

Larry Johnson: US to Israel: Stop Lebanon Attacks or Aid Gets Cut

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#Nima

Let's talk about the repercussions of the MOU. Last night we were talking about the content, and here are the repercussions coming out in the United States and in Iran as well. And today we had J. D. Vance talking with the press, basically reporting on the MOU and answering questions. One of the questions was related to one of the reports on Axios, which says that Netanyahu is fuming somehow because of the MOU. So here is what J.D. Vance said. But I think the fight is so serious right now, the way that Israelis are putting pressure on the Trump administration. Here is what J.D. Vance said.

#Guest

I don't want to get into hypotheticals that could torpedo the deal, because I think the president's expectation is that all of our friends — the Israelis, the Arabs in the region — are going to work together and actually see this deal to completion. Now, I saw the Axios report that Netanyahu is fuming. That's not reflective of the conversations that I've had with him, but maybe he's saying something to somebody else that he's not saying to me. What I will say, and this does bother me, is that you've seen people within Bibi's cabinet who have come out and attacked the deal, and in some ways very personally attacked the president of the United States. And I guess my message to them would be twofold. Number one, Donald J. Trump is the only head of state in the entire world who is sympathetic to the nation of Israel at this moment in time.

And he happens to be the head of state of the world's superpower. If I were in the cabinet of the Israeli government, I might not be attacking the only powerful ally that I have anywhere left in the entire world. And the second message I would give to some of those cabinet members — Bibi, to his credit, has not gone down this path — but to some of these cabinet members in Israel who are attacking the president of the United States, the other thing that I would say is that over the last three months, two-thirds of the defensive weapons that have protected your homeland have been built by American hands and paid for by American tax dollars. The problem for Israel is not Donald J. Trump. And anybody in Israel who thinks their biggest problem is the president of the United States needs to wake up and smell the reality of the situation that country is in. Thank you all.

#Nima

Man, that was a huge, huge sort of statement by J.D. Vance. I think the most powerful statement so far when it comes to the situation in Israel.

#Larry

Yeah.

#Nima

And we were talking about it. How do you find it, Larry, the way these people are getting serious about what's going on?

#Larry

Yeah. No. Look, it's the truth. Israel is acting like an entitled, spoiled child, thinking they can say anything they want, do anything they want to Donald Trump with no repercussions. And, you know, Trump, I think, is finally getting fed up with it and said, I don't have to put up with this. So, you know, that really is going to—that was the veiled threat. But then, in a private conversation, they can make the threat quite direct: if you do not cooperate with us, if you do not pull your troops out of southern Lebanon, if you don't stop attacking, we're going to pull all support.

Already I know that what's called the Air Component Command for Central Command is working frantically right now to start bringing back all of the U.S. aircraft that deployed to Jordan, to Israel, and to any other bases in the Gulf. They're pulling them all back. So as those start to leave, that's also going to drive home the message to Israel that, you know, you're on your own. We're not—if you want to continue starting a fight, go ahead and start a fight—but we're not with you.

#Nima

Larry, your understanding of—because it's not J.D. Vance, it's about Donald Trump himself as well. He came out and said, you're going to go after Hezbollah, you're not going to bomb the whole building, the whole apartment building, killing everybody just to get one or two commanders or forces of Hezbollah.

#Larry

Right. Right.

#Nima

Where were they before? Are they getting more reports, or was Donald Trump somehow isolated before, didn't know what was going on, or is he changing his sort of rhetoric?

#Larry

No, no. I mean, they knew what was going on before. They just decided to distance themselves from Israel. So it's real simple. And the Israelis, frankly, I think, are shocked by this. They didn't expect this. They go, hey, we thought we were buddies. Nope. Not anymore. You know, that party's over.

#Nima

Yeah. It's not about Israel, Larry. They're using their podcasters in the United States—the Zionist podcasters, Mark Levin, Ben Shapiro. You see Ted Cruz coming out and talking, going against the MOU. By the way, MOU doesn't mean anything, to be honest. The reaction is too harsh, in my opinion.

#Larry

Well, nobody's listening to them anymore anyway. I mean, Levin's audience is shrinking. Ben Shapiro's audience has shrunk. And candidly, I think some of that went into the calculations of Donald Trump, recognizing these guys aren't all that popular after all. And so we can probably—they're going to have to pay attention to us more. Or we can ignore them because it's not like they've got a giant audience.

#Nima

J.D. Vance said two-thirds of the weapons they have used—basically talking about the missiles they used on their fighter jets and the interceptors—came from the United States. It means they came from the United States during the war or before the war, or...

#Larry

I think it didn't matter. I mean, it's just he's saying that total U.S. support—two-thirds of what Israel uses—comes from the United States. Just leave it, I think. Leave it at that.

#Nima

But my understanding is all of them come from the United States. I'm talking about, are they producing interceptors?

#Larry

Yes, they produce David's Sling and the Iron Dome. Yeah, I mean, Israel does produce Patriot PAC-3. But that's what J.D. Vance was referring to. If you total up all of the armaments that the Israelis are using, then we're saying two-thirds of those are coming from the United States. But that means still Israel was building or providing one-third for itself.

#Nima

You know what's so amazing about what's going on right now is not only the Republicans, who are totally those people who are Zionists, but you see Democrats are coming out against the deal. They were criticizing Donald Trump for this war, and right now they're attacking him because he's making some sort of deal. Yeah, well, yeah.

#Larry

I mean, again, it's not a surprise. They're also bought and paid for by Israel. You know, most members of Congress are taking money from AIPAC. One of the few who didn't was Thomas Massie. And, you know, that lesson has been learned by some other members. They figure, well, don't go up against the Israeli dollars. But public opinion is changing. And at some point, you know, I think Israel recognizes, I would say, the writing's on the wall. They don't have a strong future in the United States with the American public.

#Nima

I think something huge is happening, Larry, in the United States vis-à-vis Israel and what's going on considering the relationship between the United States and Israel. Because if I were to mention the most Zionist, you know, Secretaries of State of the United States, I would say Antony Blinken and Hillary Clinton. The most Zionist, or Mike Pompeo, by the way, would be one of them. And I never thought that one day we were going to hear this sort of, you know, objection on the part of, for example, Hillary Clinton when it comes to Israel. And she said—I don't know if you saw the latest interview she had—she's just criticizing the way Israel is behaving.

#Larry

Right, right.

#Nima

It's something new. When she goes that far, it means a lot, in my opinion. Here's what she said, Larry.

#Speaker 04

Well, you're absolutely right. When I was Secretary, it was a constant, you know, theme by Netanyahu and his then government, the then Defense Minister Ehud Barak, the former Prime Minister. It was relentless. It was a constant push. You know, I remember... What would he say to you?

#Speaker 05

What? What would he say to you?

#Speaker 04

He would basically say, you need to support us in attacking Iran. And back then, this was 2009 to the end of 2012. We had more capacity than Israel did on several fronts to do that. And so there was a constant argument that we would have. And I remember one day, I was on the phone for hours with Ehud, with Bibi, with others. And they would say things like, our planes are on the tarmac. And I'd say, well, good luck. I mean, great. Why are you doing this?

#Speaker 05

Where else would planes be, other than in the air?

#Speaker 04

But on the tarmac, ready to take off. I see. Yes. Although they'd be in the hangar, they were on the tarmac. And, you know, you would say things.

#Speaker 05

You're saying you were being played. All the time. All the time. I mean, by an ally that receives an enormous amount of aid.

#Speaker 04

Well, of course. And look, Bibi's been obsessed.

#Nima

Yeah, I think these sorts of interviews are huge. When you remember the history of these people and the way they were talking about Israel just one month ago or two months ago, I listened to one of her interviews. She was totally supporting Israel. She didn't want to mention genocide, what is going on in Gaza as genocide or something. Right now she's going against Israel and the way Israel

is behaving. I think they somehow perceive how serious the war against Iran in West Asia was. That's why they're coming out and saying this is the end. Are you going to be trapped, or are you going to save yourself from what Benjamin Netanyahu or Israel wants you to do?

#Larry

Yeah, I mean, yeah, it appears to be what she's saying. You know, it's significant, but I don't think it's that significant simply because it's not going to be widely heard. You know, people like you and me that follow the news closely, yeah, we'll say, oh man, that's huge. But the average person out there, they won't pay attention to her. But, you know, I think it has to be taken as there is a shift. But it's still not as important a shift as needs to take place because, again, you're seeing that there's a lot of—Trump is coming under a lot of criticism, bipartisan criticism, for striking this deal with Iran. So that—if he was actually being celebrated—that would say that actually the worm has turned against Iran, but that's not the case. It's almost like, why are we abandoning our closest ally? That kind of thing.

#Nima

But what is the main source, what is the main reason for this criticism, in your opinion? Nothing has happened so far. There is a document out there, and the only thing that happened last night was at midnight they lifted the sanctions on the Iranian oil and energy sector, which they were selling before this war started.

#Larry

Yeah, but which—I'm not sure who was saying what?

#Nima

What is the main reason for these people to go after the Trump administration? You say that they're—

#Larry

The main reason is they think they're abandoning Israel. These politicians who have been bought and paid for by Israel see this as abandoning and betraying Israel. That's not complicated, dude.

#Nima

What do they want? What do you mean? What is the solution then? Do they really want to go back to war?

#Larry

Why do you think they'd have a solution? And why do you think that they're thinking rationally about this? I mean, can you give me any evidence that they've ever thought, you know, shown that they've thought this through and have a coherent thought? No, it's just simplistic nonsense. You know, I see people, yeah, we should have gone in on the ground. Okay, I mean, even guys with military experience, you go, how the hell is that? Explain that one to me. Explain. It's like there was just a report. I got a friend sent me a report saying that the Kurds have now launched an invasion into northern Iran.

And, you know, I'm thinking that's got to be a bogus report, number one, because to do that, the Kurds would have to have a logistics chain. I mean, we're talking a lot. If they're going to invade Iran with any kind of force at all, you've got to have a way to get them resupplied with food, with water, with ammunition. And you need to have a medical evacuation plan that's able to work if this is large scale. There's no way in hell they've got that. Absolutely no. Can they launch a raid and attack a town or village on the border of Iran? Sure. But to try to actually come in and occupy territory in Iran and keep it? They'll be wiped out within a day or two.

They simply cannot. They don't have the ability to sustain themselves because it requires a lot of logistics behind it. That's what these people don't understand. You know, most people just, you know, they're the ones who think that the chicken they eat, you know, they go buy a chicken at the local grocery store and they think that's how the chicken actually exists. They don't realize it was once a living bird walking around, and it had to be slaughtered and then cut up and butchered in a way so they can finally put it into a plastic styrofoam wrapper and put it in a freezer.

#Nima

The reason I'm asking this, Larry, is that let's assume the United States—let's assume Donald Trump doesn't come out with this memorandum of understanding. What is the alternative for them?

#Larry

Well, it's already out. So what do you mean, would not come out with it?

#Nima

No, I would say because these people who are against MOUs, so what is the alternative for that, for the MOU, for these people?

#Larry

Why do you think they would assume there's an alternative?

#Nima

So staying in the fight, it means that Donald Trump said it. I think the main reason was mentioned yesterday by Donald Trump, that we are four weeks away from the oil reserves, four weeks away from being totally depleted.

#Larry

So this is the main reason.

#Nima

Is there any sort of communication between the Trump administration and those people?

#Larry

Again, dude, you keep talking as if these people are rational people, that they're logical, that they're sitting there and weighing the facts and then go, oh, heavens, yeah, we don't have the military assets to do this, and if we continue down this course of action, we're going to face an economic catastrophe. Yeah, we've got to move away from the military side and go towards trying to fix the economic side. They're not thinking that way. So, yeah, I'm saying don't assume that they're thinking that way because they're not. They're doing just the opposite. You know, they don't think there's any consequences to be had here. That's what's sort of truly shocking about all of this.

#Nima

Fox News, by the way, is playing totally into the hands of the Israelis right now. They're somehow managing.

#Larry

Yeah, are you surprised by that?

#Nima

Not at all. They were supporting Donald Trump.

#Larry

I mean, good God, it's been that way for, you know, 26 years. So that's like being surprised and, God, I was looking at my male dog and he was licking his balls. Yeah, that's what male dogs do, okay?

#Nima

Do you think Israel would go, you know, would go to some—are they gonna do something stupid, in your opinion? Because two things, I think recently we've learned from Laura Loomer and Naftali Bennett in Israel. Both of them were talking about 9/11 is coming to the United States, Islam is going to do some sort of operation in the United States. That can totally change the whole situation with what's going on in West Asia. A false flag, something like that.

#Larry

Okay, and why would, quote, "Islam," do that in the United States?

#Nima

I don't know. Why are they on the border of Iran in the north, in Iraqi Kurdistan? The new group, ISIS, was formed by the British and the French. They are at the border of Iran in Iraqi Kurdistan. Two weeks ago, they came to power. They said, "We are here. We want to invade Iran." The same people can do something.

#Larry

Yeah, good. Let them invade. Do you understand what it takes to sustain an invasion? I mean, you know, that means you're moving forward in what—walking or in vehicles? If they're in vehicles, they've got to have gasoline or diesel to be refueled to keep going. Where are those fuel tanks coming from? Have they already pre-positioned and assembled those vehicles? There's no way they could do that without Iran knowing about it, because Iran's got the Russian and Chinese intelligence showing them that. So that didn't happen. This is just more misinformation from the West to try to distract, frighten, whatever.

But the Kurds do not have—do the Kurds have the ability to launch attacks across the border into Iranian territory? Yes. But only what would be called a raid, just a temporary go and kill some people, set some things on fire, then run away. What we're talking about is, do they have the ability to go in with, say, 5,000 men and occupy an area and defend it and prevent Iran from controlling that area? No, they do not have that ability. They're being trained by the CIA. That right away tells you that they don't have that ability. The CIA has a very good track record of fucking these things up.