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My next guest says Israel is targeting the wrong nation. Adib Farha is a former Lebanese government adviser. He joins me from Wichita, Kansas. Great to have you back Mr. Farha and just to let our viewers know.

ADIB FARHA, FMR. LEBANESE GOVERNMENT ADVISER: Good to be back.

PHILLIPS: Pleasure to have you. And just to set up, why are we talking to you from Wichita. Well, we talked about this last week and that's because you believe you received threats from members of Hezbollah and, therefore, you had to leave your country. --

FARHA: I don't know who the threats were from, but Hezbollah could have certainly have been it.

PHILLIPS: One of the options. And you were an adviser to Rafik Hariri before he was assassinated. I'm just curious, if you were able to advise the prime minister right now, what would you tell him?

FARHA: I think the prime minister is doing as well of a job as he can. His primary concern is maintaining national unity and making sure that the country does not slip into the abyss of a civil war again. We've seen how damaging that has been and, unfortunately, it looks more so every day that sectarian tensions could flare up any minute and he's also appealing to the world for humanitarian aid and also for a cease-fire.

I'm not sure that his appeal for a cease-fire is going to be well received by Israel or by the United States. They both feel that it's premature. This is a campaign that started with the intent of degrading Hezbollah's military capabilities and they're a long way from being finished with that.

PHILLIPS: And Mr. Farha, last week when we talked, you were telling me about the Lebanese government not being able to get a hold on Hezbollah and be able to participate in the U.N. resolution to disarm Hezbollah. We got in depth on that. Since then, we were able to get a number of interviews with the head of Hezbollah. You mentioned Iran, you mentioned Syria and the fact that both countries are backing Hezbollah. I now want to take a piece of that interview and get your response to what the head of Hezbollah had to say over the weekend.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HASSAN NASRALLAH, HEZBOLLAH LEADER (through-translator): I deny, completely deny any presence of Iranian soldiers. The Iranians have complete experience

and could use these capabilities are all Lebanese and sons of Lebanon and belong to Lebanese families since hundreds of years. They are talking about Iranians and Iranian soldiers and tomorrow might be talking about Northern Koreans or Japanese or Russians or Chinese.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PHILLIPS: Couple questions for you Mr. Farha, you were an adviser to the Lebanese government, first of all, he did not deny weapons from Iran, but he's denying that Iranian soldiers are involved with what's happening. Why don't we start with the soldiers aspect, do you agree with that?

FARHA: My information is that there are a few dozen Iranian advisers. It is assumed that Hezbollah started out with about 12,000 missiles in three categories. There are certain missiles that Hezbollah is allowed by Iran to use when they see fit. There are other missiles where they need Iran's permission and the third kind, the more sophisticated ones, which I understand, Hezbollah is only the custodian for those missiles and only the Iranian so-called advisers would shoot them.

There is no doubt this is a war between Iran and the civilized world. Hezbollah is just a tool of Hezbollah, of Iran. It is Iran's western assets and this is a much more serious situation than it originally appeared to most casual observers. This is a war between Iran, trying to establish its interpretation of Islam of radical Islam or of terrorism, which Islam is innocent of. It's trying to impose Islamic states all over the region and dominate the region.

PHILLIPS: Adib Farha, former Lebanese government adviser, stay with us sir, I want to talk to you more about the Lebanese army and what its role should be and also talk more about Hezbollah being part of the government you used to advise. Stay with us. We'll talk to you some more.

In addition, new attacks on Beirut and northern Israel. Many westerners being flown or shipped away from the danger zone. The latest on the evacuation efforts straight ahead.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PHILLIPS: More now on the crisis in the Middle East -- I want to get back to my guest, who says that Israel is targeting the wrong nation.

Adib Farha is a former Lebanese government adviser. He joins me once again from Wichita, Kansas, a place where he has to live, because life was not made easy for him, shall we say, in Lebanon.

Mr. Farha, you and I were just talking during the break, which I think is fascinating. You were a part of establishing this hopeful democratic government. And a lot of people are stepping back, saying, how do you have a democracy when you have an organization like

Hezbollah as a legitimate part of the government? Some would say it just doesn't make sense. The U.S., Israel calls this a terrorist organization. How could they be part of a democracy?

What do you say to that?

ADIB FARHA, FORMER LEBANESE GOVERNMENT ADVISER: Whether we like Hezbollah or not -- and I don't -- the prime minister would not have been able to put together a cabinet without giving Hezbollah at least one seat. They demanded at least one seat, if not more.

And, if he had not given them one seat out of 20, then no Shiite would have joined the cabinet, and, therefore, you could never have put together a government. So, the decision was to put together a government of 20 that includes one Hezbollah guy. That facilitated the formation of the government.

And, at the same time, hopefully, it would incentivize Hezbollah to become more Lebanese in its loyalty and its allegiances. Unfortunately, Hezbollah continues to do Iran's bidding. They want to have their cake and eat it, too. They are part of the Lebanese government, yet, they continue to operate outside the Lebanese law, outside international law. And their interests and their loyalties are certainly not for Lebanon.

We are discovering that every more and more every day. I mean, when...

PHILLIPS: So, let me...

FARHA: When asked...

PHILLIPS: Let...

FARHA: Yes. Go ahead.

PHILLIPS: Well, yes, Mr. Farha, let me ask you, then, I mean, when -- when Hezbollah became a part of this -- this government that was supposed to be a democracy, right, they basically pledged their allegiance, saying, look, we will be loyal to the Lebanese. We will not be loyal to Syria or Iran. Lebanese will be number one. It's obvious -- well, I'm -- I -- maybe I should ask you.

It -- it seems obvious that is not the case. So, can they be bounced out? Can they be tossed out of the governmental system?

FARHA: Absolutely not, because, if you bounce them out, then all of the other Shiite members of the cabinet would resign.

I have to point out to the viewers, by constitution, the cabinet has to be 50 percent Christians, 50 percent Muslims. And within the 50 percent Muslim Shia, it has to be

shared proportionately among the Sunnis and the Shiites. So, if the Lebanese Shiites refuse to join the cabinet, there will be no cabinet.

PHILLIPS: Wow.

Condoleezza Rice now headed now to the area, we have been reporting that. How important is that? What does Condoleezza Rice need to do? And is U.S. involvement essential to trying to figure out some type of peaceful negotiations here?

FARHA: Well, you know, we have to remember that the Arab-Israeli conflict is the root of most of the problems in the Middle East.

And it has certainly given Iran, which has a different, totally different agenda, a very good excuse to rally support for its brand of Islamic fundamentalism.

I think it's very important for the United States to get back into the game. President George W. Bush has been fantastic, as far as Lebanon is concerned. And we greatly -- as pro-democracy Lebanese, we admire his positions.

However, on the general Arab-Israeli crisis, he has stepped back and just let it play out. I think it's very important for the United States to get back into the game. The United States is the only power that -- that can influence things.

And if there's any chance that there's going to be peace, I think the United States can broker it. Unfortunately, with the events of the last six days, I think peace is very, very far. It's farther than it's ever been.

PHILLIPS: Well, I have no doubt that we will be talking more.

Adib Farha, always appreciate your time, sir.

FARHA: Thank you.