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'How I Won the War'

In 1967 there was a *black comedy* with this title with John Lennon in a starring role. It was a spoof—just as is Trump's assessment of a US victory/control over the Hormuz Strait.

Are you as sick and tired of the Trump/Bessent bullshit as I am? Just weeks after the humiliation of losing war a with Iran, badly, with a consequence catastrophe for the dollar, they talk as if they had just won the league title and on their way to the Super Bowl.

The facts are other: Iran has a laundry list of conditions to terminate hostilities, while Trump, through Vance, has 2: open the Strait/make a nuclear deal. Ironically, before he attacked Iran 40 days straight (didn't work), then blockaded (didn't work), he had both. Hormuz was open, and the JCPOA (that was working well), he got rid of in his 1st term.

Trump's blather and threats only worsen. At first he threatened sanctions on non-allies, but now, anyone who assists Iran with oil purchases, friend or foe, faces sanctions. And, if I heard him correctly this morning: 'you are either with us or against us', and if you are not with us in cancelling Iran, you need to think about the US military.

The farce of a bankrupt US threatening the world, while bailing-out Japan and Argentina, belies the fact that both of those countries are in the shape

they are, partly because of the US. Japan, under Plaza Accords (initiated by Bessent/Soros so as to divide-up \$ billions), was forced to offshore manufacturing, creating conditions where young Japanese graduates could no longer count on a career choice in Japan. Bessent, an architect of the Asian Financial Crisis, owes Japan more than a bailout.

How is this manifesting in domestic US markets? Trump's cheering throngs are affected when they have to pull another \$20 from their wallet at the pump to *pledge allegiance to the king*. We all need to drive, but what about that roof over our head? What's the actual story for buyers and renters as a result of Trump's *miracle economy*?

Which are the worst states for real estate? Begin with California/Florida, but there's more to the story. When taxation, home prices, and fees drove 'homeland refugees' from California/Florida to states in the middle US, home price bid-up that had occurred on the coasts found its way to the *fly-over states*. Middle America buyers forsook sanity to bid prices up, while forgoing home inspections—just to get into a house.

Now, they're paying for it. Minnesota leads all States with the number of homes underwater. 2%, a year ago, year on year, it's up 9% this year, with 11% of mortgages underwater. If you bought in the Midwest after 2020, good luck, you're trapped in a price downturn.

Adding to that, many home buyers used low down payment loans, but many of those who put down the full 20%, now owe more than the home is worth. Home equity turns out to be fake equity. Homes with negative equity are on the increase—15%, year on year. Making it worse, a 5% price decline translates to 325K more buyers underwater.

Underwater translates to a mortgage being 25% lower than the value of the home. But 25% is a lot: what about those who lost 10/15/20% of home

value? What used to be referred to as a 50% equity cushion is falling rapidly while negative equity is on the rise. How much has been lost? \$79B over 1 year averages \$8900 loss per home in the US.

Buying a home in this economic climate is analogous to investing in the dollar rather than silver. When total costs of home ownership are accounted for, renters are saving almost \$900 a month, as opposed to buyers. Home mortgages are underwater, on average, and it's getting worse. Minneapolis leads the way with 14% more mortgages underwater than a year ago. With medium home prices high, there are also fewer starter homes for those who can't qualify for anything in the medium range. Homes, selling under \$200K, are showing depressed sales—viewed 14% less than last year. The number of potential buyers viewing home under \$370K is also less in 2026.

It's difficult to understand what's going on in the mindlessness of Trump. A head official of the international Bank for International Settlements resigned recently with an assessment that he's unable to understand what's happening with the credit market. Credit is 3X leveraged, which renders 3X the profit when it goes up, but a 9X loss when it goes down.

So, what does Trump do? Assuming his god-given right to conduct economic tyranny, he insists that others pay for his failures. Only by rumor does Trump understand that political reality is pushed along by economic reality, and economics depends on getting along with your trading partners. Trump cannot fathom the reality of such an idea.

When asked about the burgeoning national debt showing no signs of slowing as it races through \$40T, he sloughs it off by commenting it's been going on a long time. But, for those who read history, earlier civilizations had no government debt—at all.

Trump 2 has been here for 2 years this fall, and what is his legacy so far?

The US, under Biden, a bagman for a corrupt Ponzi, is now regarded as a nation seen globally as ‘murder incorporated’. Wherever we go, we wreak havoc. To perpetuate lies about Venezuela we slaughter fishermen, and conduct a special-op to remove a duly-elected president, based on nothing but lies. All forgotten as Trump moves down the line.

Trump gave Bibi everything needed to laughter Palestine, and Trump’s ‘board of peace’, with the likes of Tony Blair/Jared Kushner was established to fulfill Donald’s dream of building luxury resorts on the bodies of dead children. Then it was forgotten about?

Wherever Trump sees a role for global treachery, he plays the role. Israel can’t fight on with Iran without being annihilated, so Trump takes the helm. As long as there’s a PR victory in Lebanon, Bibi gets Trump’s support, as does Zelensky's slaughter of Russian civilians. The war is over between Iran/US—but it’s the PR battle that will decide the midterms.

The US is possibly weeks from a credit collapse—if not weeks, months. The interim will see a massive struggle between the dollar and gold that gold wins—hands down. At the same time, the national debt will rise \$100K per second, leaving Trump his last card to play—global destruction. Will Trump/Netanyahu be able to destroy the world, or will the Global South build up faster than Trump and Netanyahu can tear it apart?

In the meantime, protect yourself. Silver is rising in price but still the best bargain in history. Prepare for unimaginable events any way you can, and keep smiling because whatever you do, it won’t be enough.

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