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*Is the US Losing in Iran?*

Few, other than those who do the research, agree with my assessment of the war in Iran. Admittedly, I see Iran winning this—but I don't know for sure. Bill Holter disagrees with, but posted my last article with a balanced-over-view disclaimer: *I disagree with Erik on this one. I believe he is wrong in the short run but right in the long run, but for different reasons. Iran is getting the snot beaten out of them currently and there may not be much left afterwards. The US on the other hand, has given the world quite a display of ordnance use. But what will happen should there be a problem elsewhere such as Taiwan? Have we spent too much ammo or unveiled previous unseen weaponry? Not to mention the (BRICS) world coming together to destroy the dollar.* Is Bill Holter correct?

I have to be okay with having few peers who see it as I do. Even old friends accuse me of gloom/doom and suggest I write another novel, plotted around gloom—right up my alley. But, what can I do? A bleak world calls for a bleak assessment. What they don't know, unless they're around me, is that I have a ready smile and a quiet heart.

So, Iran is about out of assets and soon to fall apart? To those I say, do your homework. Ex-CIA analysts, such as Larry Johnson, and Ray McGovern (who did the morning intelligence briefing for US presidents), disagree

that Iran is close to collapse.

Along with them, Jeffrey Sachs/John Mearsheimer/Alastair Crooke disagree. Ex-colonel's McGregor/Wilkerson disagree. Nuclear expert, Ted Postol disagrees. Instead, they assess, anticipating a long war, Iran is rationing missiles/drones to assure necessary reserves.

What should be bothering Americans is how uninformed we are. Last night I heard economist Michael Pento on Liberty and Finance going on about how Trump is making a mistake. That he should just do enough strikes to take out Iran's leadership and the new Ayatollah, but not engage in a protracted war. That a deranged war criminal, Donald Trump, should be supported to take out leaders of a sovereign nation, based on lies that the regime killed 30K of its own citizens—is madness beyond the pale. Madmen control the republic. Trump and Hegseth are men I would avoid were they my neighbors.

Both made utterances today that are beyond disgusting. Trump: 'Watch what happens to these deranged scumbags today. They've been killing innocent people all over the world for 47 years, and now I, as the 47th President of the United States of America, am killing them. What a great honor it is to do so!' Iran has no history of invading neighbors, and uses supply/military means to support the sovereignty of its neighbors.

Pete Hegseth claims Iranian leaders have gone underground: 'that's what rats do.' Actually, Iran's leaders are openly protesting with the citizens amidst US/Israeli bombing. Treasury Secretary Bessent green-lights Russian oil already at sea as unsanctioned so to promote stability. As if the US has any legal jurisdiction over what Russian/China/Iran do concerning oil.

US intel sources cite reports providing *consistent analysis* the Iranian regime is not in danger of collapse—retaining control of Iranian public.

And when it comes down to it, Russia, China, and the Global south (purveyors of respect for the sovereignty of other nations), cannot allow Iran to fall to the likes of Trump. It's the only hope for global multi-polarity.

Consider who Trump is: a man who made his fortune in bankruptcy courts/hotel branding. A man with a disgusting sexual history (not fully exposed), famous for *Celebrity Apprentice* where his main bit was to fire people. Don't be thinking that's over with. As it comes clear his Iran foray is one for the biggest blunders in American history, heads will roll—no matter they be named Hegseth/Bessent. Trump's head will also roll, but, as is his way—blame everybody else before before the buck stops with him.

How bad do I think it's going to get? Way worse than it looks. Trump makes it known he favors mass surveillance. Take that idea, strap it to Trump's buddy, Peter Thiel (Palantir), and let your mind wander how that might translate when Trump's under fire.

Taking Iran with ground troops is something the US is unprepared for. Even if it were, it would require 6 month's planning. Can Trump take/hold Kharg Island (Iran's facility handling 90% of Iranian oil)—that's undetermined For Iran to win—it only needs to survive. If Iran can keep Straights of Hormuz closed, Trump will have to back off—declaring victory.

Will Americans buy-into another phony victory if TACO Trump backs-away as he did from the Houthis in the Red Sea? If Iran demands all sanctions be lifted and the US abandon its bases in the Middle East, will Trump be able to forge a victory out of that?

There's wild cards: there's a resolution in the UN to condemn Iran for attacking its neighbors—neighbors housing American bases from which to threaten/attack Iran. Does such a resolution come under veto from China and Russia? We will have to see.

Something Americans need to come to terms with is the attack on Iran— itself. When Trump blusters that he's increasing the attacks 20X, with unlimited ammunition, he is the only one that believes that. But, increase he will until Iran is broken or Iran prevails. Until then, know that the US/Israel have limited intelligence about what exists inside Iran. Trump has already said he's destroyed all military targets, so any continuance or increase is random, to be conducted on targets that are civilian in nature. Analogous to Bessent's (not his job description), tough talk about breaking the Iranian population.

Another curiosity. 80/90% of drinking water in Israel and the Emirates comes from desalinization. It's 3% for Iran—so why did Israel bomb Iran's de-salinization facility?

I had this article titled: *I Have No Peers*, because ever-fewer agree with my assessment (1000s of subscribers—but how many share my view?). Now with Trump, my level of fear for what might await any who take my stand, is even greater than with Covid, under Biden. It's getting where, late at night, at times of my most most vulnerability, I'm afraid to write. But, writing at mid-day—Trump is simply a deranged war criminal.

I'm troubled that some conservative friends might be as brain-dead as some on the left. As you might know, I grew up a blue collar democrat—socially liberal/financially conservative. I gave it up when democrat anti-war ceased—traded for babbling throngs of brain dead.

Are my Trump friends on the right any better? I'm not sure. They tell me they hate Islam/Palestinians—as opposed to addressing real issues. What is this thing—Zionism—and where did it come from? Next time.

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