Israel's Fight for Survival Against Iran | Eylon Levy on Bolt Reports (04 March 2026)

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Bolt Reports: Joining me is Alon Levy, a podcaster and former spokesman for the Israeli government during the first year of the Gaza war. Elon, it's such a pleasure to see you. I've long admired how you've stuck it to uh very aggressive journalists. I've enjoyed that. Um Marco Rubio gave anti-Israel conspiracy theorists, well, I don't know. Maybe you should burnish my reputation for being even-handed by giving me a blast some way. gentle blast, but give me one.

Marco Rubio gave anti-Israel conspiracy theorists a lot of ammunition there in that clip I just showed you, saying, "America joined the attack on Iran because Israel was going to anyway. It made it look weak." Uh, what did you make of that?

Eylon Levy: Yeah, people didn't watch the full clip. Secretary Rubio was very clear this operation was going to happen sooner or later because the Iranian regime was approaching a point of strategic invulnerability. I'll explain. The Iranian regime, which he says is run by religious lunatics, wants to build a nuclear weapon. In order to build a nuclear weapon, it wanted to build enough ballistic missiles and drones that no one would be able to stop it.

Now, the regime was building 100 missiles a month, fortifying its underground ballistic missile factories and acquiring strategic weapons from China that would be a gamechanger. The Iranian regime was close to the point of having enough firepower that no one would be able to stop it.

The military option would not be viable. And if it chose to go and build nuclear weapons, no one would be able to stop it. The negotiators, uh, Steve Whit told us walked into the room and told the Americans, "We have enough nuclear material for 11 bombs. That is our starting position."

And Rubio said, "If the US-Israeli coalition, the two most powerful air forces in the world, did not act now, we would have reached a point of no return where no one could touch the Iranian regime." So for those saying it's too soon, it's always too soon until it's too late.

Bolt Reports: That's a very good point. And don't forget, it is wider implications than just an Iranian attack. Bad as that would be, I mean Ukraine is depending on American missile defenses to defend itself from Russia. And then America is freaking what will it have left if China does go to war as is threatened to do? China hasn't expended a single munition in years while you know America seems to be funding everything. But now Israel now is going into southern Lebanon again. Why is that?

Eylon Levy: Yeah, first of all just on this point on China this is critical to understand what is happening in Iran in a global context. The Chinese, Russian, Iranian, North Korean axis is

trying to bleed the West dry. It is manufacturing ballistic missiles and drones far faster and cheaper than the West can manufacture interceptors. So it is a global danger if the Iranian regime has 8,000 ballistic missiles as it was planning because there's just no way to shoot them out of the sky.

And that is a way for China to try to bog down the West and the moderate Arab states and for Russia as well as they seek expansion beyond their borders. So this is a global danger. Lebanon uh Hezbollah, Iran's proxy army in Lebanon has joined the war on the side of the Iranian regime.

Two nights ago, they fired ballistic missiles and drones at uh northern Israel. Yesterday, for the first time in 16 months, they fired a ballistic missile at Tel Aviv. And we all had to run for shelter. And Israel is saying enough is enough. The last war with Hezbollah ended with a diplomatic solution. That's what world leaders wanted, right? A deal that the Lebanese government has to disarm Hezbollah.

They didn't. They chickenened out of a fight. Chickened out of a confrontation. Didn't confront Hezbollah. Allowed Hezbollah to rearm forces along Israel's border. and we're not going to allow Iran's proxy army in Lebanon to re missiles and drones and anti-tank fire at the communities along the border.

So, Israel is now operating forcefully against Hezbollah to remove the threat of rocket fire and drones against uh our communities and make sure they can no longer attack Israeli civilians to try to save the Islamic Republic..

Bolt Reports: Yeah, but you know, Israel's got much less than half Australia's population. Meanwhile, it is fighting on three fronts in Gaza still really in Lebanon and in Iran. There must be some sort of exhaustion setting in here or the the blood and the money that's being expended on this. How long do you think before the Israeli public think enough? What's what's going on? What's the support for this?

Eylon Levy: Oh, resolve in Israel is very high because we want to finish the job. Since October 7th, 2023, we have been under attack on seven fronts. Gaza, Lebanon, Yemen, Syria, the West Bank, Iraq, Iran. It has been over 2 years of a multiffront war waged by the Iranian axis against Israel to try to destroy our country. And that has backfired spectacularly in the face of the Iranian axis.

Every single terrorist leader who plotted and was involved in October 7th is now dead. Sinwar dead, Nasrala, Khomeni, all gone. So Israelis now don't want ballistic missiles. It's scary. It's stressful. You have to run to the shelter.

But we can't afford for the Iranian regime to get nuclear weapons. We can't afford for them to build thousands of ballistic missiles. We want to eliminate the threat once and for all of a fundamentalist fanatic regime that has invested billions in the vision of death to Israel.

So if it means running into the bomb shelter a few more times, a few more days, a few more weeks, that's a price that Israelis are willing to pay in order to remove this existential threat to our national survival.

Bolt Reports: Let me just tell you, there is no once and for all in history. Uh there's always going to be someone else. But yes, I think Israel will be safer now once uh Iran is defang than it has been since the creation of the state. Very quickly, I'm out of time, but I just need to hear quick view from you on this.

The hatred of the left here for Benjamin Netanyahu, you know, the demonization of him. It's not just here too. You've worked for him. What's he really like?

Eylon Levy: I think the prime minister is the ultimate foreign policy realist. He sees through the bull of uh all the jog and talk of international community and understands that we live in a dangerous region and in a dangerous region you need to be creative.

You need to be forceful because our enemies are not playing by the rules and you have to be smarter and faster and stronger than them if you want to survive in a dangerous region.

Bolt Reports: Eylon Levy, always great to talk to you. I hope to have you back very soon. Thank you so much for your time.