

Is Israel Planning to Topple Iran's Leadership?

Most people in the western world have no idea how serious the situation in the Middle East has become. I have been using the word “existential” to describe this conflict, because ultimately this is a war for all the marbles. Both sides are willing to do whatever it takes to win, and both sides are absolutely determined to utterly crash their enemies. Needless to say, Iran has been promising to wipe Israel off the map for a long time, and now some Israeli politicians are openly talking about regime change in Iran.

At this moment, Naftali Bennett is the most popular politician in Israel. If an election were held today, he would be the next prime minister. So the fact that he just said that Israel should “topple Iran's regime ASAP” is very noteworthy.

“And I want to be very clear about our goal,” Bennett said.

“Our goal is to topple – or should be to topple – Iran's regime.”

“That's what we need to do. We need to topple Iran's regime ASAP – certainly before they acquire a nuclear weapon.”

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Do you realize what it would take to achieve this? I do not believe that Israel would be able to end the current regime in Iran using conventional weapons.

Of course once the Iranians are able to produce their own nuclear weapons they won't hesitate to use them if push comes to shove.

There has been a lot of speculation in recent days that the Israelis could strike Iran's nuclear facilities very soon, and Donald Trump has just endorsed such a move.

Criticizing US President Biden's statements at the G7 conference that Israel should refrain from striking Iran's nuclear facilities, former President and Republican candidate Donald Trump said Israel should "hit the nuclear first and worry about the rest later."

At a campaign rally in Fayetteville, North Carolina, Trump ridiculed Biden's earlier remarks by saying, "'As long as they don't hit the nuclear stuff.' That's the thing you wanna hit, right? I said, 'I think he's got that one wrong. Isn't that what you're supposed to hit?'"

He added that nuclear weapons are "the biggest threat we have."

Trump said, "His answer should have been 'Hit the nuclear first, worry about the rest later.'"

I have never heard Trump talk like this before.

Once Israel strikes Iran's nuclear facilities, there will be all-out war between Israel and Iran.

And that could come a lot sooner than most people think.

On Saturday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made it very clear that Iran's recent missile attack will not go unanswered.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Saturday repeated his promise to strike back against Iran for its ballistic missile attack earlier in the week, saying Israel has an obligation to retaliate and will do so.

Speaking from the Kirya military headquarters in Tel Aviv,

Netanyahu said: "No country in the world would accept such an attack on its cities and citizens, and Israel won't either.

"Israel has the duty and the right to defend itself and respond to these attacks – and it will do so."

According to the Jerusalem Post, the IDF is hoping that the military response that is being formulated will not spark an uncontrollable chain of events.

The IDF plans to respond significantly but has not detailed the nature of that response. The IDF noted that the Iranians launched 201 missiles from Iran to Israel, some of which impacted targets.

Consequently, there is a broad recommendation within the IDF to respond to the Iranian attack while minimizing risks and maximizing opportunities.

I don't see how this is going to end well.

The Iranians have already said that there will be an enormous response to any Israeli attack on Iranian soil. I think that we are getting very close to the final showdown between these two nations.

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Meanwhile, Hezbollah just continues to pound northern Israel. On Saturday evening, 130 missiles were fired at Israeli targets.

Heavy fighting between Israel and the Iran-backed Hezbollah militia in Lebanon characterized the front on Saturday evening, with Hezbollah firing 130 missiles into Israel and Israel continuing to attack targets in Lebanon.

In response, the IDF absolutely pummeled Beirut on Sunday.

Israeli airstrikes continued to hammer Beirut through the overnight hours and into Sunday, with the Israel Defense Forces calling them “pinpoint” attacks, but which has left Lebanese civilians in the capital in a state of panic. Financial Times and others have called it the heaviest night of bombing on the Lebanese capital to date.

Large fireballs were observed overnight, and towering smoke plumes in the dawn hours, as the IDF said it also struck multiple weapons depots and Hezbollah infrastructure across the country. The IDF has said it has hit 150 Hezbollah targets in the past 24 hours, including a building near a key road leading to Lebanon’s international airport.

Subsequently, Hezbollah launched a volley of rockets at Haifa on Sunday night.

At least six people have been injured after Hezbollah fired a barrage of rockets into the city of Haifa in northern Israel late Sunday.

The Iran-backed militant group said in a statement that it had launched the rockets at Israel’s Carmel military base, while Israeli authorities reported rockets and shrapnel dropping around the city.

Haifa’s Rambam Hospital said it was treating six people who were injured in the barrage. It described one of them as “lightly to moderately injured” and four of them as “lightly injured” due to shrapnel. Another person was suffering anxiety, it said, adding that all the injured were conscious.

A lot of people out there don’t seem to get it. We have been witnessing escalation after escalation, and I am entirely convinced that the biggest escalations of all are right around the corner.

This isn't just another war in the Middle East. As I have been consistently warning, this will eventually become the biggest war in the Middle East. For now, both sides are not showing all their cards. But when the chips are down, neither side is going to be pulling any punches. So let's watch and see what happens next.

If Iran's nuclear facilities are targeted, or if either side decides to use unconventional weapons, there will be no possible way for us to avoid all-out war in the Middle East.

Michael Snyder's *new book entitled "Why" is available in paperback and for the Kindle on , and you can subscribe to his Substack newsletter at .*

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