STOP PANICKING—WE ELECTED A PRESIDENT, NOT A COWARD

The moment Israeli fighter jets cracked open Iran's air-defense umbrella last week, the professional panic class—President Trump aptly calls them the "Panicans"—went straight to Defcon Twitter, wailing that World War III had begun and demanding that America stay out of it.

As if we weren't already in it.

The Pentagon has been clear: our forces are in a defensive posture, which means active radar, ready launchers, and iron in the sky—not a bunch of soldiers sitting around waiting to be target practice.

And now, for anyone still half-asleep, the President just announced that we hold "complete and total control over Iranian skies."

That is not mission creep; that is mission accomplished at thirty-thousand feet.

First, a little memory?jog for the amnesiacs.

Candidate Trump never promised monastic isolation. What he promised—and delivered—was an end to feckless, open?ended nation?building while preserving America's right to strike quickly, decisively, and overwhelmingly when genuine threats emerged.

In 2017 he unleashed new rules of engagement that collapsed the Islamic State's "caliphate" in weeks—something Washington's polite war managers had failed to do for three long years.

Then came January 3, 2020.

Qassem Soleimani, the terror architect who had American blood on his hands from Baghdad to Beirut, learned in a flash of white light that presidential red lines are real.

Trump's surgical order saved untold American and allied lives and stunned Tehran into recalculating its aggression.

The strike was not the beginning of a new war; it was the punctuation mark that prevented one.

Nothing about this week's move contradicts that record.

Iranian commanders decided to gamble on a regional war against Israel. They launched drones at civilians and bragged about tightening a noose from the Red Sea to the Med.

Facing that escalation, Trump did what any Jacksonian realist would do: he denied the mullahs the very oxygen of modern battle—control of the sky.

Our pilots now own the altitude, our sensors watch every launch rail, and our allies in Jerusalem can finish the job without American boots slogging through Persian dust.

That is intervention with an exit ramp already built.

So why the sudden squeals from the self?styled "new right" commentariat?

Some truly believe that every U.S. action east of the Hudson is a replay of Iraq 2003.

Others are simply harvesting clicks, selling fear the way Big Pharma sells ointment—there's always a rash somewhere.

A few are reflexive contrarians who call anyone in uniform a "deep?state globalist" until the moment they need the 82nd Airborne to pull them out of a bad neighborhood.

Their error is the same: they confuse prudence with paralysis.

Yes, Trump campaigned against "endless wars." But endless wars are wars without clear aims, time limits, or political will.

A no?fly zone enforced by U.S. stealth aircraft is none of those things.

It is a finite, technologically asymmetric action that forces Iran to reconsider further mischief while costing the American taxpayer less than a week of the old Afghan surge.

Even Andrew Jackson—no one's idea of a Wilsonian—sent the Navy to the Mediterranean to smack Barbary pirates when American trade was at stake.

The principle is older than the republic: "Millions for defense, not one cent for tribute."

Meanwhile, the same pundits who clutch their pearls today were busy high-fiving each other last month when Trump stepped off Air Force One after his whirlwind Middle East tour with trillions of dollars signed in commitments for new American factories, LNG terminals, and chip foundries.

They swooned as Gulf sheikhs lined up to pour petrodollars into Ohio steel and Texas energy, yet faint at the faintest whiff of jet fuel when that same deal-maker sends an F-35 to vaporize an Iranian radar dish.

That split-personality conservatism confuses prosperity with passivity.

Real leadership understands that America's economic muscle is inseparable from its military sinew, and the Strait of Hormuz remains the artery that keeps diesel in Nebraska tractors and heating oil in New England basements.

Nor is this campaign a betrayal of the enlisted sons and daughters of Middle America.

President Trump's record—from the Baghdadi raid to the Soleimani strike—shows he favors pinpoint operations that put minimal risk on U.S. assets.

The odds of a downed pilot ending up on Iranian TV are lower than CNN issuing an apology for its last fact-check.

And if Tehran thinks swarming speedboats can threaten a carrier strike group, someone should remember what happened to the last IRGC commander who tried.

Most important, decisive action now may prevent the regional conflagration the hand?wringers claim to fear.

Air supremacy means Israel need not escalate to city?flattening ballistic exchanges, Hezbollah thinks twice about pouring rockets over Galilee, and Gulf states stay calm enough to keep crude flowing.

In other words, one sharp American jab averts a multi?front brawl, spares thousands of innocents, and maintains the world economy Trump spent four years reviving.

So let the couch?bound Cassandras howl.

The duty of serious conservatives is to separate instinctive patriotism from knee?jerk pacifism.

We elect Commanders?in?Chief, not hall monitors.

Trump has shown—again—that he understands the difference between an occupation and an overmatch.

He is doing exactly what we sent him to Washington to do: keep America prosperous, keep her enemies guessing, and keep her soldiers out of quagmire by winning before the other side finishes breakfast.

The republic is not a “small fry country,” and the man in the Oval Office is no shrinking violet.

Iranian generals now peer upward wondering which invisible wing will silence their next radar dish. That is strategic deterrence in action.

Relax, patriots.

The skies are ours, the initiative is ours, and the future is ours if we have the backbone to claim it.

The only thing President Trump has betrayed is the enemy’s confidence—and that betrayal is the kind every MAGA voter should cheer.

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