

Larry Johnson: Iran OBLITERATING US Bases, KIA Cover Up Just Got EXPOSED!

Former CIA Analyst Larry Johnson discusses Iran's brutal retaliation to US aggression in the Persian Gulf that has left military service members dead and injured all while the Pentagon engages in cover-up. And things are about to get a lot worse. PATREON.COM/DANNYHAIPHONG Support the channel in other ways: <https://www.buymeacoffee.com/dannyhai...> Substack: chroniclesofhaiphong.substack.com Cashapp: \$Dhaiphong Venmo: @dannyH2020 Paypal: <https://paypal.me/spiritofho> Follow me on Telegram: <https://t.me/dannyhaiphong> #iran #iranwar #trump

#Danny

Welcome back. As you can see, I am joined by former CIA analyst Larry Johnson. And my first question to you, Larry, is this: the United States has attacked infrastructure in Iran. It continues to go up its own kind of escalation ladder, now saying it will target power plants next. It has attacked six bridges to date, and Iran has struck back. According to Kuwait, there have been infrastructure attacks there. They claim that Iran has already hit a power plant. And there are also now reports that Iran has announced that there will be five ports that will be attacked in the Gulf across the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Qatar—Saudi Arabia too—for the Chabahar incident, where the United States hit the port and actually collapsed the tower. So, Larry, maybe you can evaluate the effectiveness of U.S. strikes and what exactly is the endgame here, given that Iran has its own target banks that...

#Larry Johnson

Well, that's the issue. It would be one thing if it was just a one-way street, that the United States could carry out attacks and Iran couldn't or wouldn't respond. But that's not the case. Iran is a much, much bigger territory, and the United States has limited military assets. People may think, oh, that's crazy, but the reality is we do. Every day that they fire a Tomahawk, JASSM, or HARM missile, they are reducing a fixed supply of those weapons. The production chain, the production system, is not in place to replace them, at least anytime soon. And the likelihood of replacing them quickly is further diminished by the fact that they depend on rare earth minerals that are supplied by China, and China is refusing to supply those to the United States. So, you know, the United States is hitting these targets.

They're assuming, their hope is, that they're going to create enough economic and physical damage to Iran that it will not be able to continue fighting. That, I would argue, is a false assumption. Are they able to cause some damage to Iran? Oh, absolutely. But Iran, for its part, is causing even more damage to the United States. And already we've seen that there are basically nine countries' bases. There are two in Kuwait—one's an air base, one's a ground base. There are two in Bahrain—air

base, ground base. There's one in Qatar, the air base Al Udeid. So now we're up to five. There is one in the United Arab Emirates, an airfield, Al Dhafra. That's six. There's a naval facility in Oman called Duqm, and that's been hit. That's seven. Then you've got two air bases in Jordan. That's where the U.S. combat aircraft are being launched from, other than the aircraft carriers.

So those are nine fixed targets right there. That's all Iran has. Iran doesn't have to go looking for targets. They don't have to put analysts trying to say, where is this hole in the side of the cliff? What coordinates is that at, where they're looking to try to destroy coastal air defense missiles, which are buried inside caves all along the Strait of Hormuz? So that's a very difficult challenge. Iran doesn't have that challenge. All it has to do is just blow the hell out of those bases, those nine bases, day after day after day after day. And I would estimate, as they continue this, by the end of next week, those bases will be uninhabitable, and the United States will no longer be able to maintain any kind of presence there. There are also targets—Fujairah, the oil export terminal for the United Arab Emirates—that reportedly has been hit and is shut down.

There's another oil refinery in the UAE. I've heard mixed accounts—either that it's been shut down or that it can be shut down. That's been a major source of supply for jet fuel for the U.S. The Iranians retaliated for the destruction of bridges there that took place Thursday night going into Friday morning in Iran by hitting the bridge that unites Saudi Arabia to Bahrain. No report on how significant that damage is, but I suspect it is significant. They've also reportedly taken out a desalination plant in Kuwait. Kuwait and Bahrain, by probably the end of next week, if it continues at this pace, will be uninhabitable. The populations will have to start fleeing. They won't have air conditioning. They may not have clean water. And the critical infrastructure will no longer sustain life in those places.

Iran's actually got the advantage in this. The United States, as it tries to expand its attacks, is simply going to further lead Iran to expand its operations. Members of the Iranian parliament have already said—they're on the record last week—that further attacks by the United States will result in the Bab el-Mandab Strait being shut down in the Red Sea, that Iran will review its nuclear doctrine. Well, when the current nuclear doctrine is "we're not building nukes," when you do a review, that means only one thing: they're going to build nukes. And that they're going to withdraw from the Non-Proliferation Treaty. When we see the legislature take those actions, we'll know that Iran has made a decision that it's going to build a nuke.

#Danny

I wanted your comment, Larry, on this report of a surprise attack in Syria by Iran. According to Sputnik, Iran carried out this retaliatory strike on a U.S. command center in Syria, saying that the IRGC carried out this strike on a U.S. Special Operations Command Center in the Al-Tanf area in retaliation for U.S. attacks. Radar systems, several special operations helicopters, and a large

number of military personnel were destroyed there. Al-Tanf base is the strategic outpost at the tri-border junction of Syria, Jordan, and Iraq. Now, CENTCOM has denied this, Larry, saying that Iran's claims of killing U.S. soldiers in Syria are false. It's after Iran said it hadn't.

Now, this is not the first time. Earlier this week, Iran also hit a major U.S. military outpost in Kuwait with a drone that was actually caught on video, showing a gathering of U.S. troops. And Iran claimed that there were casualties there. The U.S. has not confirmed or denied this. Your thoughts on this? And maybe you can put on the intel hat and help us understand—what is the truth here? Is the U.S. covering this up? What's the significance of this attack, particularly in Syria, which is a target that Iran has not hit very frequently during this period of war with the United States?

#Larry Johnson

Well, Al-Tanf has been hit. I think it was hit a year ago, a year and a half ago. It killed two soldiers that were detailed there. So it didn't surprise me that Iran decided to take it out. I think the Iranian report is more accurate than the U.S. report. Now, as far as destruction of equipment, as far as casualties go, the U.S. is pretty good about getting its people underground when they know that an attack is coming or inbound. So they may have had enough time to get folks secured. But, you know, it's just this war is expanding, and Iran is taking off the gloves. Up until really two months ago, the United States could still operate at some of these bases.

But Iran now has made the decision that the United States is not going to remain at those bases. Iran's objective all along has been to force the United States out of the Gulf. And I think that's exactly what they're doing. They're doing it militarily. They're going to render those bases—think of it, you're living on a street and someone burns your house down or, you know, blows up half your house. You've got two choices: either you rebuild to stay there, or you move elsewhere. Well, the United States doesn't have the money in place to rebuild, and those places are still vulnerable to repeated attacks. So the next option is to move elsewhere, which is what the United States is going to have to do.

#Danny

Yeah, and we're hearing reports now, Larry, that despite, as you said, Iran being able to hit back—and, as you described, hit back more significantly than the United States in what they're targeting—there are reports that now Trump is ordering more refueling tankers to head to Israel in preparation for what is being described by, now we have to take this with a grain of salt, Axios, as a massive offensive coming. What is the significance of the U.S. increasing the number of refueling tankers to Israel? Israel has not been a party, at least directly, to the strikes on Iran thus far. What could be afoot? They're saying nuclear strikes, power plant strikes. What could be afoot?

#Larry Johnson

Yeah, well, that's the next shoe that's going to drop. If the U.S. tries to expand it and Israel becomes a major participant in that, Israel's going to be hit. And, you know, you've got to forgive me. Did we talk about Beto at the top of the hour?

#Danny

No, we have not yet.

#Larry Johnson

So I've done so many of these today, it's starting to run together. I don't want to be one of those old guys repeating himself over and over again.

#Danny

Okay, yeah, we've heard that before.

#Larry Johnson

So back in 1993, and credit to Kevin Wamsley of Inside China Business for reporting this, the Chinese relied upon U.S. GPS satellites—you know, the global positioning satellites that could tell you where you were anywhere in the world. And when the U.S. CIA reported that one Chinese ship was suspected of carrying weapons of mass destruction, the U.S. tried to stop it. The Chinese had screwed off, and so the United States turned off the GPS. So the ship no longer had GPS; it didn't know where it was. It would have had to rely upon old-fashioned compass and sextant. Out of that experience, the Chinese came out and said, okay, we can no longer be dependent upon the United States.

So they created their own alternative global positioning satellite system called Beidou. And Beidou has proven to be quite effective. And what Kevin pointed out, that I didn't realize but now makes sense, was that during the 12-day war in June, Iran was still using U.S. GPS. And lo and behold, you'll be shocked to hear this: the CIA had the ability to hack into the GPS system and make the Iranian missiles think they were flying to location A when, in fact, they were being diverted to location B, which meant they were going to blow up in the desert and not hurt anybody.

So a number of the Iranian missiles actually didn't hit their targets. Well, the reason was they were being spoofed by the U.S. GPS. At the start of this war, Iran had switched to Beidou. Now, Iranians are hitting with great accuracy every target. And that means they're going to hit with increased accuracy every target in Israel. And so Israel now no longer has even the promise of possible protection by interfering with the GPS. And we saw a curious reaction in Israel on Tuesday or Monday, where the minister of transportation came out and told all these air refuelers, get the hell out of Ben-Gurion, get out—basically because you're making us a target.

And then I guess Bibi got some angry phone calls from Pete Hegseth and from Donald Trump. And so then the Israelis reversed their position. But that's where this is headed. If those air refuelers show up and they're going to try to launch a massive offensive against Iran, Iran's going to take out those air refuelers at Ben Gurion. Ben Gurion Airport would become a target. I wouldn't be surprised to see the nuclear facility down in the Negev, Dimona, become a target. So Iran's not playing around. Iran is responding, responding forcefully, and they're responding in a way that, frankly, the United States and Israel will not be able to keep pace.

#Danny

Yeah. On that note, Larry, perhaps you could help us understand and do a bit of a rundown on this issue you mentioned earlier in terms of what the United States has left in its arsenal. Because I'm seeing—even just in the last 24 hours, when it comes to the strikes on Bahrain, for example—I'm seeing half a dozen or more air defense interceptors go up to try to thwart one Iranian missile and /or drone. And so I'm curious what you know about what the U.S. has left, both offensively and, quote-unquote, defensively, if we can call them that, in terms of the air defense interceptors.

#Larry Johnson

Yeah, so let's deal with the PAC. If those are PAC-3 missiles being fired by the Patriot systems... The United States probably now has fewer than 600 PAC-3 missiles left in the entire inventory. It may even be lower than that. So they can fire them off right now, but they're going to run out. Same with THAADs. Very, very limited. But the United States has a supply problem across the board. The HIMARS is a launching system. It's a platform. It's not a missile. It launches three types of missiles. One is called a ground-launched multiple rocket system, GMLRS—I believe that's what it's called. That only goes about 20 miles.

Well, so you put that in Kuwait or Bahrain, you know, it can't reach Iran. Then there are the ATACMS. The problem with the ATACMS is they only go 180 miles, and that distance across from Bahrain to Bandar Abbas, that's a little more than 180. So the point is that even those ATACMS can barely reach Iran's shores. That leaves them having to fire the Precision Strike Missile. But Lockheed Martin, according to open sources, has only produced about 56 of those in 2026. Fifty-six. That's not enough to sustain a campaign. But you've got shortages as well with the Tomahawk, with the JASSM, and with the HARM missile.

So what you've got across the board is the United States does not have a large inventory of these missiles. They are using them up at an increasing rate, and they can't rebuild and replace because the supply chain is dependent upon the rare earth minerals that come out of China, particularly magnets, and China's withholding those. The United States is screwed. The longer they stay launching missiles at Iran, the fewer missiles they'll have to be able to use against Russia or China.

And from the Russian and Chinese standpoint, they're going to encourage that. They'll encourage Iran to hang in there, let Iran absorb all of those blows. But when all is said and done, the United States is going to be out. It will effectively have disarmed itself.

#Danny

And Larry, we're hearing reports that the UAE, Saudi Arabia, these countries are attempting to bypass the Strait of Hormuz now, given that it is the battle the United States has declared against Iran and is continuing these strikes with no end in sight. I wanted to ask you first, when you just outlined those weapons and the arsenal there, what is the U.S. firing now? It seems like the strikes are more muted in terms of their amount compared to the February 28th period. And what keeps Iran then from striking these very pipelines that the UAE, Saudi, and other Gulf countries are hoping will be a saving grace from the eradication of the Strait of Hormuz being a free toll, a free lunch toll, where they can be a party to the war as well as push their oil through.

#Larry Johnson

Yeah, no, pipelines aren't a solution. They won't even be potentially functional or relevant for five years at least, so that's not happening. Iran remains in firm control of the Strait of Hormuz, and it has created a global—it's really creating now a global—economic problem. We just saw today the stock market is falling. Two reasons: one, the war in Iran and the rise in the price of oil. So this is, you know, as the stock market keeps falling, pressure is going to build on Trump to stop this, to bring an end to it. There is a global shortage of aviation fuel and diesel that is now baked in.

It cannot be fixed for at a minimum four months. And when I say it can't be fixed, what I mean is that if we start complete flow of Persian Gulf oil back to its normal level tomorrow, it's going to take until the 1st of November for supplies to get back out there and refineries to catch up with these shortages. Because the refineries that exist to basically produce aviation and diesel fuel require sour crude, the high-sulfur crude. And I get people saying, well, you know, you can do it too with sweet. Yes, I know that, okay? And those of you writing that, shut up. Okay, I know that.

But deal with the reality. The reality is we don't have a lot of those sweet crude refineries to produce gas and diesel. The majority are for sour crude. Why? Because sour crude normally was cheaper. And the oil companies—here's a shocker—they could make more money by processing and refining the sour crude. Oh my God, a financial incentive. Go figure. So that's why there is now this actual shortage, because the supply of sour crude decreased by 25% globally. And it's not like you can pump more from Venezuela or from Mexico or Canada to replace the supply. They cannot. That's what people need to understand.

#Danny

Yeah, what is the U.S. firing right now? What are they exactly going to be running out of soon if this continues? Every day, CENTCOM says dozens of strikes. Sometimes they'll claim it's up to 90 or more each night, sometimes multiple waves that end up totaling somewhere around there. What is the U. S. firing from where? I know that there have been reports HIMARS attacks are being fired directly from launchers in Kuwait and Bahrain.

#Larry Johnson

Remember what I said about HIMARS. HIMARS is a launcher. They're not firing HIMARS. HIMARS are launching missiles, and there's only one category of missile they can launch, and there are probably fewer than 20 of those left. So just take that off the table. That's not relevant.

#Danny

Right. So then what is the U.S. going to be utilizing if it seems like Trump has this plan for a long war? What will they be utilizing, and when will the rubber meet the road then?

#Larry Johnson

Well, it's meeting it right now. That's the problem. You've got Tomahawks and JASSMs that I think have been the primary weapons launched from the F-35s or the F-16s. But those are running in short supply. I think the actual number at the start of this war was like 3,000 Tomahawks, and the United States fired over 400 of them in the first week. So that's down to 2,600. Well, remember that CENTCOM is not the only game in town. You've got Indo-PACOM, the U.S. Pacific Command, and you've got European Command. They each have a call upon those weapons as well. So the United States may also use a Harpoon. That's an old, outdated weapon, but they could still use that. But my point is they don't have ample supplies of their most modern weaponry. Those are being depleted, and as they are depleted, there is no replacement. That's what people need to understand.

#Danny

And now, in a related development, Larry, to close, we have Donald Trump declaring a "Chinagate" now to replace "Russiagate," saying that the 2020 election that saw him lose to Joe Biden was essentially influenced by China. And it comes at a curious time, where the U.S. is bogged down in this war on Iran and Russia. New reports from the Pew Research Center show that the world now views China more favorably than the United States. What do you make of this development? Where does it fit in this overall mess that the U.S. has gotten into with Iran?

#Larry Johnson

This is one of the craziest things I've ever seen Donald Trump do. He didn't offer one piece of evidence last night that China had actually manipulated votes that resulted in votes for Joe Biden. Not one piece of evidence. Why? Because it does not exist. This nonsense about China manipulating our election and interfering in our election—the ones who manipulated and interfered in the 2020 election were the Democrats. OK, look, I've maintained for a long time that the election was stolen from Donald Trump. So nobody can accuse me of being anti-Trump or of saying that Trump is crazy for what he did last night. But the 2020 election was stolen the old-fashioned way.

The ballots that were printed in Long Island, New York, in a print shop were then sent to a postal facility. Remember, these ballots were in first-class envelopes. But instead of being handled at a first-class U.S. postal facility, they were put into a bulk facility, which is against post office protocols. And I know this because my business partner is the one who did the interviews with all of the different post office employees, as well as the truck driver who drove those ballots. You know, it wasn't just the one-time report. He'd done multiple deliveries of these pre-printed ballots with Joe Biden being selected as president already printed on there.

And those were delivered to a variety of states—Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin. And then in Georgia, you had the same thing. It was stuff in the ballot box. That's what it was. It didn't have anything to do with China. And yet here's Trump trying to create further tensions with China. The Chinese responded today. They called the accusation slanderous. I think that was the nicest term they used. And it's just, you know, they called it fabricated, slanderous, and fabricated, which is exactly what it is. This was an attempt, for whatever reason, by Trump to worsen relationships with China. Oh, that's brilliant. Yeah, let's anger China even more at a time when we need the rare earth minerals and they're telling us to go to hell. Brilliant, Trump, brilliant.

#Danny

Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. It appears multiple fronts are opening, Larry, and not only in the Iran war, Saudi-Yemen factor, but it seems like the United States, too, is looking at Cuba and also now restarting. I mean, China-gate is a significant development because we remember Russia-gate with the Democrats. That accelerated U.S. aggression against Russia in many different forms as well. It wasn't just all of the other things that were very negative for people—let's say suppression and Cold War propaganda, incessant—but also we saw the U.S. become more aggressive in terms of its foreign policy with this. So, your final comments on where things are right now?

#Larry Johnson

Well, Trump, I guess, at the start of his administration, wanted to be the peace president. Instead, he's making Genghis Khan look like Mahatma Gandhi. So, you know, he's rampaging around the world, creating death and mayhem wherever he goes. And, you know, 2026 will, in retrospect, be seen as a pivotal moment in global history where Iran defeated the superpower, the United States,

and Iran became the defining power in the Persian Gulf. And where these other countries—Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, UAE—they're going to have to make an alliance with Iran or they're going to be destroyed.

#Danny

Yeah, and it seems like the current winds are blowing, unfortunately, toward destruction in this realm. Well, Larry, it's always a pleasure to be with you. Make sure you follow Sonar21 and all of Larry's work that can be found there, and also Transition Protocol. Transition Protocol, yep. Anything you want to say about that before you go?

#Larry Johnson

Well, no, Transition Protocol. In fact, I think Pepe and I are going to be doing sort of an emergency broadcast today. I think the preview of it is it's highly likely that Iran is going to reverse its policy with respect to nuclear weapons, and that may happen as soon as the next two weeks. We'll see.