

Scott Ritter: 9,000 Iranian Missiles CRUSH US Army, Europe Enters War as Trump PANICS

Scott Ritter discusses the new fronts of war emerging in the Iran war despite US retreat from striking deeper into the country. What has been a catastrophe for the Pentagon is set to get a lot worse and the former UN Weapons Inspector and US Marine Corps Intelligence Officer breaks it all down. <https://scottritter.substack.com/> 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 to the show. As you can see, Scott Ritter is here to help me break down the latest developments. We start with Iran. A new report from NBC News suggests that 9,000 Iranian missiles and drones were used since February 28th in the multiple rounds of war. The U.S. military has said that they had to let some of these missiles and drones come through, they say, in order to preserve Patriot air defenses. Now, despite U.S. attacks having ceased for now, there is another front opening up in Europe's war against Iran. Ukraine struck Iranian vessels in the Caspian Sea, killing an Iranian sailor. Now there are reports that Iran could retaliate against Ukraine in some shape or form in the next 24 to 48 hours, with Ukraine monitoring groups on Telegram and elsewhere panicking about the possible response. Now, Zelensky, the president of Ukraine, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with Donald Trump today at the White House, not simultaneously, but on the same day. Thank you very much.

#Danny

So, Scott, these are the latest. What's your reaction, in particular, to where we are at now? The United States—Donald Trump is saying that he could restart war anytime with Iran. But report after report have come out talking about how this ultimately is not recommended, given the current state of the United States. Your thoughts on the situation right now?

#Scott Ritter

Well, one would imagine that if Donald Trump could restart the war, he would only do so if he believed he could win. And if he believes he could win, then why isn't he waging the war right now? What was the purpose of the past few weeks? The bottom line is the United States stopped striking

Iran because we were losing, because we couldn't win, because we don't have a strategy to go forward. And if we continue to go forward, the escalation ladder would lead to permanent harm to Iranian energy production facilities in the region, would continue to create devastation for American military forces and installations in the region, that Donald Trump was losing.

He had no other option. He had no other choice. So he stopped the attacks, and Iran responded by stopping its missile attacks. You know, that's where we're at. The United States has lost this war. It's just up to Donald Trump to recognize the defeat and figure out how to, you know, find an off-ramp from where he currently is. But, you know, bombing Iran into submission—he would be bombing Iran into submission. And so the fact that he is saying things but isn't acting on them is just proof positive that he's in a very difficult political situation. He has to maintain the facade of being in control when the situation is totally out of control.

#Danny

What do you make of the report of 9,000 projectiles? That's what the U.S. officials are saying Iran has fired thus far. The United States claims, of course, especially during the beginning of the war, to have hit tens of thousands of targets. But what do you make of the last 13 days and the difference between the damage and the strikes, the precision, and all of this when it comes to why the United States is no longer firing?

#Scott Ritter

First of all, we need to understand that the last 13 days produced nothing except further defeat for the United States. Iran hasn't been hurt by any of the actions taken by the United States. We're blowing up empty buildings. We're blowing up infrastructure that can be rapidly reconstituted. The United States intelligence community has recognized how quickly Iran can get bridges rebuilt, infrastructure rebuilt. Every building was striking. I was struck by the fact that the United States was bombing the Parchin missile factory. I'm like, why? Wasn't it destroyed the first time, the first 39 days? And if it wasn't destroyed, why not? But more importantly, do you honestly think that the Iranians kept anything of value in this facility?

Don't we understand that every high-value piece of equipment has long since been evacuated and put into underground facilities? And we're just blowing up, you know, reinforced concrete. And the Iranians will come in and they will sweep away the debris and recast it. And once the war is over, bring the high-value equipment back out, reinstall it, and get back to business instantaneously. We're doing no harm to Iran. I mean, we're killing thousands of people, tens of thousands of people. That is, of course, harmful. It's criminal. But our strategic objective was to collapse the Iranian regime. It's stronger today than it has ever been. Our strategic objective was to terminate Iran's ballistic missile capacity. It's all gone underground. They're not only firing missiles that, you know, we claim to have destroyed, but they're building new missiles.

So they're getting stronger even as they're firing missiles, something that, you know, we should reflect on as the reality of our ammunition depletion hits home. We're running out of long-range strike weapons. We've run out of the interceptors needed to protect. You talked about an article where, you know, they have to let projectiles through. You know you're in trouble when you have to preserve the Patriot missile interceptors to protect the Patriot missile launchers, and everything else gets destroyed. So, you know, why are we there? Someday the history of this conflict will be written, and nothing about it is going to reflect well on the United States, whether the military or the political leadership.

Iran is 100% in control. You mentioned Saudi Arabia. I mean, this is the reality: had Trump escalated the way he claimed he was going to escalate, it wouldn't just be Saudi Arabia that would be shutting down. It would be Kuwait. It would be Bahrain. It would be UAE. And if the conflict continued, it could be Azerbaijan shutting down. Iran has the capacity to shut down the totality of energy production in the Middle East region, and that would be the outcome if the United States sought to escalate, because there simply is no defense against Iran's ballistic missile and drone force. There just simply is no defense.

You can shoot one or two down, but, you know... When we did our strategic bombing campaign over Germany, in the end, we'd launch waves of bombers, and the Germans would shoot down a few, send fighters up, shoot down a few. But at the end of the day, we were bombing at will. Yes, we took casualties, but the goals and objectives of the strategic bombing campaign were being met. The Iranians are firing missiles. Some are shot down, not many. And the ones that aren't shot down hit the targets that they're aimed at. The objectives of the Iranian strategic air campaign are being fulfilled. The objectives of the American strategic campaign are not being fulfilled. We're having zero impact on Iran's ability to sustain this conflict.

#Danny

Yeah, and here is the satellite imagery of what Yemen has done to the strategic Yanbu port area. Oil infrastructure has been hit, the bulk plants in the industrial city. And it's, as you said, Scott, Iran could do far more damage than this. And the Gulf countries have been perhaps at the forefront.

#Scott Ritter

Can I just make a point, since you put those photographs up? I know maybe later we'll talk about Ukraine and Russia, but I just want people to look at these photographs. And also, there's video of the big explosion when the Onslaught missiles hit. Compare and contrast with the imagery you see out of Russia when a Russian oil refinery is hit. Okay? Understand when I say that the Ukrainians make things go pop, okay? And the Russians make things go boom. This is what boom looks like. Okay, look at those photographs.

That's what boom looks like. Russia has nothing like this happening to it, nothing like this happening to it at all. There's nothing going boom in Russia. It goes pop, it burns for a little while, the valves are turned, shutting off supply, the fire's put out, the items are repaired. A week and a half later, it's back in duty. This will never be brought back into operation. This is destroyed permanently. It will take, you know, years to rebuild this. So I just wanted to bring up the point, you know, when this is what happens when things go boom in oil refining and oil processing, the energy processing plants. And it's a far cry from what the media has been hyping up about what's happening to Russia. I just thought it would be, since you brought that up, you make that point.

#Danny

Oh, it's a really good point, really, because if the satellite imagery existed on targets of these Ukrainian drone strikes, they would be out, no doubt about it. Scott, now that you mentioned Ukraine, it's so interesting that it seems like Ukraine has gotten itself now entangled in the war in Iran. Here are Ukrainian Telegram channels, the monitoring channels, incredibly panicked after Ukraine struck Iranian vessels in the Caspian Sea. I wanted your comment on this development. Some people are saying that Iran could technically strike Ukraine from Tabriz on its northwestern border and get into Kyiv. But I'm curious what you thought about this situation. Why would Ukraine get involved? Why would it strike Iran at this point in the Caspian? Your thoughts on this.

#Scott Ritter

Well, Zelensky ordered a 40-day war using long-range and intermediate-range Ukrainian strike capacity against Russia. It's a 40-day drone war. He ordered it to begin on June 25th. And the purpose of this was to break the will of the Russian people, to bring the war home to Russia, and to bring real harm to Russian capacity. But the most important part was to break the will of the Russian people, to make it clear that there was nowhere in Russia that was safe for Russia. And so, you know, Ukraine had long argued that it had shut down the Black Sea to Russia. We could talk more about that later, as Russia basically shut down the Black Sea to Ukraine now.

And they were attempting to make the same point in the Caspian Sea, where Russia had built up a supply line to Iran through the Caspian Sea. And basically, the goal was to send a message to Russia, saying, yeah, I don't know if the Ukrainians deliberately targeted an Iranian ship. Part of me says they didn't. Part of me says they thought it was a Russian ship and were surprised when they heard, but then sought to spin it. You know, one of the things the Ukrainians are very good at is spinning data in a way that's supportive of, you know, themes and narratives. And right now, you had Zelensky going to Washington, D.C., to meet with Donald Trump to try and get Donald Trump to agree to provide additional support, political, military, fiscal, to Ukraine.

And right now, Donald Trump is in a bind. We just spoke about it with Iran getting his butt kicked. And so I think when the Ukrainians found out that they hit an Iranian ship, rather than doing the

right thing, which would be to apologize to Iran, say this was a mistake, an accident, we're sorry, won't happen again. We'll talk with you about how to avoid this repeating. They just took the cheap way out. Hey, yeah, hell yeah, we hit them. Hey, Donnie, baby. See, we're in it with you. We're hitting the Iranians because we're on the same side. We're the same thing, brother. And now they're going to pay the price, perhaps. Again, I don't know what the strategic thinking is in Iran.

You know, Araghchi and the IRGC have made some very stringent statements. But, you know, the fact is, to strike Ukraine, the missiles are going to have to fly over NATO airspace. You know, Turkish flight, fly over Turkey. And I don't know if that's really the kind of escalation that Ukraine wants at this time. But, I mean, they have every right under self-defense to retaliate, but, you know, whether or not they will, I don't know. You know, this hype you see on Ukrainian social media may just be a scare tactic to, again, try and create the impression that Ukraine and the United States are the same, both sides being threatened by Iranian missiles.

We're all on the same team, Donnie. Give us all the help we need. Give us the ability to shoot down those Iranian missiles. Who knows what's going on with Ukraine? It's not a rational state. It's not functioning in a rational fashion. Everything they do is irrational. So who knows what their thinking is? And Iran is on the opposite. They are a rational state. And so you have to say, you know, yes, it was an affront to have a ship struck. Yes, it was an affront to lose a sailor. But, you know, the consequences of firing a missile salvo into Ukraine could be dire. So therefore, why do it?

#Danny

And I'll just pull up what Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi did say. These are his words right after the incident happened this weekend. He said, "Zelensky attacked an Iranian commercial vessel, killing a sailor. Blatant violation of the UN Charter, done at Israel's behest to drag Europe into its war. In a call with High Representative Kaja Kallas and Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, I made it clear that what the freeloader in Kiev did cannot go unanswered." So, obviously, no love lost, Scott, for Zelensky. Those are very strong words, but... But yeah, I mean, part of it, there was a target list released or target bank released.

And part of it seems like what Iran's thinking is, is that maybe if war continues directly on Iran, I mean, Europe could very much be made part of this war. And Europe does have assets, does have trade, does have energy needs coming out of West Asia. Yeah, especially after the UK—not technically part of Europe, I guess—but also with its activity, letting the United States use its facilities to launch operations against Iran. So your thoughts on this? Could Europe very well be a target in the next round of war?

#Scott Ritter

Why? I mean, I'm still trying to figure out, why would Iran want to involve Europe? What is the purpose? You know, the goal should be kicking the United States out of West Asia. In order to do that, you're better off having the totality of your military capacity able to be dedicated to that task.

#Scott Ritter

You know, why would Iran strike Europe?

#Scott Ritter

I mean, because Israel let the United States use some bases? Then why isn't Iran striking Israel? Because the last time I checked, the Israeli bases were just full of American military aircraft, refueling aircraft. They're being used. So we know that that's not a red line for Iran. You know, Europe has zero military capacity deployed to the region right now that's impacting this conflict. Why provoke them so that they do deploy potentially meaningful military capacity? For what purpose? You know, to defeat Europe? Europe's already defeated. They're defeating themselves. It's the same argument with the Russians. Don't touch Europe.

When the enemy's doing what you want them to do, let them do it. And right now, Europe is just dying, devolving, collapsing. It's become a self-parody. You know, look at Macron. Marine Le Pen is going to oust him in the elections next April, and she's going to be wearing a monitoring bracelet on her ankle. That's the state of French politics. You know, Keir Starmer's out. This—there's a new Andy Burnham in. How long is he going to last? Not long, because changing the nameplate doesn't change the reality. It's addressing the symptom. The symptom was that people hated Keir Starmer. So they got rid of Keir Starmer. Now they put Andy in.

They didn't change. They didn't cure the disease. The disease is the United Kingdom, which is basically cancerous and dying. And putting Burnham's name on the top doesn't cure the disease. They'll continue to treat the symptom, saying, "Well, he hasn't cured it. Let's get somebody else in." But they're not addressing the fundamental underlying issue, which is the dysfunction of the United Kingdom as a collective. Why would you want to do something that could potentially rally the United Kingdom, have the people forget about their political differences and come together and say, "We must now be focused on Iran, who has attacked us?"

Germany—Merz is a joke. AfD, Alternative für Deutschland, is the most popular political party in Germany right now. And as things continue to devolve for the other parties, it'll become even stronger. They're not looking for a war with Iran. So why would Iran bring a war to them? Maybe the best thing for Iran to do is to do absolutely nothing, because Europe's killing itself. It's the same strategy for Russia: don't do anything. Just let Europe be Europe, which is Europe's own worst enemy. So I don't see this war expanding into Europe. I don't see the Iranians doing anything that would, you know, disrupt Europe's path to self-destruction.

#Danny

Yeah, that makes a lot of sense. I mean, Europe is not sovereign. So in many ways, if Europe entered the war against Iran in the next round, the United States would likely be behind them, pushing them. And what really could they do? I mean, what happened with Ukraine in the Caspian Sea, you know, it's a very cheap shot. It's insulting. It would make sense if Iran retaliated. But at the same time, as you said, I believe this is true: what gain does Iran actually get from that, other than, you know, having to maybe waste some, you know, firepower on, you know, a country that really can't do much to Iran? But some have made the assertion that this could be part of the blockade strategy by the United States to try to cut off Iran from the Caspian Sea. Do you think this is possible? Because, of course, the blockade on Iran remains, and this, as Iran said, is still war in many respects.

#Scott Ritter

Well, the blockade never really did anything more than harass Iran. The last blockade, last time it was in play, didn't work. Ships got through. They didn't shut down the Iranian-Pakistani border, which basically looks like, you know, the Baja during those Baja races, with the tire tracks, all the trucks going that way with oil, all the empty trucks coming this way to get loaded up. You know, they're not stopping Iran. Our good friend, Professor Morandi, made a very valid point that the vast majority of Iran's oil production is consumed domestically. And so you're not shutting down the Iranian industry through this blockade.

You are creating, you know, some potential cash flow problems. But, hey, that's why they sold 60 to 80 million barrels of oil this last time, to generate that cash flow. They've still got tankers at sea that haven't been offloaded. So the cash flow is going to continue to come in. They got cash flow going in through Pakistan. This blockade is a joke, an absolute joke. What's not a joke is Iran shutting down the Strait of Hormuz and Yemen shutting down the Bab al-Mandeb Strait. So this is devastating for the economies of the Persian Gulf and eventually for the economies of the world.

So, what, you're going to have Ukraine attack an Iranian ship in the Caspian Sea as a way of solving the inequities of the U.S. fleet's inability to blockade the Iranian ports? All it does is guarantee that Ukraine dies even more. Look, everything that's happening in Ukraine right now is because Ukraine overstepped in striking an Iranian ship in the Caspian Sea. Russia has so much more capacity to expand this conflict against Ukraine. And so I just think that if that's the thinking, it's going to be rapidly proven wrong, and Ukraine's going to pay an even heavier price.

#Danny

Is it just a coincidence, Scott, that Trump met with Zelensky and Netanyahu on the same day? I know it's hard to judge and understand Trump's behavior, but maybe from a larger perspective, why would the United States do this? Why, at this point, at this juncture, in these particular wars, would

it make sense to meet with these two leaders? Netanyahu is saying that he gave Trump more intelligence on Iran. And as we all know, Netanyahu usually likes to use this time with Trump, which he gets a lot of, to push for more escalation. Your thoughts?

#Scott Ritter

I think both leaders are in Washington, D.C., because Lindsey Graham died, and they're there to attend the funeral services. And so these were meetings that, you know, meetings of convenience, you know, politically speaking, at a time, you know, after the NATO summit where Trump promised, you know, Patriot missile licensing, and all this stuff's going on. There's turmoil in Ukraine. If Zelensky showed up for Graham's funeral services and didn't have any interaction with the White House, people would go, "What's going on there? Why not? Why aren't they talking? We don't get it." So there had to be a White House meeting. You know, it was a photo op. It wasn't anything substantive. You have Trump smiling next to Zelensky, which is a huge victory for Zelensky, as opposed to the last time they met.

You know, and Zelensky's issued a statement which says nothing, basically because nothing happened. It was political. Now, it's the same thing with Netanyahu's coming to pay respects to Lindsey Graham, a close ally of Israel. And so you can't have the Israeli prime minister land and not meet with Donald Trump. So there's a meeting. What's the purpose of the meeting? To provide intelligence updates. But the notion that Trump is ill-informed about what's going on with Israel and Netanyahu's ill-informed about going to the United States is absurd. This was just simply absurd, more of a PR stunt. You can't have the prime minister land and not meet with Donald Trump. So the White House had to meet this guy, had to take photographs. There had to be a reason behind this, but, you know, the coincidence is Lindsey Graham's dead body.

#Danny

Well, speaking of Lindsey Graham, maybe a good way to commemorate him is to see how wrong he was about Iran and how disastrous his pushing the U.S. into war with Iran actually was. Here is a clip that's been circulating about his predictions for what's going to happen to Iran out of the war.

#Scott Ritter

And what we're trying to do is just get a few cities to fall in the next month, get the Arabs more openly involved tomorrow or by the end of the week, and just have almost irreversible momentum.

#Danny

So there was what Lindsey Graham thought was going to happen in the Iran war. Cities would begin to fall very rapidly after U.S. strikes, and then the Arab countries would take over. Your reactions to this, Scott, now that Lindsey Graham has died?

#Scott Ritter

Well, apparently Lindsey Graham was preparing some sort of documentary film that was going to revive his floundering senatorial ambitions. He was facing reelection and was being challenged, and there was a chance that he might not win. He was panic fundraising. So there's this documentary that was being prepared. The thing about a documentary, understand that this is not—you know, this isn't, you know, *The Office*, where people run and just say. Every time Lindsey Graham did this, it was designed to make him look important, and he is saying things that he has thought about in advance. And so these are, you know, pronouncements of a man that isn't—it's not the musings of it.

So the reason why I bring this up is, look—anytime you have spontaneous discussions, I mean, you and I can go to a bar and sit there and start talking about, you know, this is how we're doing it right now. This is totally unscripted. So you ask me a question, and I'm, you know, I'm answering the question off the top of my head. I didn't come in with a prepared statement saying, okay, here's my answer. I'm thinking as we go on, you're throwing new information at me. I'm absorbing the information. I'm trying to make it make sense. And we're having a spontaneous conversation. And when these happen, anybody who gets it 100% right is not human.

You know, you're sitting there saying you may not have all the data, you may have forgotten some data, and you say things. So if this was truly spontaneous for Lindsey Graham, I'd say, well, you know, let's cut him a little bit of slack because, you know, he's just—no, these are scripted events, which makes how wrong he is even worse because he's now saying things that are deliberately being said for posterity, deliberately being—it's scripted so that he looks like he is God's gift to American leadership and that he is the man behind this. He's the thinker. He's the brilliant brain. And it just shows how wrong Lindsey Graham was, how utterly wrong he was.

#Scott Ritter

Hmm.

#Danny

Exactly, yes. And we can be thankful for that, honestly, because Lindsey Graham's ambitions being achieved is a disaster for the world and humanity. And America. Yeah, exactly. The U.S. is definitely included in that global calculation. But yeah, for the United States, 100%. And it has been. I mean, just the United States—I mean, the United States losing this war has also been a disaster for the United States, just for being involved. Scott, I wanted your reaction to this development. It seems like CENTCOM, the Pentagon, can't seem to stop messing with Iran war casualty numbers.

So according to Main Press News, Pentagon statistics were found to have been altered: 270 U.S. soldier injuries and four deaths having been wiped from the record instead of being placed on a separate list. The excuse provided for this was that they weren't classifying these casualties as part

of the Iran War toll because it is during a ceasefire, according to them. And earlier this year, The Intercept revealed the U.S. had removed at least 15 casualties from the Iran War count. Scott, what's going on, and how do you see this? What's your reaction to it?

#Scott Ritter

This is the cheapest form of politics. You know, the men and women who put on the uniform of the United States—and I know there's many people out there saying, "Screw them, they shouldn't have joined," whatever. Hey, you know, stick it in your ear. For whatever reason they joined, they joined. They took an oath, and they assumed certain responsibilities and obligations. One of the obligations is to go where you're told to go and do what you're told to do, so long as it's not, you know, illegal, in-your-face war crime. These people were manning, I believe, a Patriot air defense system.

And they were struck by Iranian weapons that were used in attacks against facilities that this air defense system was supposed to be defending against. This is literally the definition of war. It was a combat operation. But because of politics, remember, Trump, you know, under the War Powers Act, had to make certain declarations to Congress. And, you know, after the period of time covered by the initial declaration passed, he would have to make more recommendations and come to Congress for approval. And Congress wasn't inclined to approve the extension of authorities. And so what Donald Trump did is basically said, "It's over. It's over. Finished. Clock reset." And then he's saying we never reset the clock.

We never punched it again. So these deaths are independent of that initial 39-day conflict and a little beyond that. This is something totally different, and we're separating, as if the American public doesn't know. I mean, this is the stupidity of this act. The fact that we're talking about this right now only brings, you know, greater scrutiny into the deaths of these soldiers, why they died, you know, why. Why are there 270 wounded? How did that happen? Let's get some more details on that. But the Pentagon is deliberately disguising the number of wounded and where they were wounded, how they were wounded, because they don't have a legal obligation to report.

Dead, you have a legal obligation to report. Wounded, not so much. But this just proves that this war—I mean, let's just think about it. Just frame it this way. I mean, today I'm wearing my Marine Corps T-shirt because why the hell not? You know, I'm proud of who I am. I'm proud of what I've done. I'm proud of my service. And when I reached up into my closet, I grabbed this shirt, and it just so happened to have my little Marine Corps emblem on it. But the point is, you know, when I put that uniform on, I was honoring my country. I was saying, "I'm here for you. When you need me, I'm here." This administration is disgracing everybody who wears the uniform by doing this.

These people died in the service of their country. We don't have to agree on it. You and I both agree this war should never be fought. We both agree they shouldn't be there. But they're dead because they volunteered and they were sent and they were put in harm's way and they died. And we should be a lot more respectful of this sacrifice that they made. Again, people say, "Sacrifice what?" Guys,

you're missing the point. The point is, when we say, as Pete Hegseth says, as Donald Trump says, that I'm here for the troops. I'm here for the troops. I support the troops. The troops are everything. The men and women who wear the uniform are everything.

#Danny

Well, they're everything until they're dead and wounded.

#Scott Ritter

Then they become inconvenient. You know, and look at these wounded. Have we talked about the wounds that they've suffered? Because the dead are dead. They're gone. Their remains are going to be buried. Their families are going to suffer. But it's over at that point in time. Checks will be written, and that's that.

#Scott Ritter

What about the wounded?

#Scott Ritter

You know, because we're talking about some severe brain injuries. We're talking about the potential of amputations. We're talking about spinal injuries. We're talking about things that are—you know, I guarantee some of them are going to be pooping in a colostomy bag for the rest of their life. And these are like 20-year-old kids that are condemned to that. So what are we doing about them? They're going to go to a VA hospital at some point and spend the rest of their life there. Some of them are going to have brain injuries, and they'll be drooling in a cup. They may have engaged a pretty little 18-year-old girl before they went off to war.

Maybe they married her. They maybe even got her pregnant. So she's back home with a baby, and now they come back drooling in a cup. That relationship's over. That girl ain't going to hang around. She's going to leave them. The parents are going to grow old and die, and so at some point in time, this is going to be a 40-year-old drooler in a cup. And what's the country doing for them? Not a damn thing. Why? Because look at how we treat our warriors. Look at how we treat them, the disgraceful way we treat them. And where is society lining up condemning the actions of this president? And this should be everybody. I know, look, I'm against the war.

You know this, Danny. You know that I've been articulating against this war from day one. I'm not out here shouting, "Pro-war, pro-war, pro-war." I'm just saying, what a nation of hypocrites we have become, where we encourage people to sign up and put on a uniform. Headsets running around. And listen now, it's never been a better time to join the military. Donald Trump is the best commander-in-chief we ever had up at the Department of War. More lethality, more lethality. We're

going to inject you with testosterone, make you an even better man. You can bench press 315 pounds like me. Go, go, go. What? You got killed? Screw you.

Wait a minute, you got wounded? Sorry. We don't want to talk about you because that's not good recruiting. It's high time, and this should be this. And I'll say this right now. You know, people have always asked me, and I get this question all the time because I'm very proud—like I said, proud of it, proud of it—would I encourage people to join the Marine Corps today? And I have said consistently that you have to reflect on things. You have to think about the future. You have to understand you're not always going to work with a commander-in-chief who you politically support. Let me change my answer right now. No. Nobody should join the U.S. military today.

Nobody, because we're no longer a country worthy of defending, and we're not a country that honors your sacrifice. If you're wearing the uniform today, wait for your enlistment to end and get the hell out. If you have your commission, when your commission obligation finishes, leave. And one of the reasons I'm saying this is what legislation is being considered right now in the Congress that basically merges the United States military with the Israeli military, United States intelligence with it. We have become Greater Israel. And I will never, ever, ever support an American wearing the uniform of anything that's other than 100% defense of the United States of America.

America no longer functions as a constitutional republic, which means that the Constitution you take an oath to uphold and defend is meaningless because it doesn't have any value. So I would never encourage anybody to join the United States military today as it's currently constructed. And I wouldn't until such time we change the nature of our government, the attitude of our government, until the Constitution is a document protected by the American people. You can't take an oath, because remember, when you join the military, you take an oath to the Constitution. When the Constitution has no meaning, that means your oath has no meaning.

And now we're seeing that played out right now with the disgraceful conduct towards these four dead Americans and the 270 wounded soldiers. That's it. And you're talking to a guy who volunteered to serve in the military and is very proud of his military service. But the country that I served isn't the country today. The country I served would never allow itself to be morphed into an amalgam of the United States and Israel, which is exactly what's happening today. Remember, they're dying today. They're dying because of Israel, because of the intelligence provided by Benjamin Netanyahu, because this administration has totally subordinated itself to the will of Israel.

We are literally becoming Greater Israel. You know, Greater Israel, the Greater Israeli experiment was failing in the Middle East. So now the Israelis have successfully attached themselves to the American host and redefined America as an extension of Israel. And mark my words, this is going to have ramifications for free speech. There will come a time when we can't have this conversation, Danny, because it'll be illegal, because that's what happens when Israel takes over America. And that's the direction we're heading right now: the absolute occupation of the United States of America, from a legal standpoint, by Israel, by Greater Israel, by the Zionists.

#Danny

Yeah, well, I hope that people watching this, as well as just, you know, everyday people here in the United States, are viewing what happened and what's happening with the U.S. military, you know, abroad. Those 50,000—out of those 50,000, those, for whatever reason, they went over there to operate that equipment, or maybe just to guard over it and sit with it, whatever it may be—their complicity, whatever their complicity in the, you know, dead Iranians that have come from the war. The fact is, is that it would be, I would hope, people's focus to help with the process, which I'm pretty sure would be underway given everything we just reacted to. You just reacted to, Scott, with the fudging of these numbers. I mean, it's complete and utter disrespect to the dead and the injured.

And I would hope that those who haven't suffered that fate, who are sitting ducks right now in the region, are thinking to themselves, "Yeah, maybe this isn't something I want to be doing. Maybe this doesn't reflect my values. Maybe this isn't a war that should be fought." And I would hope that people who aren't in the military would be helping with making that argument too, and make that argument more public and more accessible so that it can become more and more likely that operations like this, this disastrous operation, are not possible, because ultimately it will come from rank-and-file troops themselves refusing to wage wars, refusing to follow these orders that are going to be super important or critical in the years to come, for sure.

But anything on this, Scott, before we move on to Russia, Ukraine? No, I said what I had to say. Yeah, so, Scott, how about you help us with an update on Russia-Ukraine? Because we mentioned a bit about—here's Meduza—we mentioned a bit about the situation when it comes to Ukraine stupidly hitting Iranian vessels in the Caspian. But Ukraine is still up to its funny business. You know, 400 drones in the last 24 hours supposedly launched at Russia. I'm curious what your thoughts are on the state of the war now and where it's headed.

#Scott Ritter

Well, again, when we speak of these 400 drones, let's just go back to the fact that Volodymyr Zelensky, the president of Ukraine, on June 25th ordered, or announced, that he was initiating a 40-day drone war against Russia, using long-range and intermediate-range drones to strike the strategic depth of Russia. The purpose of this was to bring pain to the Russian people, to bring the war home to Russia, in order to get the Russian people to doubt their leadership and put pressure on their leadership to get the Russian leadership to come to the negotiating table. That's the stated objective of this. And so, you know, we're still in the midst of this, you know, 40-day war for at least another couple days.

And so this is what you get on almost a daily basis, you know, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700 drones launched every day. And some hit their targets. The vast majority of them, they don't make it. They get shot down before they even get clear of the special military operation. Russia has extensive air

defenses up and operating. Others get shot down on the approach to Moscow. And then a handful get through. I mean, look, it's just military math. It doesn't take rocket science. If I'm planning an attack on Moscow and I have Western intelligence services provide me real-time information, I'll take a look at the layout, the air defense layout of Moscow, and I'll pick a seam.

And that seam is where you have some gaps, or where you look at where there's overlap, but you count the systems involved and you say, okay, these guys could shoot down 20. These guys could shoot down 30. That's 50. Let's assume they get 100 percent hits. I'm sending 80. Thirty get through automatically. You don't have to do anything. Automatically, 30 get through. And then you just keep doing the math. And so you jam it through until eventually eight of the 400 get through. And those eight come in. Some get shot down. Some strike their targets. And as we talked about earlier, they go pop. That's all that's happening here. They go pop.

Nothing's going boom. Every once in a while, they hit a Wildberries facility, and they go pop, and things catch fire. And next thing you know, you've got a gigantic fire. Maybe the Russians should start investing in halogen fire suppression systems, then air defense, because it just seems to me when something goes pop in a Wildberries facility, you should be able to compartmentalize that fire as quick as possible and find a way to do that. Hint, hint, hint. Because, you know, you're losing an entire facility. But it's bad for the people who had their materials stored in those facilities. It's bad for Wildberries as a brand. But it's not crippling Russia. And this is the thing that people need to understand. Nothing Ukraine is doing is crippling Russia.

It's causing temporary inconvenience. And even the gas lines, you know, I just talked to Rick Sanchez today, and he was on a drive throughout the Moscow region. And he said, there's no lines, no gas lines in Moscow. Gas stations are open. People are buying their gas. You can find gas lines in other places, you know, the closer you get to the front line or the closer you get to refineries that have been hit. Again, I use the Samara refinery because Gilbert Doctorow singled it out as the proof positive Russia's lost this war because a drone hit the Samara refinery. And Samara is, you know, 600 miles, 700 miles away from the front lines. And it means that Russia is defenseless. And it went pop. And it went pop. And there's some flame. And there's some smoke.

And people, oh my God, took pictures. And it's the end of the world. Except that within a few hours, the firefighters came in. Just so people understand, I'm trained as an oil field firefighter. I've been to the academy in Nevada. I've put out oil field fires. I know what's required. You know, you shut the pumps. Yeah. You isolate, you come in, shut the valves, foam it down, cool it down, and then replace the damaged equipment, open up the valves, and it's back and running a week and a half later. And that's the fact of it. But if that refinery, one of the tasks is to produce refined petroleum products, say gasoline, diesel, for local consumers, that's why you have refineries where they're at, to supply refined product to local communities.

And so I think this one was operated by Rosneft. And that means that the supplies, because, you know, as you produce it, it then gets loaded into trucks or pipelines or storage, and it goes out and

gets distributed. Nobody's distributing that anymore. So the gas stations that were supplied by this don't have gas. And guess what happens in that case? Suddenly there's lines of cars saying, "We need gas." And, of course, the Ukrainian propagandists film this and put it out there and say, "Look what's happening. Russia, it's in dire straits. Oh my God, it's over for Russia. There's a gas line in Samara. It's over."

#Danny

Finished.

#Scott Ritter

The Russians are going to surrender, quit. It's done. They find a girl who's going to make a TikTok video about how bad this is, and they find another person who complains about how bad it is. Come back three days later. There ain't no line at that facility. Why? Well, first of all, because the Russian government took a look at that and said, okay, how do you, you know, Rosneft, what were you supplying? They turn to Lukoil or some other manufacturer who has a reserve, and they say, re-divert some of your reserves to these stations until Rosneft gets back up and running. And next thing you know, the trucks show up, the gas shows up. Lines disappear. Wham, bam, done. That's the reality of what's going on right now in Russia. This is the 40-day drone war.

It's having zero impact on Russia's ability to survive existentially. The Russian economy is growing. It's thriving. There might be some hiccups here and there because of fuel. But, you know, Russia adapts. Running out of diesel? Stop exporting diesel. Solved. Need more diesel? Buy diesel. Solved. And that's what's happening. There's no crisis in Russia right now, strategic crisis. In the areas closer to the front, in Crimea, of course, they're being hammered by drones. Kherson, hammered by drones. When I was in Zaporozhye, hammered by drones. Except not so much anymore. Why? It just seems that maybe if you're a Ukrainian drone operator and you're doing things that piss Russia off, you might pay with your life. And that's what's happening.

Every day, 80 to 100, probably even more right now, Ukrainian drone operators are being killed by the Russians, who have intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance assets out there, blanketing the facilities, looking for signs. When they find it, instantaneous death. That's just the reality right now. The most dangerous job in Ukraine is to be a drone operator, and they're dying in droves. It takes four weeks to train you just how to take one off and fly it. It takes another, you know, six weeks to get some basic skill set that you can deploy to the front. It takes about six months before you actually know how to do this thing, and then you're dead, and you can't be replaced. And so the attacks are going to taper off. Now, the other thing is the drones that they're using, you know, they're built someplace, parts are produced someplace, that are supplied someplace.

You know, the Russians, they know where they are, basically. They hit the places that are 100% military-associated, as long as they're not too close to civilian locations. But, you know, the Russians

have been tracking this. They know, for instance, because Ukrainians brag about it, that a lot of the FPV drones are produced with parts made in the homes of Ukrainian housewives. Why do we know this? Because Ukrainian housewives come out and say, "I'm producing drone parts for the Ukrainian war effort in my own home, and I'm working together with my neighbors. It's a neighborhood effort."

The neighborhood is saving Ukraine from the evil Russians, and we're doing a great job, except they're admitting that they're just war criminals because they're basically turning their homes into... No, Russia's not going to blow up every apartment in Ukraine. But when these parts get brought together in a basement and they start to use them to make drones, and then they get shipped out to a warehouse that might be co-located to a furniture factory, Russia in the past wasn't striking those. Now they are. So when you see a basement get hit, people go, "That's a civilian target." No, it's a drone factory. When they hit a place, they go, "That's a furniture factory."

Nope, that's a drone factory. Russia's taking the gloves off. They've expanded their target list. And as a result, Ukraine's ability to produce drones is diminishing. At some point in time, they aren't going to have 300 drones. They can make 100 FPV drones a day. One hundred. They're firing 300, 400 a day. Understand what you've done is you're eating through the stocks that you've built up. And those stocks are also being eaten up by Russian drone attacks, Russian missile attacks that are blowing them up. At some point in time, Ukraine gets exhausted. Now, yes, they're supposed to be bringing in stuff produced by Germany. Gilbert Doctorow famously talks about the vaunted German drones.

Except if you dug in deeper about the specific drones he was talking about, you realize they don't work. The Ukrainians admit, "We won't use those drones because to use them means you die," because there's a failure-to-launch rate of up to 75%. And you don't want to be standing in the field with a drone, with the Russians taking photographs while your drone doesn't launch. And you're just sitting there, and then they're going to—you can run away all you want, but they saw where you ran away. They'll kill the drone to kill you. And that's why Ukraine's losing 80 to 100 of them a day. The German drones don't work. The German AI technology doesn't work.

America's coming in, you know, selling drones that do work, except those drone factories have been destroyed. If you build the drones outside of Ukraine, you have to bring the drones in, you know, put them someplace in a warehouse. Russia's hitting the warehouses right now. Ukraine's lost this war. It's just a matter of time. Russia's winning this war. Ukraine's lost this war. This is what's happening on the front line. You know, the decision to shift resources to the drones that was made back in January when Fedorov became the defense minister has denied resources to Syrsky, the former commander of the Ukrainian armed forces, who said, "I need resources to build brigades."

I need brigades to fill the gap in the lines because the Russians are killing everybody. And, you know, we can go around and thump people on the head all we want, bring them together, but we need to bring them together and give them ammunition. We need to give them equipment, et cetera. We don't have any. We need to buy it. We need to train these guys. And you're diverting all

our resources. It's creating problems for me. And so what happened on July 15th, the Ukrainians had a come-to-Jesus meeting and said, "Hey, the drone war is not working. The front line is still collapsing. It hasn't diverted resources from that. The effort to cut off fuel to the Russian military didn't work. The Russian military continues to advance."

And we're getting blown up more than we're blowing them up. It's not a good thing. Maybe we should focus on giving Syrsky the resources he wanted. Fedorov insisted that he'd be viable. They fired him. The guy they replaced him with, you know, took the cheap route. He was the guy who, you know, oversaw Operation Spiderweb back in June of 2025, maybe. And, yeah, and, you know, the one where they built the truck. Very innovative. I mean, they built the trucks. They built the drones. They stocked them with drones, drove the trucks outside of strategic bases, launched the drones, and blew up a bunch of Russian bombers. Good job. Except Russia blew you off the face of the earth for that.

But he decided that they're going to expand the war in a clever way to start hitting Wildberries facilities, online retailer, burn them to the ground. Lots of really cool videos if you're pro-Ukrainian, the kind of stuff you put up there and say, "See? Russia's losing. Russia sucks. We're winning. We're number one." But this prompted Russia to take the gloves off, and they're blowing everything up right now. When winter comes, Ukraine will have no ability to generate heat, no ability to cook with gas. They're going to freeze to death. There will be no ability to have food because all the distribution centers are being destroyed. Their cars will be on the road empty because all the gas stations are being blown up.

Russia is totally eradicating the ability to sustain life in Ukraine. And so, come winter, there's gonna be huge problems for the Ukrainians, huge problems for them. And this is the consequence of making the decision to, you know, attack Wildberries factories. I hope the Ukrainians enjoyed the video. Play it again all you can in the wintertime. Hopefully that fire will keep you warm, but you won't be able to play it long because your batteries are going to run out, and this time there is nothing to recharge the battery with, and so you'll be left without communications. That's the status of the war. Russia is winning on all fronts. This is the reality.

#Danny

So, Scott, then my question to you as we enter the last five to ten minutes here is, why then promote the opposite of this? Why negate these facts? Why do you believe that there are those—well, you can start from maybe the Western media on down—but there is this narrative that many are adopting, and it's even leaked into suspicion. I'm sure people who follow you, people who follow this show, have been coming with questions. So, is this looking now bad for Russia? Have things turned around? Because it is incessant and it is wall to wall. So, what are your thoughts on why?

#Scott Ritter

Well, if people want to know why, go to ScottRitter.com. It'll take you to the Real Scott Ritter Substack page. And in there, you'll see a little bar called The Russia House. And go to The Russia House. It's where I interview prominent Russian figures. And you'll see that I've done a couple of interviews with a guy named Andrei Ilnitsky. And Andrei Ilnitsky and I have carried out in-depth conversations about what he calls mental war. Mental war is information war. Um, there it is, The Russia House. And then if you go down to these things, you'll see—keep going, keep going—Andrei Ilnitsky, right there, "Mental War Part Two." That means there was a "Mental War Part One," but that's the second of two interviews I did with Andrei Ilnitsky, where he discusses—welcome to this special—sorry about that—special edition of, uh... So, you know, Andrei, you know, came up with mental war.

He was interviewed by a Russian military magazine in 2021. At the time, he was a senior advisor to Sergei Shoigu, the minister of defense, and described mental war. And then in 2022, he wrote an article that he's been pounding away on it. What is mental war? Mental war is a war. You use information to infect the minds of people. And the goal here is to infect the minds of Russian people. And one way you get it to the Russian people is you echo it from a sounding board, which is the West.

So you have people like Gilbert Doctorow come out and say stupid things. I'll give you an example of some of the stupid things he says, and it gets echoed around in this Western sounding board and projects into Russia, where people hear it and start to believe it. It starts to corrupt their minds. They start to question authority. In September, there's going to be an election at the State Duma. And the goal of the West right now, and the goal of all of this, is to have United Russia defeated at the polls. Because if you defeat United Russia, you defeat Vladimir Putin, even though his name's not on the ballot. And it creates the conditions for internal unrest in Russia.

People start questioning the leadership of Vladimir Putin. And the goal is to have a Moscow Maidan and bring down the Putin government. This is the dream. This is why they're doing what they're doing. And if you say, well, why Gilbert Doctorow? Hey, in his last interview with Glenn Diesen, he admitted that he's been a member of the Russian opposition since 2010. Straight up said it: "I'm a member of the Russian opposition since about 2010." Thank you, Gilbert. You helped make my case. But one of the things that Gilbert promotes is the concept of Pyrrhic victory. He said, you know, the Russians—because he can't deny the fact that Russia's winning on the front lines. You can't deny that anymore.

Nobody's even trying to deny it. Syrsky didn't deny it. Everybody acknowledges Russia's winning. But it's a Pyrrhic victory, you see, because Russia's losing more resources. This is the idea. My dogs are even shouting, "Pyrrhic victory." I don't know what's going on. There's some sort of Pyrrhic undertaking outside my door. Hopefully it's not the FBI kicking down the door, but we'll find out. The point is, I don't know why they're barking. Pyrrhic victory. I mean, what's amazing here is that Gilbert Doctorow was a PhD historian, Columbia University. Now, I never got my PhD. I was accepted by Harvard, and then 9/11 happened and all that stuff, and that was the end of that.

But I do know that they put a heavy emphasis on historiography, basically your ability to do research, to document, that you don't say things out of the blue. You have to document everything. So if he's going to use a term like Pyrrhic victory, Pyrrhic victory alludes to King Pyrrhus, who fought a battle—two battles, actually—one in 280 B.C. and then in 279, because B.C. is reversed, 279. The 279 was the Battle of Asculum against the Romans, and he beat the Romans, beat them badly, except he lost 20% of his men and all of his good commanders. And basically he told—you know, Plutarch, the Greco-Roman historian, quoted him saying—"If I have any more victories like this, I'll be lost," which is true. He ended up getting beat because he ran out of men.

So there's a reasoning behind the term Pyrrhic victory, but Gilbert Doctorow uses it. And when people hear it, this is mental warfare. When they hear it, they go, "Ah, Russia's Pyrrhic victory," because Gilbert Doctorow said so. He's a smart Russianist with a Ph.D. in history, and it has to mean something. And what it means is that Russia is getting worn down. Russia is suffering more losses than the Ukrainians. Russia is suffering a Pyrrhic victory. They may be winning at the front line, but they're losing the war. Mental warfare. He planted that idea in people's minds. People ask me, why are you going after Gilbert Doctorow? I'm telling you why just now, because he's full of you-know-what. It's a 100% lie of Pyrrhic victory. There is no Pyrrhic victory. Every standard used to define Pyrrhic victory goes against Ukraine.

They're the ones losing men that can't be replaced. Russia is recruiting more manpower than it's losing. Russia is getting stronger. That's the opposite of a Pyrrhic victory. Russian defense industry is functioning not just to sustain the war, but build up a bigger military to deal with NATO. Ukraine's defense industry is obliterated. That's a Pyrrhic victory. Every standard used to define—who's suffering losses that can't be replaced? But here's the ultimate irony. It's not a Pyrrhic victory for Ukraine. They're just losing. It's a Russian victory, but you can't acknowledge the Russian victory and achieve your objective of having United Russia swept at the polls. So you have to find a way to categorize the Russian victory so that it's a defeat. And then he goes on and does it.

Just now that he says it's a Pyrrhic victory, he moves on to his next thing, to misrepresent actual fact, present-day fact. Gilbert Doctorow, I was an attendee on a video conference of Russian officials. It was July 10th. They actually had it. It was held, I think, in the Russian embassy or in the Russian diplomatic facilities in Vienna, where people came in and talked about the war crimes of Hitler Ukraine committed in Kherson district. And among the people who spoke are Rodion Miroshnik. He's the ambassador-at-large for war crimes, senior Russian diplomat. Yohana Lantukhova, a friend of mine who I've interviewed and met, continue to communicate with. She's the ombudsman for children's rights. And Vladimir Saldo, he's the governor of Kherson. I've met him. I've interviewed him. I know him. They spoke, and they talked about the crimes being committed.

And these are war crimes. These are Russian patriots who are speaking. But Gilbert Doctorow, because now he's planted the idea of Pyrrhic victory in the minds, he now reinforces this concept by

saying, "Well, the average person listening would think that this is, you know, an indictment of the war crimes. What I heard is an admission of defeat by the Russians. They're losing this war because Saldo's words and the words of others imply that Kherson is unlivable right now, unlivable, uninhabitable by the population. This is an admission by Russia that they have lost the war." And most people will say, "My God, Gilbert Doctorow, Pyrrhic victory, Gilbert Doctorow said this. It must be so." Go look at the video.

That's not what they said at all. I know these people. I've talked to them about this very presentation, and they said, "We didn't come close to saying that." We acknowledge that the crimes that are being committed by Ukraine against the population of Kherson have created a tragic situation. It is a difficult situation. But the population of Kherson is like the population of Zaporozhye. I was just in Zaporozhye last month while they were being bombarded. They had no electricity. They had no water. Drones were striking vehicles right and left. The Highway of Death was called the Highway of Death for a reason. These weren't a defeated people. These were people determined to continue the struggle, to continue the fight.

The people of Kherson are the same way. The people of Crimea are the same way. But this is what Gilbert Doctorow does. This is what the practitioners of mental warfare do. They try to create an impression of defeat. But I'm here to tell you right now, everything they say, Danny—anybody in your audience can hit me up with a fact. I know the subject inside and out. Every point Doctorow makes is an absolute, fundamental lie and a perverted concept of truth. His goal through mental warfare is to make you forget your critical thinking skills. You know, the ability to ask questions. You automatically get dumbed down. You buy into a concept, and that concept sucks you away to a fantasy land. And what's the purpose of the fantasy land?

To have Russians question the validity of their leadership so that on September 20th, United Russia will be swept away. This isn't the first time they've done this, Danny. This was supposed to happen in 2011. Do you remember? When Vladimir Putin was coming back from being prime minister, he was going to become president. Joe Biden went in March 2011 and pleaded with the opposition, Gilbert Doctorow, not to elect Vladimir Putin, to keep him out because it would be bad for Putin, bad for Russia. That was the goal. That was the objective. If you remember, Putin called out Hillary Clinton. He said, "Stop interfering in the domestic political affairs," because Hillary Clinton was critical of the parliamentary elections because it didn't achieve the result they wanted.

It kept United Russia in power, which then opened the door for the swap that allowed Putin to come back in the March 2012 elections. Past patterns repeat themselves. This is what the Russian opposition does, and this is what they're doing today. Gilbert Doctorow is a self-defined member of the Russian opposition, and he is working with somebody, either willingly or unwillingly, to propagate what is disinformation that can only be defined as mental warfare. The bad news for Gil is, first of all, the Russians aren't stupid. It may work here in the United States. Everybody in your chat says, "Oh, they're blowing things up. They're doing great. Oh, screw you." It's not screw you. I'm sorry, screw Gilbert. You know, it's not true. I'm here to tell you it's just simply not true.

It's all a lie. I've been there. I've done it. I got the T-shirt. Come with me. Come and see if you don't believe me. I will bring you and I will show you the truth. But then you have to act on the truth. It's not just going to be casual tourism. If you're going to come, you've got to act on it. You've got to become an activist for the truth. And if you're not willing to do that, then you don't get to come. But the point is, it's all fundamental. But the bad news for Gil and his people: did you see what President Putin did yesterday when he spoke to the Duma? No, I didn't. He was in with the Duma, and he was giving out awards to people. And one of the people he gave a Hero of Russia award to, the Gold Star of Russia, leaned into him and said, "Mr. President, be bolder."

Be bolder. And so Putin got up in front of them and he said, "I put a medal on this guy and he told me to be bolder. Do you want me to be bolder?" And the Duma shouts out, "Yes, yes." Do you see what he just did there? You think there's a snowball's chance in hell that that Duma is going to go against this president in a time of war, that the Russian people are going to abandon the guy who's winning this war? The Russian— it failed. Putin called it out, and he called out the Russophobes. He called out everything. He said the Russophobes have been seeking to bring us down since the very beginning. The game is over, Gilbert. You're being called out by me, and your cause is being called out by the Russian president, and it will never resonate with the Russian people.

#Danny

I think that's a great way to conclude this in a strong manner here. Great analysis, Scott, on that. I thought that was very important. All right, everybody. We are here past the hour. So, as you saw earlier, I put up Scott's Substack, his website. That's in the video description below, so you can find all of his recent work, including an article about the Odyssey, which I haven't seen yet. Oh, you got to read that.

#Scott Ritter

You got to see the movie. It's one of the best movies.

#Danny

I've heard it's really good.

#Scott Ritter

What is the movie? I hate it because I read everything about DEI and woke and all this, and I was like, I got to see it. I saw it. I came out—it's one of the best movies I've ever seen. It caused me to write this article. I mean, that's how strong the movie was with me. But if I could just make a pitch, I'm supposed to be—I've been given an opportunity for unprecedented access to issues pertaining to

Baltic security and Arctic security. If you know anything about Russia and how the West interacts, these are the two hotspots after Ukraine. Even after Ukraine is resolved, there will be issues about the Baltic and there will be issues about the Arctic.

And the more we understand these issues from the Russian perspective, the better it will be to handle the propaganda coming out of the West, you know, about the Russian threats to these. I've been given unprecedented access. That's all I can say at this point. Unprecedented access to both issues pertaining to Baltic security and Arctic security. And I'll be going to Russia in September to follow through on this capability. As I said earlier on, you know, if you go to ScottRitter.com and the Substack page, it's free. It's a free subscription. It doesn't cost you a penny. If you subscribe, a paid subscription, that basically puts the roof over my house, puts food on the table. That's my salary. These trips are paid for by donations. And your audience has been fantastic, other audiences as well.

And it's enabled me to do the trip that I did in June and the trip in March and the trip prior to that. There's exactly \$32.47 left in my donation account because I've used it all to do this last trip in June. It's going to cost a lot of money to make this trip happen, tens of thousands of dollars. This is, as I said, an unprecedented opportunity. And I'm hopeful that, you know, your audience and others who watch this will say, "Hey, that's what we want. We want to know more about that. This is important." Trust me, the interviews will be big and the access will be unprecedented. The insights will be unique and valuable, but it can't happen unless there are donations. And so if you find it—if you like this—hey, just do me a favor.

Go to the Russia House and watch some of those interviews. And like I said, Andrei Onitsky, Mental War. Learn about it. Watch this. That didn't happen without your support. Your donations allowed me to rent the studio, to hire the cameramen, to hire the interpreters, to hire the sound engineers, to hire the editors, to package it up and bring it to you. That costs money. It ain't cheap. But if you look at that and you say, "I learned something from that," that's the value of this. And I can guarantee you that what we're getting ready to do in September and October, you're going to learn something from it. But I need help doing it. \$30.47 left in my donation fund. So that will get me about four steps out the door before I drink a Diet Coke that costs, you know, whatever. Two bucks gone.

#Scott Ritter

Yeah.

#Danny

Yeah, no, totally. Everybody, you heard Scott. Definitely support that kind of work. It's critical that we do. Thanks to everyone who became a new member. I pulled you up earlier. Sorry we didn't get to your question, MemoVox, but I believe Scott answered it. And thanks, Sparky, for the super chat on Pete Hegseth and Lindsey Graham's connection. Hit the like button before you go. That helps get

more eyes on this. Scott's Substack website is in the video description below, so you can check that out after. And then all the places for this show are there too. All right, everybody. I'll be back tomorrow, 4 p.m. Eastern Time, with Lawrence Wilkerson and Larry Johnson. So that's July 29th. And I'll see you then, 4 p.m. Eastern. Bye-bye.