



Iran's Missiles Shake the U.S. Military Presence

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Dimitri Lascaris (DL): Good day, this is Dimitri Lascaris coming to you from Greece on September 3rd, 2026, for Reason2Resist. What you just saw was a video of civilian buildings struck by the United States military on the evening of September 1st, Tuesday night of this week, in the southern Iranian port city of Sirik. That attack reportedly killed five Iranian civilians, including a four-year-old child, and wounded more than 70. In this report, we'll discuss the likelihood that this massacre constituted yet another US war crime in Iran. We'll also discuss Iran's retaliation and new information regarding the appalling condition of the US Navy. And we'll look at recent developments in the oil markets and a very curious and disturbing development for the Israeli regime within the genocidal Israeli entity. Now before we begin, please remember to like and share this video if you find it informative. And if you're not already a subscriber to Reason2Resist, we warmly encourage you to become one and help us to expand the reach of our unapologetic on the ground resistance journalism. So with that, let's get into it.

In the attack on Sirik, the US appears to have used its most precise weapons. And here you can see a report on Fotros Resistance – a Telegram channel, which provides a highly informative reporting on the war on Iran – and it states that the most accurate weapon in the arsenal is the SLAM-ER type weapon or a missile. The components or certain components of that missile were reportedly found at the strike site at the site of this atrocity. The manufacturer of Boeing touts this cruise missile as the most accurate weapon in the US Navy's inventory. And in the image you can see the blue component, a thermal battery and part of the missile casing, along with parts of a cable raceway. Footage shows at least six explosions in Kuhestak, which also hit the wedding venue. And they go on to cite the great number of casualties in this murderous assault. And so the US military, as it turns out, has a long and sordid history of attacking wedding parties. This was a 2013 report. So this is 13 years ago in the nation, which noted that in the prior 12 years, the US had bombed at least eight wedding parties. And so I haven't been able to do the research into what has happened between now and then, but I do know there have been multiple reports of wedding parties struck in places throughout West Asia in the course of US wars of aggression both before and after this 2013 report.

You may wonder why the United States military engages in such barbarism. Well, why does it engage in any barbarism? For example, the mass murder of children in Gaza – in order to terrorize populations that the US regime seeks to subdue, enslave and to exploit. That's precisely why they do it. And in my submission, that is the most plausible explanation for why this happened here. In the face of these facts, the ones I've just cited to you, no one should assume that this massacre was an accident. And I'll just remind our viewers today that I myself was in the southern Iranian city of Minab in March of this year, shortly after the US bombed a school there with Tomahawk missiles, killing 168 students and teachers. And we did an extensive investigation on that day, I reported on it at length, and there was no doubt in my mind that the US knew that this was a school. It's virtually inconceivable that they didn't know it was a school. And they destroyed it nonetheless at a time when the school was full of students. If they're able to do that, if they're able to resupply the US military leaders, commanders on the ground, a state like Israel that is carrying out a genocide before the eyes of the world, why would anyone doubt their willingness to carry out this attack on the Syriac wedding party intentionally? And even if it wasn't intentional, it could still constitute a war crime if the US did not take the measures required by international law to minimize risk to innocent civilians.

Now for its part, US CENTCOM issued a statement two days ago, I should say, about its attacks on Iran on September 1st. But that statement said nothing about the attack in Sirik. Here it is up on the screen: "US Central Command forces successfully completed a wave of strikes against Iranian military targets". That's what they call them. They say, the US forces struck IRGC targets, "including air defense sites, radar systems, maritime assets and facilities, mine laying capabilities and communication sites. The strikes follow recent attempted attacks by the IRGCs against commercial shipping in the Strait of Hormuz and against American service members". Let us remember, my friends, that this war is a war of aggression and that the Strait was completely open before it was launched by these psychopaths, Trump and Netanyahu, killing a large swath of the Iranian leadership and many civilians in the first days of the war and continuing periodically since then. So none of this, I suggest to you, what CENTCOM is saying about the nature of the targets it struck, should be taken with any seriousness. And I, for my part, believe that this is likely to have been an intentional massacre in Sirik.

Now, in response to the wedding party massacre and the killing of other civilians in Iran, Iran launched a combined missile and drone attack on US bases in Erbil, in Iraqi Kurdistan. And the IRGC claimed the attack destroyed a US military repair facility, technical equipment warehouses, and a guidance system for an American surveillance balloon while setting fuel tanks ablaze and killing an unspecified number of US personnel. The IRGC called on Iraqi Kurds not to allow their territory to be used as a base for further attacks on Iran. Iranian forces also launched a heavy barrage of ballistic missiles at the US Marines Camp Titin in Jordan for the very first time. And up here on the screen you can see an aerial image. This is a presumably satellite image of Camp Titin in the desert of southern Jordan. This camp is very close to the Red Sea port city, Jordanian port city of Aqaba, which is just beside the only Red Sea Port city that the genocidal Israeli entity has, and that is Eilat. I was actually in Eilat in

March 2024 during the genocide to cover the complete absence of any maritime shipping in that port and the bankruptcy of the port in Eilat. And from where I stood, I could actually see quite clearly standing on the coast in the port of Eilat, the city of Aqaba. It just was more or less across the bay. And here I'm putting up an image of a map of Jordan – as you can see in the lower left-hand quadrant, just in the red corner there, the red signifying the border of Jordan, you can see Aqaba. And then Eilat doesn't appear on this map, but it's immediately to the west of Aqaba. And all of this is, of course, well within range of Iranian ballistic missiles. The Iranian military claims to have inflicted significant casualties on the US Marines who are housed at that base. They made no bones about the fact that they were targeting US military personnel, as is their right, given the war of aggression being waged upon them by the genocidal Trump regime.

Since the US resumed the hot war by bombing Ladakh Island in the Strait of Hormuz on Monday, August 31st, Iran has also attacked other US bases in Jordan, as well as US bases in Bahrain. And apparently also in the United Arab Emirates. On social media, videos of some of those attacks are circulating and I'll share three of them with you, but please bear in mind that I've not been able to verify their authenticity. There is, for example, this video of a strike on a US air base in Jordan. Let's show that one more time. It's not clear whether that explosion was caused by a drone or a missile, but if that in fact is the result of a strike on a US air base, it looks like it hit something that is highly combustible. Then there's this video as well, also reportedly of a strike on Jordan. Now, there's no apparent attempt in that brief clip by air defense systems to take out the incoming ballistic missile and then there's this video of a drone strike apparently on Bahrain.

On top of all of that, the IRGC has reported that it took down a 50th MQ-9 Reaper drone from the United States, and it was taken down apparently by a new air defense system deployed by the IRGC in or near the Strait of Hormuz. The individual Reaper drone frame, just the frame of this weapon, costs about 32 million dollars. But the addition of ground control system sensors and weapons packages pushes the cost of one of these drones to more than \$50 million. 50 fully equipped Reapers would therefore cost in the range of \$2.5 billion. Now, in addition to these attacks that have been, I should say, these defensive measures adopted by Iran, they also have continued to strike Kuwait apparently this morning. When I say Kuwait, let me clarify. I'm referring here to US military bases in the vassal state of Kuwait. And just an hour or two ago the Kuwaiti military put out a warning of incoming projectiles. It's up on the screen here and you can see the English translation is: "The general staff of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces confirms that any explosions that may be heard are the result of air defense systems intercepting hostile targets. The public has urged us to adhere to safety and security instructions issued by relevant authorities". There's an unspoken assumption in this statement, this warning, and that is that all of the incoming projectiles are going to be intercepted. There's no acknowledgement that an explosion might be heard as a result of a drone or a missile penetrating Kuwait's air defenses. And of course, there is no military on earth, least of all the United States military, that can guarantee in advance that it is going to successfully intercept all incoming projectiles. So this is just a sort of obvious example of the lies in which the vassal militaries in the region engage in order to persuade the

public that there is no threat to the security of their nations from the Iranian ballistic missiles and drones, or at least no threat that they are incapable of addressing.

On top of all of that, the tanker war has escalated in the Strait of Hormuz. The US began the escalation by attacking two Iranian tankers there on Tuesday night. The two oil tankers were the HAWK, which is a very large supertanker as well as the SINOPA. And up here on the screen you can see a photograph of the SINOPA before the attack. As you can see, it is indeed a very large oil tanker. Now, this is certainly going to prompt the Iranians to adopt more aggressive measures in terms of deterring any kind of oil tanker traffic through the Strait of Hormuz. And these attacks from the US, by the way, are part of a new strategy, they say, of striking tanker for tanker struck by Iran. And as I say, the Iranians are not going to back off from their attacks on non-compliant tankers through the Strait of Hormuz because control of the Strait of Hromuz is simply a matter of existential importance to them. This can only lead to further escalation.

On Monday of this week, Iran appears to have struck a Saudi-operated vessel called the Sidr, S-I-D-R, and that attack apparently killed, sadly, two Filipino crew members. On August 31st, the day that Trump resumed the bombing of Iran, the maritime transportation firm Kepler observed a sharp drop in traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, and here is its report issued on X on September 1st: "Strait of Hormuz traffic declined sharply on 31st August, with five confirmed crossings down 50 % from 10 a day earlier. Four vessels entered the Middle East Gulf, and one exited using a mix of Iranian-Omanian negotiated routes. Two crossings involve shadow vessels and one involved a sanctioned vessel. Bab al-Mandab activity was comparatively stable with 35 confirmed crossings up 2.9 % day on day". And by the way, the nature of the blockage in the Bab al-Mandab Strait is very different from that in the Strait of Hormuz. The Ansar Allah forces have said they're only going to block and have been blocking Saudi oil tankers. They haven't been blocking other vessels, whereas the Strait of Hormuz blockage is intended to be comprehensive and would only not apply to any vessels that are in compliance with Iranian requirements and that it does not consider to be hostile to Iran.

As you can imagine, all of this is simply driving the price of oil higher. And here is a report from OilPrice.com of the price of a barrel of Brent crude in global markets approximately one hour ago. And this is a one-month chart, and you can see that the current price, even though it's down on the day by about 1 % at \$94.60 US, is still at the highest level or near the very highest level. It was actually above 95 and I think even 96 at one point during this week, but its current level is as high as it has been, higher than it's been actually during the past month. And this is highly problematic, not only for people around the world who depend upon oil for the basic functioning of their economies, but it is also exacerbating a sell-off in global bond markets. And this is a report issued by the Guardian on September 2nd, Wednesday of this week. And they reported that the "global government bonds sell off resumed on Wednesday, driving up the UK's borrowing costs and exacerbating the challenges facing John Healey as he prepares his first budget. The yield effectively, the interest rate on 10 year UK government bonds or guilds jumped to just below 5.3 % in early trading, its highest level since mid 2008",

when we were well and truly into the global financial crisis. So, fasten your seatbelts, folks. The economic carnage, in my view, has only begun. The current oil price, I should mention, is 50 % higher than the price of a barrel of Brent crude at the beginning of the year.

Now, let's turn to the latest news about the devastated US Navy. After weeks of complaints from military personnel on the USS Abraham Lincoln, the aircraft carrier was withdrawn from West Asia in order to travel to Thailand. Well, the Abraham Lincoln has finally arrived, therefore some R&R. And by all accounts, or at least based upon the video that's emerging from its arrival, it is just a sorry mess to behold. Here is the vessel coming into the port in Thailand. This, frankly, looks like a rusting hulk and very much as though it's on its last legs. And this vessel was deployed to the Gulf of Oman, the south of the Strait of Hormuz for many months, and now I imagine is going to be taken out of service for some time in order for this to be repaired and for the soldiers to be permitted to gain the necessary rest and recovery from this mission. The US Abraham Lincoln cost \$2.24 billion when it was built in 1989. That is 37 years ago. In today's dollars, by the way, that is \$6.8 billion just for one aging aircraft carrier.

Here's what the New York Times had to say about the Abraham Lincoln's arrival in the Thai port: "As the USS Abraham Lincoln docked Wednesday morning in Thailand. The first of some 5,000 crew members were expected to begin arriving in the beach town of Pattaya to begin a handful of days of shore leave. For the sailors and marines serving aboard the beleaguered aircraft carrier, this is the first significant break they've had in more than nine months. The nuclear-powered Lincoln left its home port of San Diego before Thanksgiving" – okay, so that's November of last year – "and deployed to West Asia after disembarking at the port of Laem Chabang north of Pattaya. Crew members began traveling by bus into the city. Many have booked hotels here for their shore leave according to the mayor. Shortly after 3 p.m., the mayor and other local representatives were on hand to greet the first arrivals at the Hard Rock Hotel," – sounds like a party venue to me, folks – "a 10-story 323 room hotel across from Pattaya's treelined beach. The dignitaries handed out gifts to the crew members as dozens of journalists took photos and videos." How touching that they so warmly greeted participants in genocide and a criminal war of aggression on Iran.

The Guardian shed further light on the port city where the Abraham Lincoln has docked. And here is the headline from the article: *USS Abraham Lincoln's crew of 5,000 arrive at notorious Thai resort after 270 days at sea*. "Shore leave in Pattaya known for its red light district comes after reports of deteriorating living conditions on board the vessel during the record stint". Well, that's a hell of a decision, isn't it? We're going to ask these 5,000 sailors and Marines to participate in genocide and wars of aggression, we're going to neglect them – speaking here figuratively as representative of the US – ignore their complaints for weeks on end, and finally, to reward them for their service in this criminal activity, we're going to deliver them to a notorious red light district, staying in a party venue like the Hard Rock Hotel". These sailors and Marines, by the way, don't seem to be in any particular rush to get home to their families. And just the whole thing is frankly, another expression of the utter depravity into which the US military has sunk.

Now on a related note, two days ago, The New York Times published an article on the logistical nightmare confronting the US Navy in its blockade of Iranian ports. And here you can see the headline of that article: *The Logistics Nightmare Facing US Warships*. "Iranian attacks have upended the Navy's supply chain in the Middle East, causing a strain on the aircraft carriers, destroyers and amphibious ships that are currently being kept in the region". According to the New York Times, "the 5,000 crew members on an aircraft carrier work around the clock and require up to four meals a day. The planes and helicopters flying off them need two million gallons of fuel each week". That's just one aircraft carrier. "Carriers", they report, "are protected by destroyers. They too need to be resupplied with food and fuel. Currently two carriers and 12 destroyers are in West Asia to enforce the blockade on Iran's ports. The US Navy has a total of 20 ships participating in the blockade. Altogether, they carry 20,000 sailors and Marines who need 420,000 meals and 8 million gallons of fuel per week".

I'm quoting from the article, "Navy supply ships in the region now have to travel 2,200 miles to a tiny island in the Indian Ocean called Diego Garcia, to bring food, fuel and other goods to the warships in the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. The next option is to go to Singapore, 3,700 miles away, which requires the ships to pass through the Strait of Malacca, a busy commercial corridor. Because the war has cut off access to nearby bases in the Middle East, the only option is to undertake resupply missions at sea every five or six days. This process is potentially hazardous, exposing both the receiving ship and the supply ship to risk. During these missions, both ships need to travel together, keeping precisely the same course and speed. With waves, winds, and currents, it's a challenge to keep the ships safely within about 150 feet of each other". And here you can see a graphic that was published by the New York Times in that article displaying the complexity of this. This is a Navy supply ship on the left, an aircraft carrier on the right. And they're temporarily conjoined by cables that are attached. You can see 150 feet, that's the approximate distance between the two vessels, and this is on the high seas, oftentimes they get rough and certainly in the course of any kind of maneuver like this the ability of either of those ships to take any evasive actions in response to an incoming projectile drone or missile would be highly limited if there were any ability whatsoever for it to do that. And so it's extremely difficult to imagine that in the more than six months that US carriers have been attacking Iran and these destroyers as well, no accidents have happened during the resupply of these vessels.

There's also been some very interesting news out of the genocidal Israeli entity. On Saturday of this week, Israel's water authority announced that it was closing down five of six of its water desalination plants due to severe turbidity, prompting limits for agriculture use incident following recent hack on US water systems allegedly by Iran. Now, as you can see here, the government sources denied that the closure of these five desalination plants was due to any kind of a cyber attack. This, however, is whatever the cause may have been, an extremely serious matter because 80 to 90 percent of Israel's drinking and household water comes from desalination. Now, the term "turbidity" basically means murkiness or there are deemed to be contaminants in the water, which make it unsuitable for desalination. And the apparent cause

of the turbidity or murkiness according to government authorities is microalgae being carried to Israel's southern coast by waves from the Nile Delta.

Well, there's something in between the Nile Delta and the southern coast of Israel, and that something is the Gaza Strip, where there is no longer any treatment of sewage because of the genocidal monstrosities of Israel perpetrated against the civilian infrastructure in Gaza. And there's, of course, an enormous amount of contaminants coming from the munitions that have been showered down upon the Gaza Strip, and any number of reasons why the waters run off from the Gaza strip into the Mediterranean Sea would contain very, very hazardous contaminants. So it seems to me that if in fact this is an accurate explanation, that there are microalgae that have infested the southern coast of Israel, rendering the water unsuitable for desalination, it's much more likely that those microalgae are coming from the coast of Gaza, which is considerably closer to the southern coast of Israel than is the Nile Delta. But of course, this isn't even contemplated as a possibility by the genocidal Israeli military. They seem to be quite content to accept the rather dubious explanation of the Israeli regime.

On Tuesday during the day, the desalination plants, the five of the six that were taken out of action temporarily, were restarted, but later that night Israel shut them down again. And here is a report, another one published by the Times of Israel on Tuesday, saying that after operating through the night, most desalination plants were again shut down amid rising seawater turbidity. Again, there was no reference there to the possibility that it was contaminated water off the coast of Gaza, which was causing the turbidity off the Coast of Southern Israel. And this is a very serious matter indeed for Israel. Israeli farmers, according to the Times of Israel, sounded the alarm on Tuesday with one telling Channel 12 that her water had been shut off for over 27 hours, severely risking the health of her crops and livestock. Finally, I just want to share with you this recent commentary from the orange-haired child murderer in the White House relating to alleged casualties of protesters in Iran.

Reporter: When are the Iranian people going to rise up and fight? Well, if that's what you want, will you send the CIA in to arm Iranians?

Donald Trump: Well, I wouldn't want to say that to you, Peter, I'd love to tell you that, but it wouldn't be appropriate to say. But I mean, I understand their plight, they're being shot. Right now, you know, these gentlemen sit here in the lap of luxury and they see things, but over there, it's not so luxurious. As of three months ago, they had 52,000 protesters were killed. Can you imagine the sum? And now I hear the numbers, probably 20, 25,000 more. They have close to 65,000 protesters killed. So when I ask that question I ask it sort of knowing the answer. The only answer is that they're being shot. The regime is getting weaker and weaker by the day and at some point they're not going to be able to shoot so easily because I think the people aren't going to take it. But I did pose that question because, you know, it would be time, but most people can't kill their people like that. Most people try and reason, they talk, and then there might be an overthrow.

DL: Yeah, that's exactly what the Americans and Israelis are doing in Gaza. They're trying to reason and talk with the Palestinian resistance there rather than obliterate the entire civilian population. These numbers, by the way, Trump has just pulled them out of his derriere. There's absolutely no credible objective evidence to back up these casualty figures. And there's no mention of him, of course, that both the Mossad and former CIA director Mike Pompeo openly acknowledged, even bragged, that the US, the CIA and the Mossad were involved in arming the protesters. Now, unlike Donald Trump, I actually have been to Iran during this period. I was there for 11 days in seven cities in March. And I was there again for the funeral of the martyred Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei in July and traveled in that instance to Iranian cities. And I participated on a daily basis, extensively reporting on the massive turnout in support of the martyred supreme leader who was the constitutional head of the State of Iran at the time that he was murdered along with his daughter and his 14 month old granddaughter. I did not see a single anti-government protest at any point during my travels across Iran during this criminal war of aggression. In fact, I did see many protests, but they were pro-government protests. And at some of those protests, there was criticism of the government for not being harsh enough on the Americans and the Israelis, and for being too willing to engage in negotiations with these treacherous liars. So in one case, when I was there in July, the foreign minister and the president, Pezeshkian himself, were shuttled off the street – tle this was during the funeral ceremony for Ali Khamenei, the seven-day funeral program – because when they appeared in public they were greeted with hostile commentary from protesters over their willingness to do a deal with the United States. And there were no reports of shooting of any of that. I saw lots of people criticize the Iranian government myself out in the streets when I was there for being too willing to negotiate with the Americans, and not one person was dealt with in any kind of a harsh way. Forget about shooting. I didn't see anybody arrested or anybody even harassed by the police. So yes, there are protests during this period, but they are almost exclusively, if not exclusively, in support of the government. And the criticism that has been coming out in these protests is of the government's willingness to negotiate with the United States, and there has been absolutely no evidence that I have seen of any of the protesters being shot or dealt with in any violent manner. So perhaps Donald Trump one day might visit Iran or send some people who are involved in intelligence gathering to actually see for themselves what is happening in the country. But in any case, I think the final point to be made here is that Trump's repeated efforts to get the Iranian people to rise up – all of which have been futile – only drives home the degree to which this man is desperate and the military effort to subdue the Islamic Republic of Iran up until now has been a complete and utter failure. That's my report today, my friends. I'm signing off from Greece on September 3rd, 2026 for Reason to Resist.

END

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