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*Readers Taking Me To Task*

‘Be careful Erik, to be against Israel is to be against the Lord God.’ Is this guy God’s spokesperson? How in the world do I communicate with someone with such unshakeable beliefs?

When I’d go after Obama/Biden, readers would get after me, not only for what I’d say about Hillary Clinton, but posting my articles, leftists could well unsubscribe en masse. Now, conservatives object to what I write about China/Iran/Russia/Venezuela—as not being, ‘in fact’, enemies of the US. For instance, from a friend: ‘Couple of things I might refute. I still think you’re rather naive about the purpose of the Belt&Road Initiative. I believe/it’s obvious expansionism—too many people not enough resources.’

This objection only sounds reasonable, and the part about me being ‘rather naive’ needs explored. Compared to most of my readers, my research about the topics I address is *far and wide*. I don’t take offense about being naive—but I doubt it’s true. Instead, being so propagandized about supposed enemies—a true read is unobtainable.

As for the Belt/Road, we need to understand that the US is a foreign policy tyranny, with Biden and Trump being 2 of the worst. As the preeminent naval power (as was Britain during its heyday), we (up until hypersonic missiles), controlled global sea lanes, and used that control to subjugate the en

tire world under US rules-based order.

China, as it grew into the world's largest economy/manufacturing giant, needed a means to conduct business around the globe. The only way to do that was by land. When, by necessity, China was driven into partnership with Russia and Iran, the pieces were in place to conduct global trade over land—outside of control from the US Navy.

Because China is able to accomplish infrastructure building at unimaginable speed, goods now move to Europe in half the time it took before Belt/Road. Now, they are building it out, everywhere possible. How does the US deal with it? Intervene through disruption of Belt/Road routes. If US can break-up Iran/Russia—goodbye Belt/Road.

Another way is to perpetuate lies about China's motives having to do with internal issues/BRICS/Belt/Road. Were you to watch videos made by Westerners with Chinese wives, living and conducting businesses in China, you would understand that China is not the same, when compared to pre-2000. Daniel Dumbrill (others), critique China policy, seemingly without fear/concern. And Russia Today—is totally without censorship.

Or this: 'I'm glad there's someone else that cares about all the dead young men, on both sides. Your rants about the various details of politics & the actors involved, tell me that you're still pretty much in confrontation mode....us vs them.' Partisan *rants* is not at all where I'm coming from. I contend that most Westerners are seeing only us and them, whereas I'm saying we need to relax—to see our competitors—not as enemies. And understand that US foreign policy is nothing more than an extension of tyranny.

Or this: 'The only point I disagree with you on, is fishermen don't use Donzis in their work. Those boats being destroyed are moving across the water at 55 mph and they aren't fishing.' This misses the point. Maybe it's

the case about Donzis, but none of these boats are capable of reaching the US. They're heading away—for Trinidad/Tobago.

More from God's spokesman: 'President Trump is even taking steps to cleanup our backyard in South America... we elected him to get the job done and he is...if that means taking out the trash in Venezuela and Columbia, so be it. Peace is nice, but sometimes one must roll-up their sleeves/take care of business... Obama was bluffing. Trump's not bluffing.'

This is not about taking out the trash. This is about extraconstitutional murder—constitutional treason for any in the Trump Administration carrying out what the Uniform Code of Military Justice terms *illegal orders/no quarter orders*—killing attack survivors.

Hegseth: 'We also don't fight with stupid rules of engagement. We untie the hands of our warfighters to intimidate/demoralize/hunt/kill the enemies of our country. No more politically correct and overbearing rules of engagement, just common sense, maximum lethality and authority for warfighters. 'We have found the enemy Pete—and it is you.'

Hegseth gathered 800 generals/admirals to convey that he no longer supports legacy findings of Nuremberg or protocols of the Geneva Convention. But Hegseth knows the facts. Earlier in his career, he accused Obama over illegal drone killings.

This is about legalizing murder. The Secretary of *War* allegedly issued the order to: 'Kill everyone on board '. That order went down through the ranks. Anyone carrying out illegal killings, whether admiral or a sailor pushing the button is guilty of a war crime.

Even if men on boats are involved in drug-trade, that is not a capital offense. And, unless you buy-into US control of the high seas—what is the US

rational for murder?

This is not about drugs. Venezuela barely makes the list of illegal drug producer/runners, and no evidence is presented for Maduro as a drug lord. But the ex-president of Honduras, who Trump just pardoned, is a drug lord, extradited to the US, tried, found guilty of major drug-trafficking to the US, send to prison in the US. So, why the pardon?

Because he's a right-winger, while Maduro, along with Cuba/Nicaragua, are socialists. For myself (as with tariffs), I barely accept socialism as necessary evil—applied judiciously to assist citizens a means to get fed and survive the winter. Other than that, whether it be gays rights/women's lib, what you get a fair playing field—nothing more than that.

Why did Trump hate Chavez, now Maduro? Why did he subject Venezuela, not worth a sideways glance, to regime change/sanctioned to starvation. Was it because Chavez used oil wealth to assist not so fortunate neighbors? Trump sees minerals/largest oil reserve—needed collateral for US economic credibility. It's not about drugs.

Venezuelan boats are not boarded and inspected. No rights of habeas corpus/due process. Tried on the spot—executed without evidence. Any survivors will be executed.

Trump has no ethics, but he is a practical man. Without remorse, he aids and abets genocide of Ukraine/Gaza/Iran—blaming it on Biden. Does Trump see Russia as a better trading partner than the EU—staying out of the way while Russia finishes off his erstwhile ally, Ukraine? No worries—it's simply business decisions. Pardon your cronies, Mr. Trump—while you still can.

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erik@neverhadaboss.com. And thank you.