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*The US Empire Is In Ruin*

From what the US reputation suffered in Libya, Syria, Lebanon, Venezuela, Ukraine, and now Iran, it will never recover. And the snide unaccountability of Pete Hegseth, testifying before Congress, avoiding questions while degrading questioners—tells the tale of an *empire in ruin*.

Sadly, the lot of them, Hegseth, Rubio, Scott Bessent, Donald Trump, and unfortunately Tulsi Gabbard, are each a Zionist tool, hand-picked by the likes of Miriam Adelson. And any remnants of conscience around self-incriminating mayhem and murder that each of them is responsible for, is being put-aside so as to assure funding for the coming midterms.

Grasp the hopelessness of our situation, where a drunken, weekend FOX Crusader, Hegseth, and a 2-bit radio influencer, Mark Levin, and fool of fools, Lindsey Graham, are each in the cat-bird seat, deciding the fate of nations—deciding the fate of the world.

To that end, a rhetorical, nonsensical Trump bleats-out how he holds all the cards in a world where he is playing solitaire with a deck without face cards and the aces long gone. Where the only tactic left for him is the bluff—in a world acutely aware of Trump's bluffs.

Trump is playing poker with Iran, using the US Navy as a stack of chips, so as to bluff. But, this isn't WW2 when the US Navy had a central role.

Instead, the US Navy, made obsolete by missile and drone warfare, is being used to conjure up the appearance of power.

Even in an earlier time during the Cuban Missile Crisis, the blockade of Cuba required 180 vessels. For Iran, a huge country, the US has 20, and is conducting a blockade (because of Iran's ability to sink our ships), 100s of miles off the coast of Iran.

On US media we hear the blockade is killing the Iranian economy—an other lie. Fully-laden oil tankers move out from the Hormuz Strait, within the 12 mile limit, on their way to international waters. The best estimate of tankers detained/boarded by US ships is between 3%/7%. Ships impounded have to be chaperoned by a US Navy ship to a port where it is secured. The US blockade is about as effective as shouting into the wind.

What has the world learned from the war in Iran? That the US is mostly a paper tiger with heavy firepower—that is now running low. Iran chose to take the Empire on, and so far, by continuing to exist, is winning. Trump with all the cards, presides over a US where gas stations raise prices almost daily. When we see oil at \$110 a barrel, don't you believe it. On the open market a barrel of oil fetches closer to \$180/\$200.

Ask yourself a question: can Trump keep a positive image with Americans with gasoline on the way to \$6/\$10? And, is there any scenario where Trump can sell his Iranian debacle as a win? Given Trump's hatred of Obama and his unwillingness to end up with an agreement even less favorable than the JCPOA, Trump has few to no choices.

In his heart of hearts (if there is such a place), he probably knows the whole debacle was a mistake that killed 1000s in order to destroy Iran that posed no threat to the US. Trump has no good way out. He can't admit being bamboozled by Bibi and walk away. If he does, there goes the midterms

and his legacy with it. Besides, Israel will not allow that outcome.

This opportunity is what Netanyahu and Zionism has waited on for 4 decades, and they are not about to let the moment pass. This is Israel's chance, once and for all, to get rid of Iran/Lebanon, so that *God's Holy Word* can wreak genocide on the region.

Raising the ante, Putin, made 2 calls—the 1st to Trump (1.5 hours), then Netanyahu, letting both know Russia sides with Iran, and is taking steps to assure Iran's survival. Trump's caught in the middle. Putin told Trump that resuming the air war against Iran is *unacceptable* to its neighbors—1 of whom, on the other side of the Caspian Sea—is Russia. And that invading Iran with ground troops is for Russia—*totally unacceptable*.

So what is Trump to do? Forget about Zionist funding for the midterms? That raises another issue. Trump, alienating his base at will, along with the Pope (Catholics elected Trump), causes this writer to wonder about Trump's seeming unconcern for the midterms. Does Trump know something I don't know about the midterms? Is there a plan in place to assure that the democrats can't win? Are there going to be midterms?

As absurd as it seems, Trump might call the midterms off. He's already broken the Constitution and the Bill of Rights into bits of detritus, and made a mockery of Congress with absurdities such as: the war against Iran ended with his ceasefire. Regarding that conflict, is he thinking that, because it ended with a ceasefire, it can now begin a new life cycle?

If that sounds absurd, it's no more so than the justification for the genocide in Gaza and the rationale for attacking Iran. UN Resolution 242, 1967, ordered Israel to leave occupied lands—Palestine. The US voted for the resolution but Israel didn't leave. Then Hamas won the election of 2006 because Hamas took care of Palestinians and, under the UN Charter, Hamas

had a UN mandate to make war on Israeli occupiers.

Iran, the victim of US/Israeli aggression, has a right under the UN Charter to attack the US and its allies in the region—so as to maintain sovereignty.

Continued existence for weaker nations in the region depends on 2 things: aligning with Russia/China/Global South, or translating the phrase, *knowledge is power* into what the US/Israel understand: *only power is power*. Without power, the Empire, without pity, will destroy nations at its whim—unless, like North Korea, a means of retaliation is attained to.

In the 1950's, psychologist, Eric Fromm asked what happens when an entire society is sick? Like now, when for the US (more so, Israel), genocide and wanton murder are the plan of the day. Add to that a sad truth—there is no-one in the political wings of either nation to right the ship of state. Either Gavin Newsom or JD Vance replacing Trump, continues the madness—recalling the maxim: to be well-adjusted in a sick society in no way a measure of health. The entire West has become a health risk to itself.

As I watch the sick/evil children who rule us, I see they are not as threatening as I once thought. These are simply mean children with weapons. Do we forgive them for not knowing what they do? No, past a certain point they need hanged by the neck until dead. Or—taken out back and shot.

But enough of this. Is there a way back to the republic? Can we rid ourselves of the weight of evil crushing us? We are compelled by a sacred duty to the republic. Next time some thoughts on what needs to happen.

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