



Iran War Puts U.S. Military Under Enormous Pressure

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Dimitri Lascaris (DL): Good day, this is Dimitri Lascaris coming to you from Kalamata, Greece for Reason2Resist on September 15th, 2026. High-resolution satellite imagery showing devastating damage to a key pumping station belonging to the East-West pipeline of Saudi Arabia has emerged. And today we're going to take a look at that satellite imagery and talk about what this portends for this strategic pipeline. Really was the only way that Saudi Arabia, during the course of this criminal war of aggression, which it has facilitated, was able to get significant quantities of oil to global oil markets. Well, it has been shut down, and we're going to be talking about how long it is likely to remain out of service. We're also going to look at developments, since our last report on Yemen two days ago, on the battlefield, both in Yemen and at military sites in Saudi Arabia. We'll update you on developments, key developments in the Strait of Hormuz, and we'll also look at some very interesting and potentially profound protests that are now breaking out in Syria. Before we begin, please remember to like and share this video if you find it to be informative, and if you're not already a subscriber, two Reasons2Resist, please do become one and help us to expand the reach of our unapologetic resistance journalism. And in that regard, we just passed yesterday the threshold of 200,000 subscribers. Earlier this year, we set a goal of reaching 200,000 subscribers before the end of the summer, which is more or less the two-year anniversary of the founding of Reason2Resist. First of all, let me say that we are profoundly appreciative of all the support that we receive; both from our subscribers and other viewers, whether it's of a monetary nature or just sharing our work, which is the most important thing of all, and getting the word out there about the type of journalism that we do, including on the ground from the front line of conflict zones. You make this work as meaningful as you can possibly imagine. Frankly, it is the most satisfying work that I've ever done in my life, and that's in large part due to the wonderful people who subscribe to Reason2Resist and who watch our programme. So again, thank you very much. Now with that, let's get into it.

The East-West pipeline has a series of pumping stations along its 1,200-kilometre length, which are absolutely necessary for moving the oil, not a light fluid by the way, that huge distance from Eastern Saudi Arabia to the port of Yanbu on the Red Sea coast. Under normal conditions, Saudi Aramco says it pumps about five million barrels per day to Yanbu, which is

all, or substantially all, exported to markets abroad, primarily in Asia. And the strikes on Thursday of last week on that pipeline have put it out of commission entirely. Now here is the satellite image that I referred to earlier. As you can see, folks, this looks like a tremendous amount of damage. This is not a flesh wound. This is like having your legs blown off. The pumping station, I'm going to say more about this in a moment, is only one point that was struck along this pipeline. There also is satellite imagery of fires burning at another pumping station and in addition, there seem to have been fires at other points, as many as nine fires identified by satellite imagery along the length of the pipeline from Thursday of last week.

Now, the five million barrels per day that this thing was delivering to Yanbu constitutes about four to five percent of the estimated oil demand in 2026, which according to the IEA was about 106 million barrels per day. In a market that was already squeezed by the closure of the Strait of Hormuz and damage to oil infrastructure in West Asia and Russia, that's a tonne of oil. Now bear in mind that this pumping station, as I said, is only one of the pumping stations that was hit. And unless they can repair this thing in reasonably short order there is going to be a four percent reduction, four to five percent reduction in global oil supplies for an indefinite period of time. Originally the Saudi dictatorship said last Thursday when the pipeline was struck that it was closing it as a precautionary measure. That language implies that it could have kept operating the pipeline, but it didn't want to take any unnecessary risks, so it stopped it even though it was capable of functioning. Well, what this imagery and the commentary I'm going to show you suggest is that they had no choice. They simply couldn't use the pipeline and this was not stopped, the functioning of the pipeline was not suspended as a precautionary measure.

Now according to officials who spoke to the Associated Press, it will take three to five weeks to repair the pipeline and put it back into operation. But is that likely to be true? Let me first of all show you the report, a response to that claim by the Hormuz Letter on X: "Repairs to Saudi Arabia's East-West oil pipeline will take far longer than a month due to a lack of spare parts with the pumping infrastructure catastrophically damaged in at least eight locations on the pipe hit, per initial report citing sources inside Saudi Arabia. That leaves Saudi Arabia set to run out of crude oil stocks for export within five to seven days, taking around four million barrels per day, four percent of global supply off the market per three industry sources to Reuters. Some repaired points were struck again using up the spares and undoing the work. Yanbu has about a week of stocks left on the kingdom's only export route that does not pass through Hormuz."

Now I also found this interesting commentary on X this morning, and this is by an account called Invisible Army 77. I'm going to read in some detail from this commentary because I think it is quite interesting. It seems to have been written by somebody who has considerable understanding of pipeline engineering, but I can't confirm that to you and let me be candid with you. I am not a pipeline engineer. I do not have expertise in that area, but I nonetheless found this to be interesting and informative. This account writes that the pipeline has been functionally destroyed and showing the picture that we just showed you a moment ago, the account writes: "This is Al-Mesba'ah Pumping Station on Saudi Arabia's East-West pipeline,

and based on this high-resolution satellite captures, it is functionally destroyed. The imagery shows the entire process core gutted by fire. The main pump hall housing the crude booster units, the high voltage transformer yard, the medium voltage switch gear and the station control building are all burned out. This is not a temporary setback. This station was the final booster before the Hejaz mountain crossing, responsible for providing the 150 to 200 bar discharge pressure required to lift oil roughly 1,200 metres in elevation to Yanbu." Imagine the power that is necessary to do that. That's my editorialising, by the way. And the account goes on and writes: "Without that pressure injection point, the pipeline cannot overcome the static head of the mountain range. The damage visible here suggests the pipeline will be down for months, not weeks. While the buried 48 and 56-inch transmission lines appear intact, the above-ground valve manifold that connects them to the pumping units appears compromised. In pipeline engineering, you cannot simply bypass a mainline block valve station that has suffered thermal damage. The valves and actuators required for isolation are likely warped or seized, preventing any workaround flow path. They must rebuild the pumping and electrical infrastructure from scratch. There is a possibility of a partial restart at reduced capacity in the coming weeks if Aramco can install temporary diesel-driven pumping skids, but full restoration will take months. Large centrifugal pump skids and step-up transformers are not off-the-shelf items".

So again, I stress that as long as the Strait of Hormuz is closed, the East-West pipeline is essentially the only option available to Saudi Arabia for getting significant quantities of oil out to the market. And as the Hormuz Letter observed, they've only got a few days of reserves left. So, we could find ourselves very soon, in a matter of days, in the extraordinary situation where this massive oil producer, Saudi Arabia, can't get any significant quantities of oil out to its customers. Who knows what impact that is going to have on the price of oil. Now, I don't know who is behind this account, as I said, the Invisible Army account, so I can't confirm to you that this analysis is correct or reasonable. I'll leave that to members of our audience who are more knowledgeable about this subject than I am, and I do encourage you to add your thoughts if you have some expertise in this area to the comments on this video. Now, by the way, when it comes to the timeline for repairing the pipeline, the one that Associated Press was given three to five weeks, let's recall that Saudi Aramco doesn't exactly have a good record when it comes to estimating when its oil facilities will be back online after they've been attacked by the resistance.

Let's recall what happened specifically with Saudi Aramco's Jazan refinery. As reported by OilPrice.com, "the 400,000 barrel per day facility was put out of action by Yemeni drone strikes on July 27th. Saudi Aramco initially estimated the refinery would reopen on August 15th, but then extended the date of reopening to August 30th. That date was also missed following renewed attacks and fires at the facility in early September." And as far as I can tell, the Jazan refinery is still offline, now in mid-September. So, as I said, Saudi Aramco has a record in this war of missing its estimates for reopening its damaged facilities, and second, even if it meets the three-to five-week estimate for repairing the East-West pipeline, the resistance could simply strike it again. And frankly, there's no reason to believe that the Saudi military or any other military force aligned with Saudi Arabia is going to be able to prevent

the destruction or damage to the pipeline, should the adversaries of Saudi Arabia choose to go down that path.

Now, an interesting op-ed has appeared in Oilprice.com about this subject: The problem with trying to bypass moves using pipelines, by Kurt Cobb. And what he says, in summary in this article, is that "Saudi Arabia's East-West pipeline had become a critical alternative export route as tanker traffic through the Strait of Hormuz collapsed. Drone attacks damaged the pipeline, pumping infrastructure in for Saudi Arabia to shut the pipeline while assessing and repairing the damage. The attack underscores that the pipeline's bypassing maritime choke points can themselves become vulnerable strategic targets of war." And in this article Mr. Cobb is actually quite scornful of those who predicted that pipelines could be rapidly built as a means of overcoming the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. And let me just read from you the last two paragraphs of his piece. "The pipeline solution demonstrates perfectly, one, how one-dimensional much of the media coverage of the US-Israeli war with Iran has been, and two, how one-dimensional strategic thinking on the part of the United States has been." Let's remember that that doofus, that imbecile, yes, he's wealthy, but he's an imbecile, the US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent was pontificating to the media confidently a few weeks ago that the Strait of Hormuz was going to become obsolete in large part because a whole bunch of pipelines were going to be built that would enable the Gulf autocracies to export their oil without having to send tankers through the Strait of Hormuz. Well, we can now see that that was a pipe dream, if you'll excuse the pun. And the last paragraph of Mr. Cobb's article states: "All any observer needs to do is look up in the sky and discover that there are second and third dimensions making it possible for aerial weapons to come from far away to destroy any pipeline. It is difficult not to ridicule those who fail to make this simple observation before committing their typing fingers or their mouths to such a nonsense solution to the Strait of Hormuz closure as pipelines." I couldn't agree more.

Now due in part to the closure of the East-West pipeline, the price of oil remains highly elevated. And here is the price as of about 20 minutes ago, that would have been about 7:30 a.m. Eastern Time. You can see the price is still up around 106 dollars per barrel. That's the price of Brent crude and this is near the high point of the price at Brent crude which was by about 109 dollars during the past six to seven weeks. So the upward pressure on the price of oil remains. I'm going to come back to that in just a moment. But before I do that, I want to comment on who's responsible for the East-West pipeline being out of commission. As of a couple of hours ago, this was the last time I checked and I've been monitoring resistance channels carefully for information about who is responsible. There are a lot of theories, but no one has actually taken credit. To my knowledge, Ansar Allah is not taking credit, Iran is not taking credit, nor has the Iraqi resistance. All of them have ample motive to blow up this pipeline. The Iranians have ample motives because the Saudis have facilitated the criminal war of aggression on their country, the murder of their own citizens, and in addition, the Saudis have basically stood by and done nothing as the Israelis have carried out a genocidal rampage in Gaza. In fact, the Saudis do business with the Israeli entity. Just a few days ago, I commented on X that the Israeli war criminal Naftali Bennett, who served briefly as prime minister and who's hoping to be the Prime Minister again of Israel, referred to the Saudis

just a few weeks ago in an interview on Israeli television as Israel's friends. That's the reality, my friends, about the Saudi-Israeli relationship. And so Iran also wants to apply pressure on the United States to stop this criminal war of aggression and the higher the price of oil goes the more the pressure will intensify.

So the Iranians have plenty of motivation to do it but they haven't taken credit. Ansar Allah certainly has ample motivation to do it because of the criminal blockade on Yemen that has caused so much suffering in Yemen that the Saudi dictatorship refuses to lift and also because of the bombing of their country and the arming of mercenaries that are opposed to Ansar Allah inside Yemen by the Saudi Dictatorship. And finally, the Iraqi resistance had a motivation to it because earlier this summer, the Iraqi resistance suffered dozens of losses. They were bombed mercilessly by the Saudi and American air forces when they were accused of hitting a Saudi oil facility in the southeast of the country. I believe it was called Al Aqeeq. And that allegation was denied by the Iraqi resistance forces, and nonetheless, they were attacked. So they have a motivation to do it. But they're not taking credit for it either, and have put out a statement, which I mentioned, I read out in my last report on Yemen, in which they said, if we had done it, we would be proud. It would be an honour to have done such a thing, but we didn't do it!

Now, of course, there's also a possibility of a false flag. There's the possibility that, for example, Israel did this because Israel just wants to see all of these countries, the Arab autocracies and Iran, all fighting against each other, killing each other. And the Israelis may have calculated that this extraordinarily important attack on this strategic pipeline might provoke a huge assault on oil infrastructure in Iran, and just basically send the entire region up in flames. So the Israelis, given how depraved their thinking is, had a motive to do it, arguably. But here's the thing, folks. Normally when there is a prospect of a false flag, and the resistance wants you to believe that there has been or may have been a false flag attack carried out, they say so. They have not been shy about accusing Israel, or sometimes unidentified parties of having carried out false flags since this war of aggression began. And I have not seen any suggestion by any leader, even off the record, of a resistance group that this was a false-flag attack. If they thought that that was the case, I think they would be saying so. Now what I believe, again, I can't prove this, but this is my best assessment of the situation, is that the Iraqi resistance and Iran and Ansar Allah all know who carried out the attack, that it was one of them, or it could have been more than one of the them, it could have all three of them, as I said a few minutes ago, multiple points in the pipeline were struck. And they may have decided collectively, and I think they probably did decide collectively, whoever carried out this attack amongst the three of them, that they would all maintain silence. None of them would take credit for it and maintain a position of plausible deniability. Perhaps just to keep the enemy off balance, keep it guessing, keep it uncertain as to who is carrying out these attacks, where they're coming from, and also perhaps because they knew that there was likely to be a crushing retaliation or a very, very painful retaliation involving massive civilian casualties, perhaps visited upon whatever group or country was deemed by the United States and Saudi Arabia to be responsible for this attack. And so they wanted to sort of diffuse

responsibility for it as a way of minimising the retaliatory strikes on the ultimate perpetrator of the attack.

At the end of the day, I think they know perfectly well who did it. I think it was one of them, and I think they've made a collective decision to remain silent for the time being about who did. Nonetheless, what really matters is that it was done and that it can be done again. And I think that's exactly what's going to happen if Saudi Arabia gets this pipeline up and running anytime soon, but refuses to comply with the demands of Ansar Allah and Iran, which is no more use of the territory and airspace of Saudi Arabia to attack Iran or other members of the resistance, no more blockade on Yemen, no more arming of mercenaries inside Yemen to attack the forces of Ansar Allah. Now, returning to the price of oil, there are other factors here which are very likely putting upward pressure on it. This is a report in Reuters published yesterday about the US strategic petroleum reserve has fallen to its lowest level since 1982, 285 million barrels – this was last week – the lowest level since November 1982, according to data from the Department of Energy. The drawdowns are part of a US agreement to release 172 million barrels from the facility. If I recall correctly, when you get to the about 150 million barrels, the UR or the US government would be taking serious risks with the structural integrity of the caverns in which the strategic petroleum reserve oil is held.

Now in other notable developments, the Iranians say, this was today, that a ship exploded, an oil tanker in the Strait of Hormuz. It's called El Gaia. According to the Iranian military, the ship went up in flames after it struck a sea mine, but the US military CENTCOM has rejected the claim. Of course they're going to reject the claim because they have been claiming that they cleared mines out of the Strait of Hormuz. So this would be quite embarrassing if it turns out to be true. I don't know if it's true. I haven't seen any images yet or video to confirm it, but it's perfectly consistent with what has been going on over the past seven months. And on top of all of that, the Iranian military reports that it just shot down yet another US MQ-1 drone over the Strait of Hormuz. The IRGC, it says, "intercepted and destroyed an advanced US MQ-1 in the skies above the strategic waterway." This statement was actually put out yesterday by the public relations department cited by Iranian media. The drone was brought down, they say, "by a new advanced air defence system operated by the IRGC Aerospace Forces and integrated into Iran's National Air Defence Network. Previously, Iran released footage showing the interception and destruction of another US MQ-1 drone over Hormuz."

Now, an individual MQ1 drone costs roughly \$4 million per unit, but a complete operational system package costs around \$20 million to \$40 million. This war, as I'm going to explain in more detail in a moment, just gets more and more expensive by the day for the American taxpayer. With that now, let's turn to the situation in Yemen. Since we did our last report on Yemen two days ago, Ansar Allah forces have consolidated their control over strategic islands in or near the Bab al-Mandab Strait. And here is a report published by Geopolitics Prime, I believe it was, a Telegram channel that I follow, a resistance Telegram channel. And they reported that: "Building on their recent gains, Ansar Allah forces have taken control of the greater and lesser Hanish Islands in the southern Red Sea. The move, confirmed by Houthi officials, further consolidates their hold on the Bab al-Mandab Strait. The capture closes

remaining gaps in Ansar Allah's coastal defences, as well as providing elevated observation of potential launch points overlooking shipping lanes. The presence on the islands combined with positions on Mayun", that's the Arabic name for an island right in the Bab al-Mandab Strait, which is referred to in English as Perim, this was captured by Ansar Allah a few days ago, "so the presence on islands combined with positions on Mayun in the mainland around Mokha, creates overlapping fields of awareness and response capability across the southern Red Sea". So, again, this means a vice grip of control by Ansar Allah over this strategically important maritime choke point.

Now, as we predicted, and as was entirely predictable, the Saudi dictatorship has responded to its crushing losses in Yemen and the devastating attacks on its own military bases inside the so-called kingdom by doing the only thing it appears to know how to do from a military perspective, and that is bomb civilians from a safe distance. Today, the Yemeni Ministry of Health recorded that in Saudi attacks on the cities of Zubab and Maqbana in Taiz province, three citizens, two of them children, were killed by Saudi airstrikes. The Saudi dictatorship appears to have launched a relentless bombing campaign, and this has elicited a sharp warning from Ansar Allah's leadership. And here you can see the spokesperson, as reported by the Iranian news agency Tasnim. In the past 24 hours, this, by the way, was put out yesterday, "54 airstrikes have been carried out by F-15 and Typhoon fighters from the military bases of Khamis Mushait and Ta'if. The targets of these attacks were Taiz, Lahij, Al-Jawf, Ma'rib and Hajjah provinces. This brutal violation will not go unpunished." Now if the Saudis are bombing Ma'rib, that must mean, presumably it means, that Ansar Allah forces are beginning to infiltrate into this area. And the reason why that's important is because this is where the oil and gas reserves, fields of Yemen are situated, and as we reported a couple of days ago, Ansar Allah forces had begun to advance in that direction, and this would be quite a coup for them, strategically speaking, if they were able to seize the oil fields in Ma'rib.

Now, since issuing that warning, Ansar Allah has struck back, and hard. And here, first of all, is a report from the Roya news outlet. This is a Jordanian news outlet, friendly to Saudi Arabia, published this morning: "Emergency warning sirens were triggered across multiple key regions in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday following notifications issued by the kingdom's national early warning platform for emergencies. The General Directorate of Civil Defence confirmed the activation of the early warning system, marking the second time sirens were activated in less than three hours following earlier alerts in Abha and Khamis Mushait, to warn residents of potential dangers across six major locations. Jeddah government, Ta'if government, Yanbu government, "and the Yanbu obviously is the government where the port city of Yanbu is situated, very important for the export of Saudi oil; to the extent that that can be done at all. And also the AlUla governate, I may have mispronounced that, Abha city and Jazan province, that's obviously the province where the Jazan refinery is situated. And according to Roya, "The civil defence platform urges residents in affected areas to remain vigilant, follow instructions issued via official channels, and adhere to standard safety protocols as emergency services monitor the situation. Sirens have been going off quite often in Saudi Arabia in recent weeks. It's no exaggeration to say that Saudi Arabia is in a full-blown war and it is getting hammered. And particularly from an oil infrastructure

perspective, although there are few, if any, credible reports of civilians having been killed by these strikes, they do appear to have been focused on oil infrastructure and military bases of the Saudi dictatorship.

Now the Ansar Allah forces themselves have detailed what they're what they are targeting. And here is a statement they put out yesterday: "In response to the blatant Saudi aggression targeting our country people and amid the major escalation carried out by launching more than 300 airstrikes over the past five days with Saudi F-15 and Typhoon warplanes targeting most Yemeni governance and taking off from Khamis Mushait and Ta'if airbases, the Yemeni armed forces, by the grace of Allah, carried out a qualitative and large-scale military operation targeting military facilities and infrastructure including fighter aircraft hangars, radars, runways, ammunition depots and other targets at King Khalid airbase in Khamas Mushait, using dozens of ballistic missiles and drones. The strikes were precise and directed by the grace and power of Allah." And they go on and say that "the operation inflicted major losses on the base. The armed forces will continue their qualitative military operations deep inside Saudi territory as long as its unjust aggression against our people continues. Any new aggression will be met with broader and more severe operations. We will continue to establish the equation of blockade for blockade and escalation for escalation and to target the Saudi mobilizations until the aggression ceases and the blockade on our dear country is ended. Allah is sufficient for us and he is the best disposer of affairs, the best of masters and the best helpers. Long live Yemen free, dignified and independent. Victory to Yemen and to all the free people of the nation".

Now, Ansar Allah has also reported strikes on Saudi-backed mercenaries in Yemen itself. And here is a report put out by the Military Media Channel yesterday. "With the help of Allah – this is from Yemeni media – gatherings of the Saudi enemies, mobilizations and reinforcements were targeted in the Al-Jawf desert north of al-Kana'is area. The targeting resulted by the grace of Allah in deaths and injuries and the disabling of a number of vehicles belonging to the Saudi enemy's mobilizations." Now folks, if the Ukraine war has taught us anything, it's that when you're fighting an enemy that is capable and determined and possesses sophisticated drones and missiles, the last thing you want to be doing is massing your forces out in the open air. You simply do not do that in the contemporary battlefield. At a bare minimum, you need to mass them with some kind of effective cover, for example, forests, and the last time I checked there ain't no forests in the desert. Again, this simply highlights the incompetence of the Saudi and US military leadership. As we reported recently, CNN disclosed that the US military had established a joint command with Saudi Arabia's military to conduct operations against Ansar Allah So, you can, I think, assume reasonably that if the Saudi-backed mercenaries are amassing in the open, in the desert, whether Al-Jawf or some other open space, they are doing so at the direction of the joint military command, Saudi Arabia and US military command. And it just boggles the mind that after all the lessons that the Ukraine war ought to have taught to these militaries with all of their financial resources and whiz-bang technology that they would make these kinds of mistakes.

Now, while I'm on the subject of the state of the US military, the Pentagon's inspector general has issued a report on Trump's criminal war of aggression against Iran. Here is part of that report. The inspector general says: "The cost of the Iran war reached 33.4 billion by June 30th, which was of course two and a half months ago." How high is the cost now? Is it 50 billion, 60 billion? They go on and they say in this report, I'm reading here from the paragraph under US military personnel, in the bottom half of the page up on the screen, "The Department of War reported that from February 28 to June 30th, seven US service members were killed in action and seven were killed in non-hostile events. During OEF combat operations during the same period, 417 service members were wounded in action. Four additional service members were killed in action in July. Expended munitions. The Office of the Under Secretary for Acquisition and Sustainment said that the munitions expenditures in OEF has resulted in strategic inventory shortfalls" – strategic inventory shortfalls – "and revealed industrial base bottlenecks for munitions resupply. To mitigate these constraints, the OUSW said that the Department of War is working to streamline procurement processes and production lead times and to stockpile critical materials components and elective munitions to respond rapidly to a contingency".

And then on the following page, Regional Logistics. "Prior to this operation, Bahrain had been US Navy Central Command's main logistics hub to maintain operations in the Persian Gulf region. US CENTCOM said: 'During major combat operations, Iran targeted Bahrain with UAVs and ballistic missile strikes.' US CENTCOM stated that it initially shifted naval sustainment resources from Bahrain to alternative hubs." Ultimately, what does that mean? For the most part, it means Diego Garcia, which is specifically referenced here in the middle of the page. "An issue with shifting logistic support and infrastructure to Diego Garcia has been distanced with extended sea transiting requiring 14 to 18 day logistic cycles, US CENTCOM said." Imagine what a constraint that puts on your ability to use your munitions. Because if you run out, you are on an aircraft carrier or destroyer, you run out of munitions, especially air defence missiles, and you have to wait potentially two weeks or more to be resupplied, you are going to have to basically ration your munitions in that circumstance. So this is just adding to the mountain of evidence that the US military is in a very bad state indeed.

Now let's turn to developments in Syria, which have the potential to be of profound importance in the wars raging in West Asia. In protest against the decision of the Syrian terrorist government led by Abu Mohammad al-Julani to increase the price of fuel, several regions of Syria have witnessed the most extensive public protests in the past two years. And here is a video. There are many of them circulating on social media. It would not be hard for you to find others. But here's one of the videos that has been published from these protests.

[00:36:32] Now, what I find really notable about that protest is I did not see a single protester covering his face, not one. So this is a crowd of protesters who are feeling quite emboldened, I think, to express their opposition to the US-backed thug in Damascus. Now these protesters in many of these protests, they tried to block the main and international roads, the most important of which were the Aleppo Damascus Road and the Gaziantep Aleppo Road. The

decision of the al-Julani regime includes a 40 percent increase in the price of diesel, which brought his price to 175 liras or one dollar 32 cents per litre. That's a lot of money for Syrians to pay because of the criminal wars waged upon the country and the devastating sanctions that the US and other Western states inflicted upon it for so long. And also the price of domestic and industrial gas increased by about nine percent, and the price of gasoline also increased by 28 percent to 195 liras. So this is placing quite a strain on the population. Now earlier today, our friend Sulaiman Ahmed – he's had me on his programme several times – posted this video on X and what it apparently shows is protesters invading a Syrian police station.

Now, again, I did see a couple of people there covering their faces, but most of them, as far as I could tell, had not done that. If you're willing to attack a police station in Syria without covering your face, you must be one brave soul or very angry or both. Now, as Ryan Grim of Drop Site News noted on X, people forget that the Arab Spring was truly prompted by surging food and fuel prices following the global financial crisis. And I think that that's a fair observation. But I would suggest that there is something else going on here, and that something else is successful defiance. What do I mean by successful defiance? I mean that resistance groups in Iraq, in Lebanon, in Palestine, Iran itself, and now, in particular, Ansar Allah, have shown that you can defy the imperial monster and win. And when that happens, other people may well feel emboldened to rise up against the Washington-backed tyrants who have oppressed the Arab peoples for so long. And I am quite sure that the criminals in Washington and London and Berlin, Paris, Tel Aviv, Ottawa, and by criminals, of course, I'm referring to the politicians who are complicit in not only the genocide in Palestine, the genocide in Lebanon, but in the egregious human rights violations carried out by the autocracies that they support and that they do business with, that they lie about, the criminals must be sweating bullets at this stage because they know perfectly well that West Asia is a powder keg. It already was a hotbed of discontent but after watching the child-murdering Israelis mass massacre tens of thousands perhaps even hundreds of thousands of Palestinian children with complete and utter impunity for almost three years, just imagine the anger in the Arab Street. I'm well aware of that myself because during those three years I travelled to Syria, I travelled to Lebanon, I travelled repeatedly to Lebanon and to Jordan. I travelled to Qatar and I travelled through Iraq and I spoke to people on the ground and there's tremendous opposition to not only Washington, Tel Aviv, other Western powers, but also to the tyrants who rule them. And the only way that these tyrants have been able to suppress the will of their peoples is through brutal repression. And it appears, at least in Syria, and certainly this is true in countries like Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine and Yemen, that people are so unhappy about the way they're being treated that they are willing to take the risks of being killed, imprisoned, tortured, have their employment taken away from them because life has simply become too unbearable. That's what is happening now, I think. I think we are seeing successful defiance in action and we could in short order witness an uprising that might even surpass the Arab Spring.

And there are also indications of discontent in other Arab states that are ruled by a Washington-backed tyrant, and I'm referring here specifically to this. This is a statement from

the Islamic Resistance in Bahrain. Before I read it, bear in mind that the vast majority of the population in Bahrain is Shia and the autocrat who oppresses them is a Sunni. And the only reason why he has been able to remain in power is because the Saudis have supported him as he has tormented the population and brutally repressed it for years with the full-blown support of the West. Now, what the monsters who rule Bahrain have been doing apparently is they've been arresting Shia clerics in the country, and this has elicited the following statement from the Islamic Resistance in Bahrain: "We hold the ruling family in Bahrain responsible for this escalation, and we will not hesitate to launch the most severe strikes against oil and gas pipelines on land and at sea, as well as against network sites and communication companies. We call on them to immediately release all Shia scholars and prisoners from prisons and to cease their persecution of them and their religion and beliefs. God will surely help those who help him. Indeed, God is almighty and exalted." Dated yesterday, September 14th, 2026. If you hadn't heard about these outrages being perpetrated by the Bahraini dictatorship against the people of Bahrain, the Shia population of Bahrain, the reason for that is very simple. And that is because the corporate media and the political elites in the West don't want you to know about it. Just as they don't want you to know about the whole range of ghastly human rights abuses that are perpetrated every single day by the dictators of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, and the Mossad operation masquerading as a country, namely the United Arab Emirates. That is what is being done with the facilitation and the full-blown support of those who rule us here in the West.

Lastly, before I go, I'll just mention in passing that the crazed orange-haired lunatic in the White House is claiming yet again that the Iranian leadership is desperate for a deal, the Iranian government has dismissed this claim derisively. I have no doubt that they're telling the truth and Donald Trump is lying, but what is most notable in this regard is that Trump's claim does not appear to be having a material impact on the price of oil. So it appears that oil traders have finally come to Jesus and realise that this man simply cannot be trusted whenever he says the peace is around the corner. I'm signing off today from Kalamata, Greece. Please stay safe out there, my friends. And we'll probably be back to you tomorrow with more reporting on the resistance operations in West Asia.

END

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