely no incentive to allow this to hang even a single day

more. And they're pushing it. They're constantly pushing, and they're not going to stop. It's in their interests.

## **#Danny**

Yeah. Yeah. No, no doubt. That seems to be the prevailing trend here. And now, just for the Trump administration and Donald Trump himself to put some, I guess, action behind the memorandum of understanding simply by saying, "We finally come to an agreement, and we're going to sign it on Friday." He has actually plummeted in his approval rating in Israel to something like negative 23 percent, which is shocking because it seems like unless you're doing the bidding of Israel, you will not be loved—unless you're doing the full total—because it's not as if he's been challenged.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

It's not two steps forward, one step back. It's ten steps forward.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, yeah, exactly. Now, last night—or yesterday into last night—more details have come. There was a pretty significant development in the U.S. military, the Air Force in particular, where a B-52 bomber supposedly crashed at Edwards Air Force Base, where the United States conducts—where the Air Force conducts—its main flight tests. Now, all eight crew members of this B-52H, I think it's called the Stratofortress, are dead. They didn't survive. The images—if I could, I would pull them up—are absolutely devastating. Now, this is a very old aircraft. But to connect it to this Iran situation, we knew that the U.S. military was already depleted, and that was a big reason for why the United States was eventually going to at least take a pause. How do you see this development, this crash? What is your take on it, given your expertise, the people that you know, what you have understood and experienced about this aircraft, and what could have happened and why it happened?

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

You know, we flew once before we deployed to Macedonia. All the officers in my battalion and the senior NCOs, we all flew down to Macedonia as a recon mission. So we flew out of Rhein-Main Air Base, and we flew, of course, by Air Force. And we flew in a C-130, which is a four-prop aircraft. There's a reason I'm going through this a little bit roundabout. So this is 1996, 97. 97. Again, 97. Okay? So we're all...

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

First of all, we get there, and the Air Force is like four hours late getting off the ground. Welcome to the Air Force. They'll get you there eventually, maybe, kind of, somewhat. And we're flying on this

four-prop across the mountains. It's not a super long flight, but it's about six hours. I mean, they're not exactly a fast plane. And you see one of the crew chiefs, he pops out, and we're sitting on these hammock-type seats right down the middle, the length of the plane, right? So you're looking either left or you're looking right at the plane. And you see this crew chief, he runs out, he looks into one porthole, looks at another porthole.

Runs to the other side of the plane, looks in one porthole, looks in another porthole, and he runs back into the crew cabin. And we're all just like, hey, this can't be good. And then the pilot comes on and is like, gentlemen, we're going to have to turn around. We're going to fly back to Rhein-Main. We've lost one of our props. Like, you know, so what? The C-130 can fly on one prop. And we lost one, big damn deal. I mean, we're almost there. We've got like another hour and a half of flight, two hours of flight. But we turned around and we flew to Rhein-Main. It's like 3 o'clock in the afternoon at this point. And I'm a lieutenant.

My CO, he goes up to the pilots like, hey, how long before we take off again today? Like, today? You're taking off tomorrow. What do you mean? Well, number one, it's 3 o'clock, and after 2 o'clock, the mechanics, they all go home. Excuse me? You know, this is the military. What do you mean the mechanics go home? Oh yeah. And we didn't lose one prop, we lost three props. So we were literally flying on one prop. Why am I saying this? Because the C-130 is a very old plane. And in the nineties, it was a very old plane. It's still in service, by the way. You know, this is 20-something years later, maybe actually 30 years later now, and it's still in service.

The same thing with the Stratofortresses. These planes are old. I think you could combine the age of all the pilots in them, and you still wouldn't get to the age of some of these planes. Because you figure the average age of the pilots is about 25, 30. That plane's got to be at least 60 years old. These are old planes. The U.S. military is worn out. Sure, they've got some newfangled flying toasters by the name of the F-35, which are stripped of their stealth, which they are when they're dealing with even Russian Su-35s, which is a fourth-generation plus-plus-plus plane, let alone the Su-57, which is a fifth-generation plane.

Once they're stripped of their stealth, the radars like the S-300s and S-400s, the modern S-300s and the S-400s, can pick them up anyway. They're just a second-rate plane, a very expensive second-rate plane. Outside of those, the mainstream of the U.S. military—the Pegasus-class planes, the AWACS—all of it is old. I mean, it's just like the aircraft carriers. They're all old. They're overstressed. A lot of times the crews aren't properly trained. And you get what you get. You know, the U.S. military is at a breaking point. And it was interesting, based off of U.S. capabilities, when Russia went into Syria, the predictions...

## **#Danny**

Oh no, you're back.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Continue. Yeah. You know, when Russia went into Syria, the predictions in the U.S. were two months, maximum two months. The Russian military will break down. They won't be able to handle the stress. Two years later, they're still flying and bombing Idlib. But I think this was off what the U.S. military's op tempo could be at that level. In about two months, they'll start breaking down. The planes are old, equipment is old, and the people are overstressed, and you get accidents. You get accidents or you get stress fractures. You know, those planes, they get microstructural fractures. You get problems in the wings and the engines.

I'm not sure why this one blew up. I saw the pictures, but I didn't see a reason. I don't know if they gave a reason yet. But, yeah, it's obvious nobody survived that one. There's probably not going to be much to bury, too, when that flame gets put down. So, you know, sorry for the families, but this is something that's at fault. The U.S. government is absolutely at fault for it. It's the same thing that you see in the aircraft carriers. It's the same thing you see everywhere. Everybody's stressed out. Everybody's overstretched. Equipment is old. The U.S. military is on legacy equipment for the most part.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, and costly too. I believe losing this is about, what, \$84 million that overall the frame is valued at. I mean, that's massive.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

That's pretty cheap by modern aircraft. I mean, it's a Stratofortress. I mean, let's see, one second, I'll look this up. I've been meaning to check what the cost of the F-35 is.

## **#Danny**

Right.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Well, the cost, it's... \$35 million, not \$34 million.

## **#Danny**

Saying about \$102 million.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

\$109 million for the latest, the F-35Bs. And that's not counting that, at least with the Stratobombers, it's all repaired by U.S. military mechanics. With the F-35, key subcomponents have to be repaired only by Lockheed Martin. They have clauses in the contract, built into the contract. You know how much money they had to give to some generals to sign that shit contract. The avionics, propulsion, some other subcomponents can only be handled by Lockheed Martin. So when they're on that aircraft carrier, there's a Lockheed Martin team, a civilian team there, getting paid top dollar 24 hours a day to sit on those aircraft carriers. Yeah, that's what you call corruption.

## **#Danny**

Well, I don't know if you heard, Stas, it appears that the blockade on Iran has rapidly been lifted. The Wall Street Journal is reporting that immediately one of the leaked clauses of this memorandum of understanding is that Iran can now fully engage without any interruptions and no threats to its ships or ports trading its oil, which then also means that the United States is pondering the lifting of oil sanctions. And these are all things, Stas, that you said, and I am there with you, that these are things that, especially the sanctions, are a very difficult pill to swallow—to lift those in full or even in part. Now, you know, I'm curious what your thoughts are on the, you know, already what's been happening. It seems that from before, you know, we didn't get to talk about this, but what led up to this whole thing was Iran's threats against Israel after the hitting of Beirut.

It feels like at the moment the Trump administration has been giving some concessions, and I'm wondering if part of this breather that's needed is exactly what you said. The U.S. military is in big crisis, and it needs to take a breather before it can send these aircraft carriers back out into another six-month foray or to so-called modernize, which I don't think will ever really happen. It just seems to always go to the military contractors. But this fantasy of modernizing this incredibly offensive, really, military force that's just built to commit—an air force, a naval force—commit war crimes, really. And that's something that they're running out of ammunition for and everything else. So what are your thoughts on this?

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

You know, the aircraft carrier is an antiquated system. I mean, flat out it is. And yet nations continue to try to build aircraft carriers. The Chinese are building them. The Italians want to build another aircraft carrier—small aircraft carriers, of course. But they're an antiquated system. There was a committee meeting that I watched—you may be able to still find it on the Internet. It was in 1988, and I watched this well after, you know, on a video.

It was 1988, and this four-star general was asked by a congressional committee, if World War III breaks out, how long will the U.S. fleet last against the Soviets? And he looks at them and tells them, one week, two if we don't leave port. That's 1980s technology. That's not drone swarms. That's not missile swarms that are directed with AI. That's not a hypersonic missile—a Zircon

hypersonic missile—that a Russian sub could launch 200 kilometers away from an American aircraft carrier, and it would have impact in less than about two minutes. And there's nothing they can do to stop it.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Aircraft carriers are huge. They're outdated. They're very efficient at murdering small countries. They're no longer efficient at murdering middle, local, hegemonic, or regional power countries. But I'm going to talk about Russia and China. They've been floating coral reefs ever since Russia and China can reach out and touch them really, really efficiently, especially with hypersonics. But now we've shown that they're absolutely worthless against a regional power like Iran. And believe me, other regional powers are going, yeah, we can copy that. Give me a year, a couple of years, I'll be on that level too, because it's shown proof of concept.

You know, what have the American carriers done when the fighting started? They ran. And then they started doing really, really big circles in the Indian Ocean to keep from getting wiped out. They got 1,000 kilometers out, which made their F-35s combat ineffective without at least three refuelings there and back. And that's to launch payloads, air-to-land missiles that have about a 250–300 kilometer range from the edge of Iran. So they still can't go into Tehran or any of the deeper cities. So they're pretty damn limited on what they can do. So that's it. Now, the actual blockade was being carried by about six destroyers and frigates.

Now, you've got to figure, you know, how much, first of all, these destroyers and frigates, things heat up, that blockade is done. Because any Iranian ship or any other ship that's hugging the coast of Iran, you have to get pretty close to shoot at them. You know, so close that Iranian missiles can sink you. So you've got a problem with that. And once those ships are in Pakistani waters, unless the Pakistanis are bending over backwards, if you strike them in Pakistani waters, you're basically committing an act of war against Pakistan. Just like Ukraine does when it strikes ships in Turkish waters, and actually even sunk a Turkish cutter, a military cutter.

You know, the Turks, they're lucky Erdogan is trying to keep his arse on as many seats as possible, so he won't take the actions that would be required of him. But I digress, sorry. So yeah, I mean, these American ships, these Aegis destroyers, are running on jet fuel. They're going to have to come back and refuel. And where can they go to refuel? Diego Garcia. That's three days one way, three days back. They've got no other ports around. Everything else is closed. I mean, all their ports, Fifth Fleet was all up inside the Persian Gulf, and it's pretty much rubble. So what do you do? You've got to find a port where you can refuel and rearm.

And that's Diego Garcia, so that's a long way. That's very crappy logistics. Uh, but that's a reality, so they'll need at least a week just to, uh, retool to try to keep this blockade going. And that was a pretty limited blockade anyway, you know. The problem for the world economy is there's still not enough oil. I mean, the Saudis were still pumping about 6 million barrels, 5 million barrels out

through the Red Sea. The Iranians were still getting about 3 million barrels out one way or the other. OK, so we're at 8 million barrels, but there are still another 18 million barrels that weren't going to market.

And even if it starts, actually clears up tomorrow, if everything goes great, or Friday when they sign it—so in two days, which I doubt they'll sign it—a lot of those facilities have to be repaired. Some have to be rebuilt. You're still going to have time delays. And then there's the simple shipping time. You know, that's going to take a month and a half to two months to wherever it's going, depending on where it's going. So you're still going to have a window of no fuel, and a fuel shock. And I'm not even talking about gas. That cuts those out of the game for the next five years from the damage it's taken.

Maybe if they really put a lot of money into it, they may be able to cut it down to four years, three and a half years. But that's not coming back anytime soon. U.S. reserves are looking at, at least with some of the reports coming out, the U.S. reserves are running out in the next week and a half. By the way, Uncle Tom—I'm sorry, Uncle Trump, Donnie the Pirate. Donnie the Pirate, he's managed to sell off a whole lot of American reserves to the Europeans. You know, the story of two countries. China has huge reserves. All these other Asiatic countries, they all came running to China and said, hey, sell us your reserves. What did the Chinese say? Sorry, grasshopper.

You should have prepared better for winter. The door's closed. The ants are going to have their own food. Bye-bye. And that's, you know, our oil reserves are for us. China's oil reserves are for China. U.S. oil reserves are for everybody else. So the U.S. taxpayer feels happy. The reserves that are built up with your taxpayer money are not going to be there for you to avoid paying atrocious prices at the pump. They're running out, and they're being sold to the Europeans, who are also running out of their reserves. So, no matter what, you're going to have a shock. And I think that that was driving Trump's decision to do something. But reality is going to catch up anyway.

## **#Danny**

I mean, wouldn't you say that that's a byproduct, too, of, unlike in China, where all energy is essentially government-administered? There's no BP or Exxon or anything like that operating in China. But in the United States, these oil companies, they want to make their money, and they wanted to make money really fast and as much as they could make during this crisis. And that was a huge—it seemed like a huge—impetus for the rapid increase in oil prices. And now we see them dipping, but up and down, up and down they go. And it appears that money was a huge reason why this volatility is occurring, including the depletion of the U.S. stockpiles.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Well, I'm not going to blame the oil companies on this one. This all belongs strictly to the U.S. government. Look, and there's reasons I'm going to say this. First of all, selling off the U.S. oil

reserves is an absolute government decision. The oil companies have no say in any of this. And those oil reserves are meant to keep the American market from going into shock, but they're being sold off to the European countries. So again, that's absolutely Washington's decision on who they sell to. It's not the right decision if you're going to take care of your own people, but it is what it is. The second thing is, the U.S. is a net importer of oil.

I know Trump tells everybody, ah, we are self-sufficient. No, it's not. And there are several reasons for this. One, there hasn't been a new refinery built in the U.S. in like 30 years. The U.S. is always on the edge of running out of gasoline, or petrol, depending on what side of the Atlantic you're on, what you want to call it. And summertime is the worst time because all 50 states have their own—well, there's a bunch of different formulations of summer gasoline that they all want. So the refineries are stuck running in small batches instead of really big batches, which means when you have to retool to add something else on, that's a break in production, and that just costs you money.

You're not making any money. Companies prefer to do very long batches of anything, of any product, because it's cheaper that way. But when you're filling different criteria for different states, which are mostly all last-in-line criteria, honestly speaking, you have these problems. So any of these refineries, whenever they go down for maintenance—and they have to go down for maintenance—like it or not, they have scheduled maintenance. They could be down for months at a time. The U.S. instantly gets higher gas prices or has to import from other countries. So the U.S. is not self-sufficient. The U.S. imports about 8 million barrels of oil and oil products every single day.

The other problem is a very large chunk of these refineries—for example, Beaumont, Texas; Lake Charles, Louisiana; Lafayette, Louisiana—they're all designed for heavy sour crude from Venezuela. U.S. shale has to be mixed to make it better octane, and it's a light crude. The U.S. can't refine it. It has to sell it off and import heavier crude for those southern refineries. Now, Venezuela is in the U.S. hands for now. But the problem is, and it's a dual strike: on the one hand, you had Chávez and Maduro. They took a lot of the seed capital out of the oil industry for various programs—the seed capital that was needed to repair and keep the oil industry running.

On the flip side, the U.S. also confiscated Venezuela's gold, which, of course, always leaves you with the question, why the hell do they keep it in the U.S., considering all things considered? But that was a decision that, for some reason, Chávez made, and the U.S. confiscated that gold. And the U.S. sanctioned Venezuela on getting spare parts for the U.S.-built infrastructure. So Venezuela is now down to 800,000 barrels a day, barely. As they said, you know, Exxon and Chevron looked at it and said, you know, it's going to take three years and about 30 to 40 billion dollars to get them up to two million barrels a day. At 800,000, it's absolutely insignificant. Even two million is not that huge. Iran is three million. So, and that's three years. The problem is the price is here.

So the U.S., those U.S. refineries, they've got to bring in oil. They can get some of the heavy crude oil from Canada. Otherwise, most of the other heavy crude comes from Iran and Urals blend, Russia—two no-nos for America now. So what do you do? You have to import. And this is, by the

way, a very large chunk of government decisions—and not just federal governments, state governments. Nobody wants a refinery in their backyard. But the problem is that somebody has to have a refinery in their backyard. Otherwise, you don't have gasoline. So, yeah, you know, you like it or not, but that's the reality of it. And the U.S. infrastructure has not kept up, just like the electric grid in the U.S. has not kept up with demand. And the U.S. is subject to whatever supply chain shocks are occurring—and they're occurring.

That's why U.S. gasoline prices are going up—that Trump is manipulating, or the markets are willing to be manipulated. That's a whole different issue. Because if you look at the market price for crude, it's nowhere near reality. Look at the futures markets. And I would say, you know, until those oil reserves run out, the strategic oil reserves, you're not going to see real prices of oil. But man, when it comes, it's going to be like you're flying 100 kilometers an hour and there's a brick wall at the end of the tunnel, and you're about to smack into that brick wall. So yeah, Trump's getting desperate, because when that hit comes and those prices really go up—and everything goes up, because everything runs on diesel or on gasoline—man, people are going to be screaming bloody murder. And the driving season's here.

## **#Danny**

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Well, now, Stas, maybe you can help us understand what to expect from here as we head into the last 20 minutes or so of the program, because there's going to be the signing on Friday of the Memorandum of Understanding. Yeah. And maybe—yeah, exactly—maybe this is the plan. But nonetheless, there are a lot of doubts. The New York Times published an article declaring that Trump has lost the war and that he has lost the war in a humiliating comedown, is what they are describing here. Now, they're describing it, of course, more so from the perspective of maybe the war should have been fought smarter, maybe the pressure on Iran could have been done with more tact. But I'm curious what you make of it now—the pile-on is coming, the, I guess, what's the word, the plausible deniability is coming from the entirety of the Western mainstream media around the war in Iran. No one wants to look at what exactly happened. But what do you make of this reaction coming from The New York Times?

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Oh, well, The New York Times is a mouthpiece for the CIA. Let's just begin with that. And the CIA wants this war. They wanted this war. They got this war. All these people wanted this war. They got this war. They didn't get what they thought they were going to get. You know, that's the problem with war. The opponent pretty much doesn't listen to your side of the story. It doesn't normally play off your script. They tend to try to do things their own way. That's the only damn problem. You're supposed to die in three days. What do you mean you still want to keep fighting? You know, you're begging us. No, no, you're not begging us, but you should be begging us. Well, why aren't you begging us? I mean, that was Trump, if you listen to him and everybody around him. No, these people are very asinine.

But, yeah, you've got to remember, too, there's a lot of people making a lot of money off this at the end of the day. The Lindsey Graham cracker-type people are up and down making cha-ching, cha-ching with every missile. Just like in Ukraine, to the last Ukrainian baby—if we could strap a landmine to it and push the pram toward the Russians, they'll do it. Because, hey, it's cha-ching. That's all that matters. It's the same thing with Iran. Oh, we're making money. You don't need to win the war; you just need to make money off it. At the end of the day, that's what drives these people. And, yeah, Trump lost. Of course he did. Well, Trump lost, his administration lost, the U.S. military lost. Because if those generals were honest people, they would have stood up and said, "Mr. President, I resign my commission."

Go to hell. I'm not going to do this. This is bad for the country. This is bad for my soldiers. No. But they didn't. And they won't. And the numbers that are coming out on possible dead and injured are that nobody—you have to be either a mega brainwashed shill or I don't know what else—to believe that 15 guys died. I would say at least 100. But I've seen people, I don't know where they're getting some of the numbers, but their numbers—up to 500, 600—have been killed. I think at least 100 have been killed, absolutely. You know, how many injured? Probably closer to 1,000. There have been blood drives up and down on U.S. posts in Germany, in K-Town, Kaiserslautern, where the main hospital is. They closed off every single ward except for trauma.

You know, the birth wards for the wives of the military, they were told, go find a German hospital. And then there are blood drives. Oh, nothing's wrong. We just need a lot of blood. It's all normal. Just give us as much blood as you can. No, no, no, there's no casualties. We just need lots and lots of blood. Quite literally. I mean, that's what they said. You know, oh, we need blood drives, but everything's fine. You know, so put two and two together and you see it definitely doesn't come out to ten. It doesn't come out to three. It still keeps coming out to four. Oh, damn math. And you see these things and you understand the casualties are pretty high.

The U.S. military lost. It's unprepared to fight the war that it fought—the modern war. It was continuously trying to fight World War II with a more modern edge to it. And Iran just said, well, you know, we're not going to build a bunch of ships and we're not going to build a bunch of planes against a country we're going to lose to if we go and do that the same way. We're not going to fight them on their field. We're going to work around it. We'll do drones—loitering anti-aircraft munitions that don't use radar, they use infrared. We'll do sea mines, and we'll do, you know, speedboats with missiles. They're not suicide boats.

They don't need those anymore. And they don't ever suicide in the sense of, you know, those guys trying to pilot them to the very end. Most of their mission was to jump off the boat before they hit. It doesn't always work out that way. But now they've got short-range ship-to-ship missiles on them, which are great for taking out slow-moving or much slower-moving ships, especially when you do

the swarm fleet. You're not going to fight destroyer for destroyer against the U.S. military. It's pointless. But you ship out 50, 60 of those mosquito boats. Yeah, half of them may be destroyed, but the other half are going to sink whatever you've got sitting there.

So, you know, the U.S. military lost. So, yeah, I'm sure Trump is going to carry the blame. He's a good PR man. That's his talent. He may be able to squirm his way out of it, but it doesn't change the fact that every other single nation in the world has gotten two key lessons out of this. A, the U.S. is beatable if you can suck up the casualties. You can beat the U.S. And B, if you have a nuclear weapon, they'll bugger off. Get nuclear weapons. We're going to be looking at massive proliferation after this. That and the starvation that's already probably starting by now, that's Trump's true legacy. Netanyahu's probably thrilled with that.

## **#Danny**

Right, well, I've covered on this show how the DPRK, North Korea, they're getting some interesting coverage in the mainstream media lately, especially around their economic growth and the large reason why they've been able to go without any out-and-out military conflict. Of course, the war is not even really over. It's just a pause, a ceasefire. It's not any kind of a treaty. Yeah, it's an armistice. But nonetheless, there has been no shooting war in or at North Korea since the Korean War, in large part because they have a nuclear weapon. Oh, yeah.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

And North Korea's economic miracle is also due to the fact that Russia dropped sanctions off of North Korea. Not only that, but Russia pulled North Korea into the Shanghai organization, the economic side of it. And suddenly that entire American strategy of strangling North Korea—because in the nineties, Russia implemented sanctions against North Korea at the request of the U.S., and they were on till quite literally about 2021, 2022, actually 2023, because in 2022, I remember I was on, or at the beginning of 2023, I was on a program.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

On Russian television, they're asking, what else can we do? I'm like, well, we could, you know, remove sanctions off Iran and North Korea. I don't quite see why the hell we still have them. They go, oh, yeah, that's true. And then they finally removed all the sanctions. Moscow removed all the sanctions. So North Korea has been pulled into this vital economic club of Eurasia. And the American attempt to strangle them economically—the American, South Korean, Japanese attempt—it's gone. It's collapsed.

## **#Danny**

Yeah.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

They massively lost.

## **#Danny**

Right.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Now, if we could only do the same thing for Cuba.

## **#Danny**

Yeah.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Cuba's far away, and that's the only problem.

## **#Danny**

Yeah, well, DPRK has also benefited mightily from that Wall Street Journal article talking about the economic success story, the surprising economic success story. They talked about the flood of Chinese vehicles, especially electric vehicles, and the new development of various payment systems and QR code scanning systems, which are all, of course, spearheaded in China. So that support from Russia and China has been instrumental. But Stas, I want to read, for the last 10 minutes or so here, I want your reaction to this. I don't know if we have—no, we do not have any questions. So if anybody has a question, leave a super chat. But I have here a quote from this New York Times article. It's the editorial board about why the United States, or how the United States, lost this war.

And it says Trump accepted the rose-colored assessment of Benjamin Netanyahu, who predicted the Iranian regime would quickly fall. Trump then dismissed the views of his aides who told him Mr. Netanyahu's forecast was farcical. Trump ignored the Constitution and refused to seek congressional approval for the war. He didn't listen to European and Asian allies who opposed his war. He failed to plan for Iran's obvious ability to close the Strait of Hormuz. He made threats about destroying Iranian civilization that succeeded only in diminishing the U.S.'s moral standing. So that was really the synopsis given of how the United States—and a lot of this they're putting at the feet of Donald Trump. Anything missing here, Stas? Anything you want to elaborate on, you want to react to?

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Well, they're partially true. Trump did have this rosy color, but it wasn't just—let's be honest—it wasn't just Netanyahu. Plenty of people in the Pentagon were telling him, "Yeah, sure, sir, no problem. Three days, yeah, we can do this, four days." But you can say it's not Trump. I mean, when Trump is getting a two-minute frigging brief on the war of just videos of stuff getting blown up by the U.S. military—well, first of all, you know, if you're a rational player as president in a wartime, you should be going, "What the fuck?"

**#Danny**

No, no, no, no, no, no, no.

**#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Now let's go hour by hour, what happened over these 24 hours, and what we've done and what the enemy has done. That's how you do a brief, especially a war. But the fact that Trump didn't ask for that, that shows you, A, that he's being played by his own people, manipulated, and B, that he's dumb enough to be played and manipulated by his own people, and I guess not realize that. I don't know, dementia at this point, what that means. I mean, come on, seriously, you're getting a two-minute brief, and that's your entire brief for a war you're running.

**#Danny**

Yeah.

**#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Um, also, when it comes to, well, you know, yes, technically by the Constitution, he should have gotten—uh, he should have gotten Congress's approval or a declaration of war, not just approval. But the fact is that Biden, that Obama—if we're just going to look at the Democrats—of course not. Did the Republicans? Of course not. The last time the U.S. declared war was frickin' World War II. How many operations, how many uses of force has the U.S. conducted since World War II?

**#Danny**

The number is in the hundreds.

**#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Vietnam, Korea, exactly. It's every day just about, or every week. Iran hasn't started a war in 200 years. The U.S. can't go 200 days. Will Congress vote? Hell no, they won't vote on it. Congress is full—it doesn't matter which party, they're the same thing. Congress is full of cowards. Look, they're hedging their bets. Trump wins: damn it, we were always behind that man, we knew he was going

to do this, we're with the winner. Trump loses: damn it, we knew this idiot was going to do something bad. They're hedging their bets.

They're going to play it off either way. So, you know, from that point of view, it's a cheap shot. Yeah, it's correct, kind of constitutional, but nobody in the U.S. has given a damn about the Constitution—nobody in the government, for the most part, except for very few individuals like, say, Ron Paul or Marjorie Taylor Greene. You know, these are one-offs. The vast, vast, vast, vast majority do not give a damn about the U.S. Constitution. They give a damn about cha-ching, baby. You know, cash talks, bullshit walks. That's the way they look at it. That's the way the U.S. government runs. Everything else—yeah, I mean, from one side, though, you can understand why they wouldn't believe Iran would actually close the Straits of Hormuz.

The U.S. government bluffs, which is a nice way of saying it lies. It lies constantly. The West lies constantly. But, you know, if you're used to lying, nations and people project their mental, emotional state onto others. You know, the average thief isn't going to sit there and go, damn, I'm a piece of shit. I'm a thief. I steal from people who work for their living, and that I'm a bad person. No, the average thief is going to go, you know what? The people I'm stealing from, they're all stealing. I'm okay. Everybody's a thief. So, yeah, I'm a good—I'm a normal guy because everybody's a thief just like me. That's the same thing as the U.S. government looking at everybody else. I lie all the time.

Iran's not going to do that. They're just lying, just like me. Oh, wait, they didn't lie? They're not supposed to do that. How dare they not lie? I lied. They should have been lying. They really closed the straits. When Trump comes in there, who could have foretold that they were going to close the straits? I don't know. They told you 20 times, maybe 30. But they can't, you know, these people's mentality, they're so used to lying. They just expect everybody else is the same as them. They can't psychologically accept that, well, no, these people are telling you exactly what they're going to do. I'm going to take my right arm and my right leg, I'm going to put it up the left side of your head. Watch.

## **#Danny**

Oh, wait a minute, he really did that.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

How could you do that? That's a problem with Western politicians in general. These people are dishonest as hell. They're used to that, and they expect everyone else to do the same.

## **#Danny**

Yeah. Yeah.

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Well, from that point of view, yeah. Yeah.

## **#Danny**

I'd say I had also one, I think one really interesting point that will always be left out, because the entirety of the deep state, the United States power elite, the ruling class, they need to fetishize U.S. intelligence and intelligence as a whole. But I will say that despite the early criticisms before the war, there was the huge, I guess you could call it a mercenary insurrection that the United States and Israel tried to push through and killed thousands of people in Iran right before the airstrikes, the months before the airstrikes started, February 28th.

But despite that, and despite the 12-day war in 2025, which saw, of course, literal operatives of Mossad fire off weapons inside Iranian territory, what I think is really important in terms of how Iran and any country can stave off U.S. military aggression and not just survive, but maybe come out even stronger, is defending yourself from U.S. intelligence covert operations — the real, actual deep state, and maybe the real, actual mechanism for war right now that the United States empire actually requires to be successful. If you can beat that back, which it's quite obvious that Iran had a large-scale strategy to ensure continuity in its leadership, its government, and of course with people.

That feels to me like one thing that they cannot — not even the New York Times can admit this — which is that unless you have success on really some of the more gruesome, destabilizing work that the CIA does and the rest of the intelligence, or Mossad and these kinds of forces, then you're not going to get it. You even saw it, heard Trump — and you can close on your reaction to this — you had Trump say, oh, Israel's not doing it in Lebanon, let's get al-Qaeda to do it in Syria. Like, this is how the U.S. — seemingly how the U.S. empire works. And if that's not going to be successful, which it hasn't been, and I don't believe it will be anytime soon, if ever, against Iran, then you're just not going to beat Iran. And that seems to be a big lesson out of it. But your thoughts on this?

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

Yeah, absolutely. They were waiting for the big revolution to break Iran apart. And they were going to come in and bomb government offices and buildings and police stations to help the revolution. And then those friggin' bastard Russians showed up with anti-Starlink equipment that actually helped the Iranians find where those Starlink people are. Oh, crap. And the Iranians shut down the internet, and Starlink is blocked, and it all fizzles out. And now the U.S.—who's the U.S. going to bomb? Yeah, you can take out some police stations, but your revolutionaries, your foot soldiers are no longer there. The U.S. is counting on Iranians. They're counting on Kurds from Iraq, right after, you know, two months after they betrayed the Syrian Kurds who were fighting for the U.S. And they told al-Jolani and they told Erdogan, go kill them.

We don't give a damn. And there were massacres that occurred after that. But they were expecting the rest of the Kurds to just ignore their cousins being murdered and go fight for the U.S. I mean, this is denial of reality. But they were counting on Iran ripping itself apart. We'll kill the key people and then it'll just rip itself apart. We'll just do selective bombing. And nope. Didn't work. Now what? What's plan B? Hey, you got a plan B? We probably had a plan A. It was a very loose form, plan A — three days and it's over. Well, it's day 100. Now what do you do? And Trump has no idea. And in the end of all this, the decision maker is still Netanyahu. At the end of the day, the decision maker is Netanyahu.

## **#Danny**

On that note, everyone, we're going to close up here. So I want to thank everyone who gave a super chat. Thanks so much. Super stickers, it really is appreciated. Be sure to hit the like button before you go. Everyone, those who have not hit the like button, if you do hit it, that will make sure that the video goes far and wide after we are done here. So it's a very generous, free way to support the show. Stanislav Koprivnik, his YouTube channel is in the video description, so be sure to go check it out. Tomorrow I will be back at 1 p.m. Eastern time with a first-time guest, actually, Professor Robert Pape will join me at 1 p.m. Eastern time, Wednesday, June 17th. So be there. All right, everyone, hit the like button. All the places to support this show are also in the video description below. Stas, any final words for the audience before I hit end here?

## **#Stanislav Krapivnik**

God save us all. And on that note, hopefully we'll be here next week. I don't think I'll sign; it'll get ripped off. We'll have something to discuss, that's for sure.

## **#Danny**

All right, everybody, you heard him. Well, let's see if those predictions hold true. Lots of factual basis behind that one seemingly building up. So, everybody, see you again tomorrow, 1 p.m. Eastern Time, June 17th. Until next time, bye-bye.