



US-Saudi Front Falters: Will Egypt Intervene Militarily?

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Dimitri Lascaris (DL): Good day, this is Dimitri Lascaris coming to you from Kalamata, Greece for a Reason2Resist on October 19th, 2026. Today we are going to return to the important subject of Saudi's genocidal war on Yemen and the criminal war of aggression on Iran, focusing in particular on the Strait of Hormuz and also related developments in global oil markets. Before we begin, please like and share this video if you find it to be informative. And we cannot urge you strongly enough to become a subscriber of Reason2Resist if you're not already one. That really does help us to expand the reach of our unapologetic, on-the-ground, resistance journalism. So with that, let's get into it. And today we're going to start, as usual, with the genocidal war on Yemen. Egypt's Zionist Western-backed dictator Abdel Fattah el-Sisi is poised to send Egyptian military forces to Saudi in order to defend the Saudi dictatorship. Here you can see them warmly embracing. And a report, I believe this is the Associated Press, said that on Sunday "Egypt moved closer to offering military backing to Saudi Arabia which has been locked in an escalating feud with Yemen after a key Egyptian State Council agreed to provide all necessary and possible support to the oil-rich monarchy". The approval was given by Egypt's National Defense Council after a meeting headed by the vicious dictator. By the way, in 2019 or thereabouts, the US-based Human Rights Watch issued a detailed and gruesome report accusing this savage, el-Sisi, of having operated through his forces a torture assembly line in his own country. That's what they called it.

Now let us move on to what is likely to happen next. We are being told by the media that this proposal, which has been approved by the National Defense Council, now must be approved by Parliament. And the Parliament apparently held a session yesterday, either has held one or is holding one again today, and the Egyptian state media is indicating that there is some pushback in the parliament. My belief is that this is all Kabuki theater. This man is an absolutely brutal tyrant. And I think that parliament will do exactly as he tells them to do. If that pushback ends up resulting in a veto of the proposal, then I think that's because the parliamentarians understood that Sisi didn't want to send Egyptian forces to Saudi Arabia. He simply wanted to pretend that he was willing to do so. And if they approve it, they'll approve it because that's precisely what the autocrat told them to do. On Saturday, el-Sisi said his country would take any action to defend Saudi Arabia if Riyadh requested it. So it sounds like his instructions to parliament are that he wants them to approve it, even though they're going to put on a show of democracy by expressing concerns about the proposal. El-Sisi also said that he asked the Parliament to address this issue on an emergency basis. We are told also that the Egyptian Constitution requires the approval of two-thirds of lawmakers to declare war or to dispatch enemy army forces outside the country, but Egypt ceased to be a democracy long ago when Western powers overthrew Mohamed Morsi through this dictator

and installed the autocrat to the great detriment of the Egyptian people, not to mention, of course, the Palestinian people as well. Now, he did also say, however, el-Sisi, "I am not speaking about going to war against anyone or attacking anyone. We are talking about defense only". So, presumably, if he's to be taken at his word and the parliament approves this proposal, the Egyptian forces would remain on Saudi territory and would only respond if attacked or if Yemeni forces entered Saudi Arabia, something which I think is increasingly possible given the behavior of the Saudi autocracy and the fact that the three of the south-western provinces of Saudi Arabia formerly belonged to Yemen.

Now, Egypt's official military budget amounts to a paltry \$2.5 billion a year annually. In addition, Egypt receives approximately \$1.3 billion annually in military aid from the United States. As of 2024, Egypt was the second largest cumulative recipient of US foreign aid, amounting to \$167 billion. Of that amount, \$89 billion was military aid. And as of that same year, 2024, Israel was the only country, or fake state I should say, that had received a larger amount of cumulative aid, and in fact it was considerably larger. The amount as of that year was \$297 billion compared to \$167 billion for Egypt. This is from 1946 to 2023, and almost all of that \$297 billion was military aid. Now, of course when you are that dependent upon military and economic aid on a superpower for your defense, if I can call it that, and for your national sustenance, you are going to do as that superpower directs you to do. That's just human nature. Dependency creates a relationship of subservience, almost without exception. So I would suggest that we should anticipate if Egypt will take some form of military action, because that's almost certainly what Washington wants it to do. In any case, Egypt's total annual military budget, including US military aid, is merely \$3.8 billion. This is dwarfed by Saudi Arabia's military budget of \$83.2 billion. And on top of that, there are already a host of other nations that are trying to defend Saudi Arabia, including Pakistan and Turkey. Turkey has, as I'm going to explain in a moment, a vastly greater military budget than Egypt. So when you think about the inability of all these military forces, the US military forces, other European members of NATO have military forces in Saudi Arabia, including Greece that sent Patriot air defense batteries to Saudi Arabia to protect the autocracy, and you have Pakistan and Turkey – what is Egypt with its \$3.8 billion military budget going to add to the equation? I would suggest to you what they can add to the equation: cannon fodder. The only thing that they could possibly do that the others might not be willing and able to do is to send troops to actually engage in ground combat against Yemeni forces, probably on Yemeni soil if they were to go down that path. And of course the last time that happened, Egypt suffered a humiliating defeat several decades ago. So I don't know whether Sisi is subservient and crazy enough to try that maneuver, to take on Ansar Allah on its own soil, but at this stage I wouldn't exclude any possibility, particularly given how dependent Egypt is on the United States.

Now, let us look also at the domestic politics of all of this. First of all, we've all watched in horror during the past three years of genocide, at least those of us who have a conscience, that the Egyptian forces ringing the Gaza concentration camp did absolutely nothing to defend the Palestinian people as they were being slaughtered by these monstrous Israelis. And the closure of the Rafah border crossing, Israel's seizure of control of that Rafah border crossing actually violated a treaty that it had with Egypt. And even that didn't provoke the Egyptian dictator to take some measure of action to defend the besieged Palestinian people. And as I'm sure you can imagine, this has enraged a broad swath of the Egyptian population. And quite apart from that, before a punishing economic crisis took hold in 2022 in Egypt, one-third of Egyptians, around 35 million people, lived below the poverty line while another third barely survived above it. Egypt has not published poverty rates since then, but the government says

about 66 million people rely on subsidized food, in particular bread. And despite soaring poverty, the Egyptian dictatorship has cut food and energy subsidies at the insistence of the IMF in recent months. One must ask, how much more will the oppressed Egyptian people tolerate? They've risen up in the recent past. We also, those of us who are old enough to have witnessed the event, recall the assassination of the Egyptian autocrat Anwar El-Sadat after he normalized with the genocidal Israeli entity. So all of this, I would imagine, is weighing upon Sisi's mind. He clearly doesn't care about his own people. He doesn't care about the Palestinians, not one wit. But I would imagine he does care at least a little bit about his own survival. But the question again is how much will the people of Egypt tolerate? And particularly, how will they react if significant numbers of Egyptian troops, their sons, begin coming home in body bags from Yemen, the only Arab state that has actually taken meaningful action to defend the Palestinian people during the genocide.

While I'm on the subject of the vassals of Washington coming to the aid of the Saudi dictatorship, I'm inclined to comment on the fact that the governments of both Greece and Turkey have sent troops and military hardware to Saudi Arabia. By the way, Greece's annual military budget is \$8.4 billion, that's more than double the Egyptian military budget when you throw in US military aid to Egypt. Turkey's is \$44.5 billion. So the Saudi military budget, by the way, is much larger than both the Greek and Turkish military budgets combined. So again, why does Saudi need their help? But even more so, with Greece and Turkey and Pakistan, the United States and Saudi, I repeat the question: why is Egypt being brought in? What other than cannon fodder can it meaningfully offer to defend the Saudi autocracy? And why is Washington dispatching all of its vassals to help Saudi, each and every last one of them apparently? Because if the Saudi regime falls, Washington is toast in the region of West Asia. In my opinion, the real linchpin of US dominance and Western dominance of West Asia isn't Israel. Israel is a very important instrument of domination, but it's really Saudi Arabia with its much larger territory population, and in particular, of course, its massive and relatively easily accessible oil resources, also its geopolitical position – it has a long border on the Persian Gulf, right across from Iran, and so it can be more easily employed as a staging ground for attacks on Iran than Israel, and also for attacks on Yemen. So that is really the linchpin of Western power in West Asia, and if Saudi falls, then, in my view, it's only a matter of time before the Western control of this region or of the region completely evaporates, which would of course have catastrophic consequences for the genocidal Israeli entities imperial agenda in the region.

Another aspect of this that I must comment upon being a citizen of Greece and being in Greece at the moment is that we are constantly being told by the Greek government that Turkey is a mortal enemy of Greece and is the number one security threat to Greece. Turkish politicians also play this game. They hype the threat that Greece poses to them, even though Turkey has a much larger military budget and population and territory than Greece. And they're both members of NATO. As I've said many times, I think a large part of the motivation for this is some sort of rank vestiges of nationalism that clearly are influencing the discourse over Turkish-Greek relations, and the historical grievances, of course, play an important role. But I also think that this rhetoric is used to justify stratospherically high military spending by both Greece and Turkey, which is pleasing to Washington. And they kind of use each other to justify the exorbitant military spending that Washington wants them to engage in. Greece has the highest GDP ratio in the European Union, and it spends as a percentage of GDP almost the highest amount in NATO, well over 3 %, and they're heading rapidly towards 4 %. But what I really want to focus on here is if Greece feels so threatened by Turkey and Turkey feels threatened by Greece, why are they both sending forces out of

their own homeland to Saudi Arabia to defend the vicious Saudi autocracy against the people who have been subjected to a genocide by Saudi Arabia for over a decade? This really shows what a farce this entire narrative is. If they felt as threatened by each other as they claim to be, they wouldn't be sending their military forces and military hardware to Saudi fighting shoulder to shoulder to defend the autocrat who was a bosom buddy of Jeffrey Epstein. That whole narrative underlying Turkish-Greek relations has, in my view, descended into outright farce at this stage.

And finally before I leave the subject of Greece, the genocidal war criminal, Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister of Greece has gone to Brussels, hat in hand to beg for a modicum of flexibility in dealing with the burgeoning energy crisis here in Greece and throughout the European Union. And he said, when he was about to depart for Brussels, quote, "I don't expect magic European solutions. What we are asking for is extra fiscal leeway for targeted and temporary measures that will allow us to add to our arsenals". He noted however that the European Commission is positively listening to that but in any case the government is doing what it can within our fiscal limitations to address a global problem. And he also went on to talk about this mindset not to deal with the issue by spending large amounts of money. He is, at the core, this former banker, Harvard-educated Washington vassal, a radical neoliberal. And what is really enraging about all of this, and I hope my Greek compatriots take this to heart and think carefully about it, is that this man is acknowledging there's an energy crisis, is going to Brussels, begging for a little bit of flexibility to do something about it. Yet he supports the very policies that have resulted in the energy crisis. He supports the criminal war of aggression on Iran. He supports the NATO proxy war in Ukraine. And none of the difficulties that the soaring price of oil has imposed on the Greek people has prompted him to revisit either of those policies. So he is fully complicit in the energy crisis, which he himself will not do what is necessary to address. He's just trying to alleviate the suffering a little bit if the, you know, the bureaucrats in Brussels will allow him to do so.

So with that, let us then move on to the ground war in Yemen. First of all, Saudi reports that Saudi military personnel were killed in a helicopter crash over the weekend. According to the Saudi Defense Ministry, two officers of the military were killed when an AH-6 helicopter manufacturer sold by the United States crashed in Saudi Arabia's Najran province due to what it described the military of Saudi Arabia as a "technical failure". Ansar Allah, however, claims that they shot down the helicopter in the border area of the Najran while it was conducting a military operation against Yemeni positions. And to back up their position, they issued this video. This presumably is the AH-6 helicopter in flight over the province of Najran. And as you see, it is about to be obliterated. Now, I can't confirm to you that that actually is a video of the helicopter being taken out, but for a variety of reasons I've discussed in prior episodes, I attach a lot more weight to what the leadership of Ansar Allah says than to what the criminal Saudi autocracy says about these matters. What's also interesting about that video – again, I'm no expert in this type of radar imagery, but it looked to me like the missile was coming downwards, descending upon the helicopter. If that's the case, it's an interesting question, what type of air defense system was used by the Yemeni forces to take out the helicopter. Perhaps people with more military expertise than I have can provide some insight into that in the comments to this video. When it comes to the battle around the ground war around Taiz, the third largest city in Yemen in the southwest of the country, which has been under siege by Ansar Allah forces for quite some time, the Middle East Spectator published a map showing what it says are further advances in western Taiz city and that Ansar Allah forces have captured Al-Jabalain, Al-Jabali and the PLC's 35th Armored Brigade camp. And here is that map. The map points to the areas of Murabah, Al-Ariel Hill, the old

airport neighborhood and the armored headquarters. I guess I'll call that pink – on the left, that color denotes the areas that are now controlled by Ansar Allah. So this, of course, is the western part of Taiz. Heavy clashes, according to The Middle East Spectator, are ongoing in Al Matar Al Qadeem – that is the Old Airport, which you can see up there near the top of this map and along the entire line of contact of Han Mountain, which you can see in the lower left-hand quadrant.

Finally, in regard to the ongoing wars of aggression against Iran and Yemen, a whole bunch of US embassies in West Asia issued security alerts today, including those of Jordan, the US Embassy in Amman, Jordan, in Beirut, Lebanon, in Doha, Qatar, the virtual embassy in Iran, whatever that means, the US Mission in Iraq, the Jerusalem Embassy, and Manama, Muscat, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates embassies as well, and finally the Mission in Yemen. So this is a regional-wide security alert. Why that's the case, whether they anticipate more attacks coming from Ansarallah on the Saudi entity, perhaps from Iran or whether they themselves are planning, the Americans, to launch some kind of new deranged offensive against the Iranian military, the Yemenis – who knows. Or it could just be out of an abundance of caution or it could be psychological warfare. In any case, we thought it important to bring that to your attention. With that, let's turn then to the Strait of Hormuz. UKMTO continues to publish alerts of vessels being struck outside the Strait of Hormuz, this one in the Persian Gulf, off the coast of Saudi Arabia on the 16th of October. That's the date of the incident. And UKMTO, it says, received a timely report of an incident 68 nautical miles northeast of Al-Jubail, Saudi Arabia, a tanker struck by an unknown projectile. All crew are reported safe and have been evacuated. You can see that that is quite some distance, that greenish circle in the middle of the Persian Gulf from the Strait of Hormuz. So the Iranians, apparently, are not even going to let a lot of these vessels get near the strait. So that spells real trouble for the ongoing efforts to conduct ship-to-ship transfers through the Strait of Hormuz. And then there was this report relating to an incident yesterday: Iran apparently struck a tugboat. The UKMTO reported that on the 18th of October, northeast of Khor Fakkan in the United Arab Emirates, a tug traveling southbound reported being struck by two unknown projectiles, not one, but two. The tug sustained damage but is continuing on its route and one minor casualty was reported. So again, why would it strike a tugboat, the Iranian military? Because tugboats, based on the information available to me, are playing a significant role in carrying out or enabling these complex ship-to-ship transfers of crude oil on either side of the Strait of Hormuz. So again, it looks like Iran is trying to dismantle entirely the system that has been established for transferring oil out of the Persian Gulf onto VLCCs and other large tankers south of the Strait of Hormuz.

Actually, I omitted to show you one thing, and that is a video that the Iranian military has shown of another tanker blowing up in the Strait of Hormuz over the weekend. And according to the Iranian military, this tanker struck a mine. Looks to me that the mine hit the area of the engine room on this tanker and there you can see a fire breaking out after the fact. Now, I should just let you know that I've been having an interesting exchange by email with Colin Smith, a retired captain with vast experience in commercial maritime transportation. He now lives in Canada. And we had him on our program. He very helpfully explained a lot about the situation in the Strait of Hormuz from the perspective of someone with a lifetime of experience in maritime shipping. And Colin has expressed to me doubt that the Iranians have in fact mined the strait. And his view is that there is no conclusive evidence that they've done that. And he has a number of reasons for thinking that they would be reluctant to do so. I'm not in a position to confirm that they have in fact mined the strait, but they have repeatedly said that vessels have struck mines they've put into the strait. And they have a motivation to

say that they've mined the straits, even if they haven't, because that will presumably deter tankers from passing through the Strait of Hormuz to an even greater degree than they already deterred from doing so. One other thing I should mention, again, I'm not a military expert, but I understand that Iran has a vast variety of mines, including self-propelled mines. So it doesn't need to be the case that a tanker moves into a stationary mine, a self-propelled mine can hit a tanker that happens to be passing by in the near vicinity, as I understand it. In any case, we plan to have Colin back on our program soon, so that we can continue to explore the technicalities of what is actually happening in the Strait of Hormuz.

Turning then to oil markets: legendary investor Doug Casey says the gap between oil futures and real delivery prices is no longer a minor quirk, nor see oil trading for actual physical barrels, according to Casey, sits at \$136 US, while the futures most people watch stay far lower. The same disconnect, he says, appears in silver. Markets were once the one institution people believed they could still trust. That belief is now being called into question. And here's a clip from an interview that Casey gave in which he expressed these opinions.

Doug Casey: The market does not accurately represent the price on the ground to take delivery of oil. And this is true throughout the Orient too, apparently. So I'm asking myself, and I'm trying to think who can I call that will have a ready and accurate answer as to why aren't the futures market pricing in the actual reality of what oil is trading at today? I don't know. But the same thing is apparently happening with, among other things, the silver market, where, for many months, the market in China has been about 20 % above the markets that we have here in the US, in the West. Yeah, everybody has known theoretically that you could not trust politicians, but we always thought we could trust the price-reporting mechanisms of markets. That's being called into question at this point. You really can't trust...

DL: Well, that should be quite concerning to those who make a living from investment, shouldn't it? Finally, let us turn to developments in occupied Palestine. Yesterday, seven rabid Israeli settler savages mounted on ATVs surrounded a convoy of vehicles carrying European diplomats from France, Belgium, and Poland during an olive harvest visit to the Christian Palestinian village of Taybeh near Ramallah, according to Israeli and Palestinian media. And here's a brief video of the aftermath of that savagery. Now I'm just going to show you the very beginning of this video again, right there on the ground, sitting on the ground, leaning against the car with a dark blue jacket or shirt, that is a European diplomat, as I understand it. I believe he's from Belgium. But in any case, he appears to have been on the receiving end of some of the settler savagery. Now, the reports are that these barbarians demanded their IDs, those of the diplomats, threw stones and smashed the window of the Belgian consulate car. Mayor Bernard Baudoux of the French city of Aulnoye-Aymeries was among those injured. And The Cradle cites Amit Orfali, an activist who was part of the delegation, as saying the attackers threatened to kill them. The assault came a day after Washington Post journalist, Heidi Levine, as we reported – who is, by the way, a US citizen – was badly injured in a savage attack by settlers rampaging amid the Palestinians' traditional olive harvest. Belgium condemned this latest atrocity, this attack on its consul general and other envoys while France decried the attack as appalling. Both called for Israel to bring those responsible to justice. To my knowledge, neither of them imposed meaningful sanctions on the State of Israel for allowing these monstrosities to continue for so long and for refusing to hold any of the perpetrators accountable. The Israeli military itself condemned what they called a severe act of violence and said they would investigate. Wow, that's reassuring folks, isn't it? But the office of the child murderer Netanyahu cast doubt on what happened suggesting it was part of a, quote, "coordinated campaign to smear Israel", close quote. Now so far, I have not seen a

direct condemnation on X from the president of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen or the head of foreign policy for the European Union Kaja Kallas, both of whom are fanatical supporters of the genocidal Israeli entity. But Canadian Foreign Minister, Anita Anand, put out this statement on X: "Canada joins the European Union and our European allies in condemning the latest attack in the West Bank by violent settlers, including on diplomats from Belgium, France, and Poland. This unacceptable" – unacceptable, she calls it – "attack in Taybeh is part of a broader pattern of settler violence that threatens Palestinian communities and weakens efforts towards peace. Canada welcomes the Israeli police investigation". As if it can be counted on to produce an honest outcome. And then she says: "As the occupying power, Israel must ensure full accountability and protect diplomats and civilians in the West Bank". Well, why is any of this to be believed when Canada itself has entered into a free trade agreement with Israel, which for years has extended trade benefits to the illegal settlements in the West Bank? And has done absolutely nothing, as these settlements have expanded relentlessly. In any case, this is just more hot air coming from the Canadian foreign minister and from other talking heads in Western halls of power. One month ago, by the way, Anand used harsher language to condemn Ansar Allah attacks on the genocidal Saudi entity. She said she "strongly" condemned those attacks. You would have seen that the word "strongly" was omitted from her statement about this assault on diplomats from countries with which Canada is allied. Finally, here's what Rubio had to say about the attack on Heidi Levine, the Washington Post photojournalist on Saturday.

Reporter: I'd like to ask you about the violence in the West Bank. My colleague, Heidi Levine, was attacked there yesterday.

Marco Rubio: I saw that. We're all very disturbed by those images and what we're seeing. We've asked the Israelis and continue to ask them to crack down on that stuff. The president's been very clear. He said this repeatedly. He does not want to see friction or any crisis going on in the West Bank. Now, I understand that these are groups that are out there doing it and the president has been repeatedly clear when he said that he doesn't want to see that. He doesn't want to see a new spark. We saw the reports about what happened yesterday. I don't have all the details. I only go off media reports. I know we've inquired with the embassy and are supposed to get a cable back later today or tomorrow indicating exactly what they know about it. But from what I understand about media reports, it didn't look good. It was an American reporter, a photojournalist who was caught behind where some of these groups came in and was beaten and there was video of that. So the whole thing was just disturbing. Not a good look.

DL: "Not a good look", as if the perception of what happened is what really disturbs him. And the word that he used was "disturbed". That's as far as he was prepared to go. It was very disturbing. He didn't mention that Heidi Levine, by the way, I believe she's Jewish, and she's, I don't know what age she is, but when I saw her describe the barbarism with which she was beaten, she looked to me to be more than 50 years old. She was not a young woman – any woman, any person, any journalist being beaten would be an outrage, an absolute outrage. But one who was relatively fragile, incapable of defending herself in any meaningful way, even added to the depravity of this entire episode. Insofar as Trump being clear, he Marco Rubio, this child murdering war criminal, kept saying that Trump has been clear about this and Trump has been clear about that – what Trump has actually been clear about when you look at the totality of his statements and his actions, is that Israel can get away with any damn thing it wants to, including killing US citizens, as it did when it murdered Al Jazeera correspondent Shireen Abu Akleh in the Jenin refugee camp several years ago. There has not

been an iota of accountability for that murder even though it is now acknowledged even by the Israeli government that she was killed by an Israeli sniper. So that is what we are now dealing with here in the West. We are dealing with governments that are completely contemptuous of not just ordinary citizens, but even of journalists, while at the same time they mouth platitudes about freedom of the press and the importance of a free press to democratic governance.

In any case, my friends, that's our report for today. We'll be back with you tomorrow with more reporting on these vitally important subjects. I should also add in closing that on Saturday we did a bombshell report relating to Kimberly Guilfoyle, the ex-US ambassador to Greece who was recently forced to resign. The report, we were told by an attorney who was involved in the drafting of it, a Greek-American attorney, contained evidence of bribery and leaking sensitive information to the Chinese and Iranians and also cocaine consumption. I have now reviewed the 58 page report and I'm going to do a separate video to discuss with you what I found in it. And we'll be publishing that within the next 24 hours. Thanks very much for listening in today and please stay safe out there.

END

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