

Patrick Lawrence

## **For Trump, it's Israel *über alles*.**

As [I have argued elsewhere](#), President Trump faced himself with an unforgiving choice when he let Bibi Netanyahu drag him into a new war with Iran—or a more openly assertive phase in a long-running war, better put. He could turn this illegal operation into another “forever war” and so risk pushing the United States and the rest of the world into a severe recession, if not a depression. Or he could negotiate a peace with Tehran, so refusing the Zionist regime’s obsessive determination to destroy the Islamic Republic.

Neither alternative would leave America’s 47<sup>th</sup> president in a desirable place. To end the flimsy ceasefire now in effect and resume the war would cause a disruption in the global economy of world-historical proportions. Financial markets would collapse, inflation would rise and hunger spread, the threat of widespread revolts would get very real very quickly. Donald J. Trump would seal his fate as the worst, most irresponsible president in American history.

Over his other shoulder, were Trump to negotiate a settlement with Tehran he would face an immediate and vicious attack from the Israelis and their allies in the United States. In short order the Zionist lobbies and the wealthy American Jews who effectively put him in office and control him would destroy him—politically, of course, but in all likelihood personally as well. It is not hard to imagine a covert Mossad operation to bring Trump down in a sort of controlled demolition.

My thought these past few weeks was that Trump would try to avoid making this choice as long as possible, and this is what he has attempted. The incompetents acting as his diplomatic envoys have prolonged negotiations with Iran that were never going to lead anywhere, while the U.S. Navy, Air Force, and Marines have mounted operations to open the Strait of Hormuz that have come to little more than gestures. The result has been the festering mess we now witness, but Trump—the point of this exercise in futility—has managed to keep these two balls in the air, flinching daily from the inevitable decision he would sooner or later have to make once “Operation Epic Fury,” a very Trumpian name for this folly, began on 28 February.

Nobody seems to have taken much notice, but Bibi Netanyahu—ever adept at manipulating this most impressionable of American presidents—forced Trump’s hand last weekend. The jugglers’ balls have now fallen and the weeks of evasion are over: Unless Trump changes course—and how often does he do so?—he has committed the United States to obliging the Zionist regime in its determination to destroy Iran.

Turning this upside down, Trump will effectively condemn the world economy to one or another degree of catastrophe as he continues to support the Zionist terror machine. Comparisons with 1929 were common among those commenting honestly on what lies in prospect even before Trump made his fateful choice. In the weeks ahead the outlook is likely to become more dire still.

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I base this judgement on a sequence of statements—just three—that Trump and Netanyahu have made this past week. None was in itself earth-shattering; they will seem to many readers more or less generic—boilerplate, as we American say. But I

am surprised nonetheless than no one has put these pronouncements in a row so as to read the fundamental decision they reflect when taken together.

President Trump and his adjutants took to declaring Epic Fury a thoroughgoing success very soon after the U.S.–Israeli operation began. This was because Trump, once it was clear that the Iranians would not succumb to force as the Venezuelans did at the start of the year, was looking ever more urgently for what we call an “exit ramp.” Who can count the number of times Trump has declared that Iran has been reduced to rubble, its military and missile inventory destroyed—“nothing left,” as he put it in one of his incessant social media posts.

On 1 May Trump notified Congress that hostilities with Iran had “terminated.” He acted in compliance with the War Powers Resolution, a Vietnam-era law that requires the White House to seek congressional approval for any military operation that extends longer than 60 days. This took Trump well beyond all his social media outbursts and braggadocio when standing in front of a microphone or a group of journalists. It was Trump’s formal declaration that the war with Iran was over.

Ten days later CBS News, the mainstream American network now owned and edited by wealthy American Zionists, broadcast an interview with Bibi Netanyahu conducted by its chief Washington correspondent. This was much noticed when CBS aired it last Sunday morning, primarily for what the Israeli prime minister said about the Iran war:

*[indent.]*

I think it accomplished a great deal, but it’s not over.... There are still enrichment sites that have to be dismantled. There are still proxies that Iran supports. There are ballistic missiles that they still want to

produce.... Now, we've degraded a lot of it. But all that is still there, and there's work to be done.

*[end indent.]*

Bibi added, when the CBS News correspondent pressed him about how the U.S.–Israeli operation would proceed, that ground troops would probably have to be deployed before Epic Fury could be counted a success.

We will continue this war and we will not desist until we have removed Iran's entire inventory of enriched uranium such that it will be permanently incapable of producing a nuclear weapon: This was Bibi's gist. "You go in, and you take it out," were his words as to the nuclear material.

One day later, Trump rejected Iran's most recent proposals for a negotiated settlement—"TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE!" was his phrase. The U.S. Treasury simultaneously announced a new set of sanctions atop the scores that have long been in effect, and President Trump had this to say in an interview with PBS, the American public broadcaster. Take care to note the phrasing:

*[indent.]*

I think it accomplished a great deal, but it's not over because there's still nuclear material, enriched uranium, that has to be taken out of Iran. There's still enrichment sites that have to be dismantled. There's still proxies that Iran supports. There are ballistic missiles that they still want to produce.

Now, we have degraded a lot of it, but all of that is still there and there's work to be done.

*[end indent.]*

I do not see there can be any misinterpretation of these two statements, Trump's reading straight out of Netanyahu's. When we consider their sequence and their language against [the much-noted report \*The New York Times\* published last month](#), wherein the Israeli leader is shown directly planning Epic Fury in the White House Situation Room, there can be but one conclusion: Trump is committed to following the Zionist regime's orders, and the Zionist regime had repeatedly demonstrated it is utterly indifferent to the damage that renewed attacks will inflict on the global economy.

A day after Trump's PBS interview, he gave another at the White House during which he was asked whether the economic consequences of the war, especially as these affect Americans, inform his judgments as he tries to manage the crisis.

Trump's reply:

*[indent.]*

Not even a little bit. I don't think about Americans' financial situation. I don't think about anybody. I think about one thing: We cannot let Iran have a nuclear weapon. That's all.

*[end indent.]*

Does this not conclude Trump's long agony of indecision as he faced a choice between serving the Zionists' terror projects in West Asia and avoiding a global economic rout of nearly unimaginable proportions? Two factors tipped his hand, in my view. One is the hundreds of millions of dollars Trump has received from wealthy Zionists donors. The other is the content of the Epstein files: We know enough already to conclude with certainty that the Israelis have them and that what they contain would ruin Donald Trump were the made public.

Very rarely do American presidents and top political figures say publicly what they mean. It is nearly impossible for a leader to do so in the nation's late-imperial phase: To explain U.S. policy forthrightly would be to risk a popular revolt—people in the streets as during the Vietnam war years. All is text and subtext, and it is important to develop a facility in reading the latter.

I have tried here to demonstrate how this is done. Trump has chosen America's future direction in West Asia: It is to follow Israel in its quest for regional supremacy. And the rest of us will have to suffer the consequences by way of our well-being.

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