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How's Trump Doing?

If you haven't already done it, do yourself a favor and seek out an interview with the Russian Foreign Minister, Sergei Lavrov, an intelligent, diplomatic man who stays to the facts and refrains from alienating his audience. Next, listen to his counterpart, Sec/State Blinkin assessing Russia, using nothing but lies, intended to raise the fear level.

Facing war in Ukraine/Middle East, Trump has offered-up Gorka, Waltz, Kellogg, Stefanik, Huckabee as ambassadors to hotspots, UN spokesperson, and national security advisors. Like a bad joke, these five offer no chance for diplomacy/compromise.

With these picks, it's difficult to assess whether Trump wants to make America great again or is insisting America be number 1. Flexing muscles he might not have, Trump threatens nations that would conduct business in currencies other than the dollar with 100% tariffs. That's the work of a tyrant—and nothing to do with regaining greatness.

Other than Tulsi, RFK, and Elon, Trump seems to be exercising the same bad character judgment he displayed in his 1st term. And this time—it might prove to be lethal.

Consider 3 nominees for cabinet positions of power—with responsibility for maintaining peace or taking us into war: Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, and the Director of National Intelligence. Who are the nominees and what do they bring w/them?

These 3 cabinet posts are tasked with presenting/informing the president, of consequences for acting/not acting in a given situation. Are Trump's nominees capable?

Trump's nominee for Sec/State is Marco Rubio, known for his hawkish positions on China, Cuba, Iran, and Venezuela. Of the 3 nominees, Rubio has a base of support. Sadly, because Rubio is an alleged neocon/warmonger, he has support of both parties.

The man Rubio replaces, Blinkin, hasn't spoken to his Russian counterpart, Lavrov, for 2 years. Instead, he whips-up war fever against Russia or whomever Bibi points to.

Rubio was supposed to be a VP Christmas gift for Miriam Adelson, but she had to settle for Sec/State (a choice between what is good for the republic or what Miriam wants). So we get Rubio (who doesn't like Trump), but actively supports Trump's animosity towards China, along with animosity for any socialist nation in the Americas. Not just animosity, but seemingly, hatred—supporting whatever it takes for regime change.

Trump's (embattled) nominee for Secretary of Defense, Pete Hegseth, wants to transform an *effete/woke* military—bringing it back to a manly killing machine (it needs to be) 100 Navy Seals have come out in support of Pete. But, it is more complicated.

At 1 point, Pete supported going after war criminals in the ranks. Now, that's reportedly changed. As with US rules-based order, he would pardon what GI's do in *heat of battle*—while disallowing foreign nations to try GI's for crimes conducted on their soil.

If it is true (as reported) that Pete was in favor of murdering General Soleimani, and invading Iran afterwards, is this the man we want tempering a Trump tendency to shoot from the hip? With Trump, surrounded by neocons, can Pete be a calming influence?

One of Trump's nominees (along with RFK), is seen as brazenly unqualified: *Tulsi Gabbard has no formal intelligence experience and sympathetic towards Putin/Assad.*

The elite position is that we do not negotiate with Russia. How, over little more than decade, has the US dumbed-down to where diplomacy/compromise/free speech/open debate are now the enemy? Now, those of us who embrace free speech, open inquiry, rational debate—are branded, right-wing—simply for questioning prevailing narratives.

This may seem off-topic, but it pertains. In 2012, Obama signed HR 5736 into law—allowing propaganda the US broadcasts to the rest of the world to be broadcast within the domestic US. As a consequence—HR 5736 supports government lying to citizens.

Tulsi is someone who cares about/practices free speech. She maintains a balanced approach towards Putin and had lunch with Assad. That she will not accepted established doctrine and insists on her rights is the reason she deserves to be head of intelligence. All that crap about not having the experience—experience of lying to America?

So Trump, as usual, is a cross-purposes with himself. But he's also the guy that nominated RFK Jr to go after Pharma, as head of Health and Human Services. If there's anything that might prompt an assassination attempt, going after Pharma is it.

Bobby is an advocate for the health of Americans and a good choice for the position. But that won't stop the propaganda: *RFK Jr. has a long history of peddling health-related conspiracy theories: Vaccines cause autism, depressants and mass shootings.*

Trump wants to end the practice wherein a child born in the US is automatically a citizen. Trump is justified in taking down this practice. Proponents relied on wording from the 14th Amendment: "All persons *born* or naturalized in the United States, *and subject to the jurisdiction thereof*, are citizens of the United States." Illegals, children of illegals, have not legal standing under the law, and are not protected by the 14th Amendment.

Trump is right to abolish this practice/deport illegals. This will get ugly, for farm price/inflation, and contentious in states that harbor illegals. But the left perpetuated this crime—a crime that needs rectified—a mess that falls at the feet of President Trump.

There is contention as to whether Trump can use the military for this task. The simple truth: without the military, there is no way to do it. While a standing army/national guard, as constituted and used, are themselves, unconstitutional, there is precedent: in 1957, Eisenhower used the National Guard to desegregate schools in the South.

We can't paint Trump with broad brush—deserving though he might be. We have to wait and see whether he will cost-cut illegal agencies or take action to get rid of them.

Considering most Americans are on the government dole, were Trump to shut-down illegal agencies all at once, unemployment would soar—with out-of-control inflation.

The US needs to get out of any country with no direct compelling necessity for US military. But will that happen? Trump's take this morning on Ukraine is the stuff of misperception based on bad advice. The fear is that Trump (like Lyndon Johnson), takes the advise of hawks/liars rather than the likes of Douglas McGregor. My next article.

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