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Is Trump Doing Head-Fakes—Or What the Hell?

Remember back in 2022 when Putin was a crazy thug? Well, we're back there. Trump, referring to Putin's massive strikes across Ukraine, is saying that he doesn't know what happened to Putin—but he's gone crazy. Zelensky attacked Russia with 1100 drones over three days, including Moscow's airport and an assassination attempt on Putin's helicopter. Putin retaliated. Trump calls Putin insane for needlessly targeting civilians.

It may come as a surprise, but Trump gets an intelligence briefing once a week—unlike prior presidents who got it each morning. Meanwhile, Zelensky targets anything/everything—just to keep the chaos going. And, just weeks ago Trump was slaughtering shepherders in Yemen, and is now directly complicit in starving 2 million Palestinians.

Ukraine, Palestine, and Iran are now Trump's wars because he could stop them at will. Is there a strategy here—or is he making it up as he goes? Is there a Trump—or is he the last person he spoke to? Trump opened up dialogue with Russia where there was none. That's positive, but not revelatory. All heads of state need to talk but what is Trump saying: *Putin attacked for no reason at all, like I always said, Putin wants all of Ukraine.* Both clauses in the sentence are bullshit. Worse is a subsequent report that the EU/US are allegedly providing long-range missiles to UKR. Trump won't comment.

I keep hearing about Trump as the peace president—but is he? He attacked Yemen, non-stop, a couple of months into his term. He's providing Netanyahu with the means to slaughter. He continues the flow of weapons/intelligence to Ukraine—perpetuating war. That said, they all run as peace presidents: W. Bush, Clinton, Obama—Zelensky.

At the same time, Trump wants a weaker dollar/lower interest rates. How is that gotten? It's not something you get by executive order/change in Fed policy. A weak dollar requires action: it necessitates printing currency to buy debt—done in support of banks. As a result, citizens are poorer because a weak dollar destroys purchasing power. Indebted banks need weak currencies. Nation-building needs a strong currency.

Inflation, a monetary phenomena, is our future. This time it combines with Trump's tariff consequences, while the purchasing power of the dollar continues to fall in a world taking flight out of dollar assets, into local currencies—hard-assets—gold/silver.

Trump patterns himself on President McKinley, a tariff guy who sought to extend the territorial footprint of the US. But there is a difference—then to now. When McKinley was president the US was young/vibrant—with muscles to flex. Now the US is old, inf-

fective, and mired in debt. CBO projects debt rising to \$60T—at a rate of 5% yearly.

Begging the question: how's our military? Trump addressed cadets at West Point, where he talked to about trophy wives. Is Trump flummoxed—becoming Biden/2? Meanwhile, over at Annapolis, default president, JD Vance was speaking at the Naval Academy. Sorry to report, but his talk might have been entitled—*blatant imperialism*.

No longer any *pabulum* about our boys spreading democracy. He told the cadets that when (not if), our *warfighters* are called to action, it would be in support of US interests. And we would unleash overwhelming power on the enemy (who exactly is that enemy, JD?). *Devastation would be wrought on enemies as we did the Houthis*. Am I missing something? After weeks 24/7, civilian bombing—didn't we take our ball and go home?

Again, we are back in *la la* land. Under Reagan, the national debt was between \$700B/2T. Even with a much stronger economy, we couldn't realize Reagan's StarWars missile defense dream—because it didn't work. Now, with our adversaries having developed hypersonic missiles, with a US debt of \$36T, heading to \$60T, and an inability to develop weapons that work, Trump is going to protect us under a *Golden Dome*. It best be a *Golden Dome*—because Israel's *Iron Dome* can't stop hyper-sonic missiles.

There are only variations on one solution to save an economy. A solution that's quite simple: spend less while keeping revenue the same, increase revenue while spending the same, or increase revenue/spend less at the same time. However it unfolds, deficits come to balance. The easy way to do it is passed. Our epitaph is being written.

A bankrupt, US nation cannot maintain a hegemonic facade, given a woked-down populace and sorry state of manufacturing. Yet we attempt war readiness against nations who are no war threat to the US. We left the Yemen conflict when it became apparent the Houthis had the capability to put our carrier groups at risk. And, when the Pentagon advised Trump there would be no ammo left for a fight in a South China Sea.

To raise the defense budget to \$1T, rather than negotiate with our economic/military rivals, destroys any future for the US dollar as reserve currency. Of republicans, only Thomas Massie, a non-Zionist who can do math, voted against the *big beautiful* bill. No big spending bill works in the interest of US citizens. A big bill is in no way beautiful.

There appears to be a chink in the armor between Trump and Netanyahu—but does that chink extend to Trump's Zionist, ideological—hated for Iran? That's probably the biggest question for Trump. Walking away from Ukrainian negotiations is one thing, but getting dragged-in to attack Iran (instigated by Netanyahu), is something—far different.

Israel's base in the US, for the starvation of Gaza (supported by half of Israelis), is under siege. The Israeli lobby spends millions to not remind us that Israel has an obligation under the UN Charter to protect and sustain occupied Palestine. Instead, they starve-out Gaza, while not reporting Hezbollah won Lebanese elections—far and away.

Even without viable news services the world knows that Bibi, allowing 5 aid trucks into Gaza is a death warrant for 10s/1000s of babies/children. And, given that fact, we need to hope Trump is not saying, to Bibi, as reported: *Let's just get six or seven months of negotiation* (with Iran). *We'll negotiate to the point where they have to shut up or put up. And if you're right ... then we have made a case to our MAGA base*.

Economic collapse is set in stone, so what happens to a thin gold market? Central bank demand rises, reducing cumulative supply. That's when 300 investors thinking they own the same gold bar, but don't, get their 1st-hand lesson in counter-party risk.

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