



REPORT from the Strait of Hormuz: Not closed, but under Iranian control

This transcript may not be 100% accurate due to audio quality or other factors.

Dimitri Lascaris (DL): Good day, this is Dimitri Lascaris coming to you for Reason2Resist on March 29, 2026 from Bandar Abbas in Iran. I'm currently standing outside the entrance to the passenger marine terminal. We are going to take a boat out into the strait to see what we can see. We had to change our plan this morning, the plan originally, and this came straight from the mouth of the gracious governor of the province in which Bandar Abbas is situated, we had tea with him last night in a cafe overlooking the Strait of Hormuz, we asked him if we could visit Hormuz island and Qeshm, which is reputed by resistance groups to be a heavily fortified island – it's the largest island in the Persian Gulf, and it's close to here – and he assured us that if the security conditions permitted it, we would be able to visit both of those islands today by boat, but we were told this morning that the port facility at Hormuz island had been struck overnight by drones and therefore we are not going to be able to actually visit the islands but are going to have to just go out quickly on the water and come back.

DL: Why don't you tell us what your feelings are about this voyage other than if it happens, it happens?

Reporter: Well, I just want to clarify that this is not a suicide boat, all right? This is a civilian vessel going out into the Strait of Hormuz to document what could be history, right? They've closed down the Strait of Hormuz and there's a new economic order shaping in which they are allowing vessels to move through with certain permissions based on whether or not they are conducting oil transactions in the dollar. I think that's a big deal. I think you do too. That's why we're on this vessel. We're going to go see it for ourselves.

DL: So in the past 48 hours, we've had some spicy experiences. Why don't you summarise for us what led up to this particular voyage.

Reporter: Okay, I'm the perfect person to tell the story because I was the most freaked out about it. We were in Bushehr two days ago, and every location we went to, we discovered later on, got bombed at a certain point. Now, these are locations that we visited initially because they had already been bombed. So you think there's no point to bomb it again. One

of the places we went to, a weather station, you posted a video about it, completely demolished. There's nothing to bomb there again. Well, when we leave, we find out it got bombed, and on top of that, the hotel we were in, right outside of it, maybe a hundred feet outside of it long.

DL: Right after we left the hotel.

Reporter: Right after we had left the hotel; a couple of hours. So I was paranoid at least. I was thinking maybe it's either a coincidence or there's a message. Well, yesterday we get to Bandar Abbas, Minab actually, which is right outside Bandar Abbas, and we visited the little girls school, actually it is for boys and girls, the little school at Minab that was bombed by a Tomahawk missile, 168 people died. We filmed it, we documented it, it was very emotional and impactful. Five or ten minutes after we left, it got bombed. So now, the team is like, okay, this is maybe too much of a coincidence. We're potentially being targeted, and this coincided with the news that two journalists in Lebanon were targeted and killed by the Israelis.

DL: You left out something that happened on the way to Minab from Bandar Abbas. Remember the antenna? When we were out there, there was a strike.

Reporter: Oh, right, right.

DL: So we saw a civilian, or we saw what remained of some kind of antenna facility. It was completely demolished, and while we were there, it sounded like a drone strike. It wasn't in our immediate vicinity, but it was close enough for us to hear it.

Reporter: Yeah, it was very loud and I started running. You didn't. You're a little too calm. Well, yeah, it seems like everywhere we were going just kept getting hit. We felt like we're being targeted and so we had a crazy drive home. We had to abandon our phones. We got off the bus, grabbed random cars and had a really long journey home.

DL: Well, the only way to protect free speech is to keep speaking.

Reporter: That's right.

DL: Our brother Ali is with us today. Ali, could you tell us what we're about to see?

Ali: We were supposed to go to a port and from that port to Qeshm island. But I think after this media tour it is somehow, I can say – nearly for ten days we are here – and this is the first time that Zionists are ahead of their schedule because they used to bomb the place that we were there before but now they targeted the location we are supposed to go there. So this is the time they are ahead up their schedule but fortunately we found a way and a vessel that we are going to get close to the oil tankers and some cargo vessels that you can see, right? We are getting close to them to see what is the current situation in the Strait of Hormuz and the fabricated narratives about it.

DL: Have you managed to figure out if these ones are transiting through the strait? Or are they waiting for permission?

Ali: I think so and I got some information that the whole Strait of Hormuz is some 33 kilometres wide but the shipping plane is actually very narrow. So only three kilometres you can use in the Strait of Hormuz for shipping lanes and there are only two lanes one close to the Persian Gulf, one close the Strait of Hormuz and the other one close to Oman and the Strait of Hormuz it connects Iran from the north and Oman in the south so it is a key waterway. And as I did some research I can say that 20% of the world's oil consumption passes through these key waterways. So it can have a very strong impact on the world economy. And a large portion of LNG, mostly produced by Qatar, also passes from these key waterways and now 30 days into the US-Israeli war on Iran, still Iran maintains the control of the Strait of Hormuz. Maybe you would see that some news agencies say that the Strait of Hormuz is shut down. No, it is under control and as Iranian officials kept saying that it is open for allies and friends and those who are not involved in this war but it is absolutely close to the US and Israeli regimes and their allies and those countries that let their soil to be used on attacks on Iranian nation, this is strait is closed for now.

Reporter: That's a lot of ships.

DL: It is indeed.

Reporter: Several dozen.

DL: Just on this side of the vessel there's several dozen.

DL: That island off in the distance, is that Hormuz island, behind all that?

Ali: 30 days into the US-Israeli war in Iran, now we are in the Strait of Hormuz in southern Iran. And we are just, I can say, maybe one kilometre away from the port in southern Iran, and right behind me you can see Iranian vessels, most of them are here. There might be some vessels that might not be Iranian but they got distance from Iranian port Hormuz because there is a risk of these vessels getting targeted here and because of that they got some distance from the port and this key waterway, which has been some of the key points of discussion after US-Israeli war on Iran. We got some information that this Strait of Hormuz is some 30 kilometres wide, but the shipping lane is so narrow, so you can just only use three km for shipping planes, one closer to the Iranian border and the other one close to Oman in the south. And the Strait of Hormuz connects in the north Iran and in the south Oman and the UAE. And I got some information that 20% of the world's oil consumption is narrowly using this key waterway to pass and a large proportion of LNG mostly produced by Qatar also uses these key waterways to pass; so it affects a large amount of the world economy and it is very important. And as Iran and Iranian officials kept saying from the first day of war that they have not shut down the threat of Hormuz but they're controlling it so there is much difference that this key waterway is open to Iranian allies and to all those countries that they have not participated on the US-Israeli aggression on Iran. But absolutely this key waterway is closed

to those neighbouring countries and to some states that have led US and Israeli regimes to use the soil of those countries to target their attacks on the Iranian nation.

DL: So off in the distance you should be able to make out directly ahead a cliff that I'm pretty sure is Qeshm island, the largest island in the Persian Gulf. You can see that it's quite rugged. There are high elevations on that island, and resistance channels report that it is heavily fortified and fully prepared for any attempted amphibious landing. I personally am sceptical that the United States military is going to attempt any kind of amphibious landing on that island. If it does attempt any amphibious landing, it's likely to be on a very small island that is further away from the Iranian coastline and that is of little to no strategic importance to the Islamic Republic.

So we're now into the waters of the Strait of Hormuz. I would say we're about a couple of kilometres from the shore and we were told we're only going to get 20 minutes out here, because there are drones in the sky and the genocidal Israeli entity has a long and sordid record of murdering journalists with gleeful impunity. So unfortunately, we're not going to be able to spend too much time out here. I'll give you a good panoramic view right now of what we can see.

DL: That is Hormuz island where we were hoping to go today but they struck the port facility so we have to remain on the water.

DL: A Press TV microphone has fallen overboard. We're going to mount an emergency operation to save it. Who's going in? Ali, I think that's your microphone. Do you have a duty to make the sacrifice?

DL: The emergency operation to save the best TV microphone from certain death has been successful.

DL: The island of Hormuz. As you can see, it's quite rugged, mountainous. I think that would pose a challenge to anybody who is trying to wrest control of it from the Iranian military. And over here is the much larger island of Qeshm; the largest island in the Persian Gulf. We're now heading back to shore. We've actually been given more time out here than we had anticipated. We were told 20 minutes, we've been out here for about an hour. Thankfully, we've seen a fair bit, at least as much as we can on this vessel. I just did a quick and dirty count of the number of oil tankers and cargo ships out here. These are just ones that are visible to the naked eye, and I counted 90 of them. And some are pointed northward, others are pointed southward, so there appears to be quite a bit of two-way traffic, close to the Iranian shore. In any case, assuming that we don't get blown out of the water between here and the port, this will be my report to you from the Strait of Hormuz on March 29th, 2026.

END

Thank you for reading this transcript. Please don't forget to donate to support our independent and non-profit journalism:

BANKKONTO:

Kontoinhaber: acTVism München e.V.
Bank: GLS Bank
IBAN: DE89430609678224073600
BIC: GENODEM1GLS

PAYPAL:

E-Mail:
PayPal@acTVism.org

PATREON:

<https://www.patreon.com/acTVism>

BETTERPLACE:

Link: [Click here](#)