

# Larry Johnson: US-Iran Deal EXPOSED: \$150B & The Hormuz

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**#Nima**

Moments ago on Reuters, and here is the article they put out today. It seems that the argument in this article is that a hundred and fifty billion dollars of Iran's three hundred billion dollars in reparations is already committed. What is that? I don't know what the source is, but it seems they have a pretty good source from American officials or somewhere, you know, within Trump.

**#Larry**

Where did that appear?

**#Nima**

On Reuters.

**#Larry**

Okay.

**#Nima**

And this is, I think this is bombastic if that was happening. You know, my understanding is, because so far, looking at the points of the MOU, the memorandum of understanding, you see nothing coming out from the Iranian side or from the American side. But we had two versions today, one coming from Saudi Arabia, coming out from Al Arabiya, the media of Saudi Arabia, and the other came out from Axios. And both of them, in my opinion, are not giving us the reality of the MOU, because the foreign minister of Iran, Araghchi, in his latest comment, said Lebanon was mentioned in the MOU three times. None of these two versions are presenting that to us.

**#Larry**

Let me look at the article here just real quick. I just want to see what they say the source is. You know, the one that said that half has already been committed. Yeah. So, okay, what they're saying is that companies — they're looking at private companies in South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, and the U.S. — have made financial commitments to invest money, to put money into the Iranian economy. That's how I'm reading that. And that means they've got pledges at this point up to \$150 billion. Well, remember all the money that was pledged for the Board of Peace in Gaza? Yeah. How much has actually shown up?

## **#Nima**

I think the last time we heard it, it was empty. Yeah, yeah.

## **#Larry**

So hopefully Iran keeps that in mind when they don't want to have a bunch of empty promises. You know, you don't want to be dealing with Wimpy from Popeye. You know, he always says, "I'll gladly pay you Tuesday for a hamburger today." Give me the hamburger now, and I might pay you when I see you next.

Which may or may not be the case.

Again, the point out of all of this is Trump still has not released the memo, the memorandum of understanding. Why? Why hasn't he released it? Is it because, A, there are still areas of disagreement with Iran that they haven't fully reconciled, and so they need a couple more days to get that ironed out?

## **#Nima**

They have released something else. Here is what the White House has released so far — the talking points of the MOU. The first one: Iran will never have a nuclear weapon. The second: President Trump ended the fighting on every front, including Lebanon — no forever war. The third is free of charge. And the fourth is so important. The fourth is much more important than the other points. Iran's reward comes from its own frozen money, not from the United States taxpayers, and only after it performs what is written below — that is, no nuclear weapon, no full relief. It means that Iran needs to make no nuclear weapons.

## **#Larry**

Right. Yeah. Yeah, this is called SPAN. So I was laying out the other options for why he hasn't released it. You know, they still haven't released the memorandum of understanding. So is it because there are still issues to be discussed and they're still debating and discussing, trying to work out a compromise? Or is it that, yeah, it is finished, and he was afraid that if they released it before

Friday, the backlash from the Zionists, the neoconservatives, would be so great that it could possibly derail the signing of an agreement? So I think it may be more the latter.

## **#Nima**

I think your point is quite correct. Right, because today we've learned it from two sources from Israel — Channel 12 — and later on, one of the Israeli reporters confirmed that Israel asked the United States to give a copy of the MOU, but the Trump administration rejected that. They said, "We're not going to." And so it seems that they don't know what's in it. I don't know what... Stop. Stop.

## **#Larry**

I have no doubt. That's what Israel is saying. Do you believe them? No. Or do you believe that they actually have spies inside the Trump administration that are passing it on? So Israel, they know exactly what's in it. They're playing this card now to try to make themselves look like the victim. They haven't told us anything. We don't know anything.

They know everything, which is why they're pissed off and panicking.

So that's why I think it's important to do that.

## **#Nima**

But yeah, no, I'm just giving you a hard time because I think your point is—yeah, yeah, you're making the point. The key point is that Israel knows everything. But I don't know, why are they asking the United States officially? What is that?

## **#Larry**

It's designed to embarrass Trump.

So that they can present themselves as the victims. "Oh, we were blindsided. We had no idea this was going to happen to us. And that nasty man, Donald Trump, did this to us." You know, if you watched—I don't think you've had a chance, and I wouldn't encourage it because, you know, it's bad for your brain—but if you've watched any of Mark Levin's comments or Ben Shapiro's comments, you know, here are these guys, they were so busy kissing Donald Trump's ass over the last couple of months. "Oh, Donald Trump's the greatest president ever because he's going in and he's, you know, kicking the hell out of Iran."

Now he's like, "I hate Donald Trump."

So they're very mercurial. I think Trump decided to do this and press forward with this because he's been given the polling news, and the polling news is bad. So he knows if he doesn't do a turnaround now... So they say, oh, you're going to lose Jewish support. Well, the pollster will say Jews are not that big of a voting bloc anyway, and they don't vote monolithically. You'll have many that will support you for cutting a deal like this. And, you know, I think he recognizes that if he—this came out in the news yesterday—that the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in the United States is now 360 million barrels. That sounds like a lot. But then you ask the question, how many barrels of oil a day does the United States consume?

The answer: 20. 20. Well, to do the math, that's about 18 days' worth of oil. And if they run out—and they've been using that reserve to try to drive the prices of oil and gasoline down around the world, particularly in Europe and the United States—okay, and create the illusion, "Oh, it's not bad. They said this was going to be terrible, that it was going to create riots in the street. No, see how prices come down." Well, in 17 days, it's likely going to skyrocket. I think that's one of the things he's looking at. It was interesting that he did fulfill the promise. They lifted the blockade. And yesterday I started checking—the number of Iranian ships now moving through the Strait of Hormuz is a significant number.

## **#Nima**

The blockade is gone. Yeah. But they're still controlling the Strait of Hormuz. Yeah. And today I talked with Professor Manning. He said for 60 days there would be no charge left, no fee or toll in the Strait of Hormuz. But as Axios reported today, there is a new mechanism for the Strait of Hormuz. They said, as Axios reported, that it's part of an MOU—that Iran is going to be in charge of the Strait of Hormuz together with Oman, and they're going to charge, you know, whoever wants to use the Strait of Hormuz.

## **#Larry**

For most, a resort fee now—if you go to Vegas, they used to almost pay you to go to Vegas to gamble. Now that the corporations are involved, by God, you're going to pay for your hotel room rate, and you're going to have to pay for breakfast, and they charge you a resort fee, which sometimes can be like, if your room is \$200, you've got another \$50 to pay per day. So, you know, you stay 10 days, all of a sudden you're up, you know, \$500. So yeah, that's what Iran—Iran is doing the same thing to the ships that want to come in and out of the Strait of Hormuz. You pay each time.

## **#Nima**

I think the problem is that, as CNN reported—I don't know if you saw the article on CNN—the U.S. intel assessed that Iran can shut down the Strait of Hormuz at will.

## **#Larry**

Mm-hmm.

## **#Nima**

You know, from now on, their assessment is that if Iran—he says their assessment indicates that it would be impossible to open the Strait of Hormuz without Iran's consent. And one U.S. official told CNN, we have now handed Iran de facto control over the Strait, a weapon more powerful than any nuke. And this was reported on CNN today.

## **#Larry**

Yeah, I don't know whether they said they have now. The U.S. hasn't done anything. Iran has had de facto—no, not de facto—they've had control over the Strait of Hormuz. And now the question becomes, what other countries are ready to recognize Iran's claim as legitimate, as legal? So you still have the Europeans, the Germans, and the Brits saying, no, no, no, that's illegal, that's an international waterway. But now it sounds like, in this, the United States at least has conceded that, yes, this is a legal act for Iran to do.

## **#Nima**

Larry, how much of what's going on between Donald Trump and Benjamin Netanyahu is real? Look at the attacks, the new attacks from Donald Trump, calling Benjamin Netanyahu, telling him, everybody hates you and everybody hates Israel. You know, you're surviving this sort of chaos because of me. Israel is alive because of me. And these sort of thoughts, trash-talking Benjamin Netanyahu, even if we assume it's all fake, it's all some kind of show, it's so humiliating for Benjamin Netanyahu.

## **#Larry**

Well, yeah, how... I don't understand how they think this could be a staged event, staged to say that Trump is really talking bad about Netanyahu. Because what's interesting is, when you look at the comments of other Israelis, they are excoriating Netanyahu for being too soft, too compliant with Trump. So this isn't helping Netanyahu's political position at all. And even if he comes back, he's caught. If he goes along with what Trump's doing, it's going to lose him votes in the electorate. If he pushes back and tries to oppose Trump on this, it's going to leave Israel in a vulnerable spot where they'll likely be fighting Iran again and be fighting by themselves. You know, the U.S. would say, okay, we're pulling our KC-135s out. Well, Israel doesn't have a lot of robust backup for that.

## **#Nima**

And the attacks are—his attacks are—I don't know if you saw today what Donald Trump said about Israel. He said removing Israel, putting Syria in charge, and saying Israel is killing too many people. There is no necessity for that. And here is what he said today, Larry.

## **#Larry**

Too long. And too many people are being killed. And you don't have to knock down an apartment house every time you're looking for somebody, because there are a lot of people in those apartment houses. And they're not all Hezbollah, that I can tell you. And I suggested to Israel to let Syria take care of Hezbollah, because to be honest with you, I think they'd do a better job of doing it. Without us, without the United States, there would be no Israel. Without me, there would be no Israel, because no other president was willing to do what I did. I've had a great relationship with Bibi, but now Bibi has to be more responsible with respect to Lebanon.

Lebanon used to be a great country. It was a country where you had professors, doctors, lawyers. The great intellect was in Lebanon. Now it's just—it's terrible. I would say, of all countries, they've been treated the worst. And they can't defend themselves. And they have Hezbollah, which is a problem for them. So, no, I'm not happy with the way Israel has handled itself with Lebanon and with Hezbollah. They should have been able to do the job faster. It just goes on forever. And when that happens, it throws a negative light on the big deal. And that's the deal with Iran.

## **#Nima**

Yeah. Yeah. I think he's putting out many facts, by the way.

## **#Larry**

Somebody say, is that Donald Trump? Let's get a urine test quick. Make sure he hasn't been replaced by some alien, you know, a doppelganger, a Trump doppelganger has come in. He's now admitting that, yes, Israel is engaged in genocide. It is killing innocents just to try to kill one person. And, you know, we'll see how long Trump—the more he says that, the more it just drives the neoconservatives crazy. And, you know, they'll put the Ben Shapiros and the Mark Levins into head-exploding territory. We'll hear what sounds like, oh my God, in Washington, D.C. tonight, they're reporting explosions. And then a few minutes later— never mind. Those were the heads of prominent neoconservatives and Zionist newsmen who were covering the president, and they have disagreed, and their heads exploded as a result. So it's not a terrorist attack. Thank you, and have a good day.

## **#Nima**

I think what he said, nobody would have done what Donald Trump has done for Israel. Basically, he's talking about the war against Iran, I think. That was the dream of Benjamin Netanyahu for

many years. So he has it right now, and he has to own the outcomes of that war. Basically, what he's facing right now is the outcome, is the reality of the war that he wanted for such a long time. Right, right. He has to face those outcomes. There is no way for Israel.

## **#Larry**

Yeah, I think I shared this with you earlier today or earlier yesterday, that Israel is almost dependent on the United States for air refueling operations. Yeah, they do have some, but they don't have planes as capable as the KC-135 is, and how much it can hold and how much it can refuel and how many planes can operate. I think it's at least six. Each KC-135 can handle up to six planes. But Israel needs that and also needs U.S. intelligence, overhead imagery, and satellite intercepts. Their own unit, 8200, has some of that, but not quite like what the CIA has.

## **#Nima**

There is CIA-based on Axios reporting. The head of the CIA is reporting that what Iran is saying in their communications with Americans, what they're saying about their nuclear program, is not honest. They're not being honest in the way they're talking with the United States because behind the scenes, based on the intelligence the CIA gathered, they're talking differently. Their assessment is different behind the scenes. And

## **#Larry**

Okay. Did he say how different?

## **#Nima**

Yeah, he said that Iran—he didn't mention, but he says it's totally different, you know, what they're arguing in the ongoing negotiations on their nuclear program and what is happening behind the scenes—totally different scenarios. It was reported citing the head of the CIA, John Ratcliffe. And later on today, from Israeli sources, Israel Hayom reported that Donald Trump is considering firing those people who are against the agreement.

## **#Larry**

So they're talking about firing Ratcliffe, Hegseth, and Rubio.

## **#Nima**

Yeah, it said Rubio less than Ratcliffe and Hegseth. Maybe Ratcliffe and Hegseth are gonna be the first two options to be fired.

## #Larry

Okay, so here was, I looked up quick, the DNI assessment, which is the intelligence community assessment, which means that the main collectors, they talk about 17 intelligence agencies. Now I've heard the new number, 18. Just for the record, it's really only about five. You've got the Central Intelligence Agency as the human collection, and they do some, let's call it electronic collection, but primarily human collection. I put the Department of Defense as a whole because within DOD, you've got the Defense Intelligence Agency, which has analysts and also has collectors. The defense attachés overseas collect information. And then within DOD, you have some top-secret intelligence organizations that are not readily or publicly acknowledged but operate.

So those are the two sort of human. You've got the State Department, which provides information through its diplomatic channels. You've got the National Security Agency, which supplies information by intercepting, like a vacuum cleaner, sucking up every email, every phone call, any spoken conversation that can be recorded. And then you've got the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, NGA, I think it is now. And so they do, again, overhead imagery, but maps and such. So those are the five big ones. So when you do an assessment, you go to each of those five, since they're original collectors, and say, hey, what's your information on Iran's nuclear program?

And the conclusion was, she said Iran is not currently building a nuclear weapon. The Supreme Leader has not reauthorized the weapons program that was suspended in 2003, and the intelligence community continues to monitor for any decision by current or new Iranian leadership to pursue one. So, and the CIA assessment remains the same. So that's why I'm saying this: for Ratcliffe to come out now and claim that, oh no, CIA now has a completely different point of view—well, wait a second, what is the specific intelligence you've seen in the last 12 months that has caused you to do a complete volte-face, you know, turnaround, reverse course?