

## P1: Iranian retaliation

By passing, we implement a patriot system in countries fighting against Iranian backed proxy groups. How powerful are patriot systems? Patriot systems serve as one of the few interactions to Iran's weapons. The only current one in place right now is the Iron dome\*which is only in Israel. → Iranian backed proxy groups have for the most part backed away from Israel, not just because they are clearly outmatched in personnel and funding, but specifically because they have the Iron dome(France 24 in 2024) In the past few months the groups have been more active in places like Lebanon with Hezbollah where defense systems were nowhere near as advanced, allowing easy pickings for the proxy groups. The issue is in the past when Israel displayed its Iron dome, Iran HAD an alternative to focus on(Lebanon, etc.) so it wasn't a huge loss. Now the issue is that now the US essentially strands Iran without any more options surrounding them. Up till now, the affirmation probably agrees with me, but here's where they go wrong. Rather than giving up on the conflict all together, they call upon their own foreign allies in a time of need. Iran and China have developed a growing economic and military relationship, but unlike other allies, China only cares about two things: profits, and power. As far as profits go, China makes money by selling arms to other countries. In the past [cia] China has signed agreements to sell \$6.3 billion of weapons, 95 percent of them to Iraq, Egypt, Iran, Pakistan, and Libya in the past four years. If China was willing to sell to Iran in the past, there is absolutely nothing hindering them from selling arms now. Moreover, China is Iran's last option, with its neighbors like Syria having just as much military tech as Iran, looking to international superpowers like China is the only option. China not only gains money, it gains access to Iranian markets and energy supplies. Iran and China seem to have a perfect win-win deal when we pass.

But what does that mean for the United States and Iran?

First for Iran:

Iran finds an escape; not just now, but forever. When China and Iran become partners, they become inseparable. But Iran quickly sees its own death.

"Since Sri Lanka defaulted on a Chinese loan a year ago, a half-million industrial jobs have vanished, inflation has pierced 50% and more than half the population in many parts of the country has fallen into poverty. In Pakistan the government can't keep the electricity on. In Zambia, the government was forced to cut spending on healthcare, social services and subsidies to farmers for seed and fertilizer."

- AP news

<https://apnews.com/article/china-debt-banking-loans-financial-developing-countries-collapse-8df6f9fac3e1e758d0e6d8d5dfbd3ed6>

Second for the United States:

The United States has a permanent counterbalance in the region, whereas now the US is one of the only countries that's ever involved its military in Middle Eastern affairs. That permanently disables the US to stop conflict, and ultimately handicaps any problem solving and life saving ability we have in the region.