

# Trump admits Iran war is "foolish" and ruining the economy

The Grayzone's Max Blumenthal and Aaron Mate on a candid admission by Trump that his decision to attack Iran was "foolish," but that he would do it anyway even though it is wrecking the US economy. ||| The Grayzone ||| Find more reporting at <https://thegrayzone.com> Support our original journalism at Patreon: <https://patreon.com/grayzone> Facebook: <https://facebook.com/thegrayzone> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/thegrayzonenews> Instagram: <https://instagram.com/thegrayzonenews> Minds: <https://minds.com/thegrayzone> Mastodon: <https://mastodon.social/@thegrayzone>  
#TheGrayzone

## #Max

And if the U.S. and Israel start these decapitation strikes again, assassinations of Iranian leadership, what could Iran do then? Assassinate the monarchs? Mohammed bin Zayed becomes a target. The Al Khalifa family becomes a target. Their defense ministries become targets. It's tit for tat. And it's not me saying this. It is a member of the Iranian negotiation delegation that was in Islamabad who's openly saying, this is what will happen next. This is the price. Well, this is in Farsi. Farsi speakers will understand. This is how Mohammad Marandi summarizes it. Iranian MP and member of the Negotiation Collective, Mahmoud Nabavian, states that if Iranian leaders are assassinated in any attack, all of the complicit despots in the Persian Gulf will be killed and their palaces destroyed. So I think there's more that Iran can do here. And Trump doesn't seem to understand this.

He also is avoiding democratic accountability in the U.S. After the Vietnam War, a new rule was introduced, imposed by Congress, that the president, after 60 days of conflict, has to go back to Congress for authorization. And what Trump is saying is Project Freedom is just a humanitarian gesture. Those are his words, a humanitarian gesture, which means that the conflict has not restarted. He's using all kinds of deceptive language to avoid congressional authorization, to avoid basically abiding by the Constitution. It's a deeply undemocratic war that's being waged. Pete Hegseth said that after the ceasefire was signed, after 39 days, that put the war on pause. No, the U. S. is still at war. So they're violating the Constitution. They're violating a longstanding congressional rule in order to restart a conflict which they claim has not begun again. It's just a gigantic lie.

## #Aaron

I've never seen someone make this argument before — that because the war has been on pause, and therefore the war began more than 60 days ago, that means the clock resets and you don't have to go seek congressional authorization. It's a novel argument. Whoever came up with it deserves a creative writing award, not a legal one. But that's what they're going with. But Trump has

to deal with gas prices now at a four-year high. You have more Republican lawmakers who are hearing from their constituents that this is not good. They're worried about their reelection. Trump has to listen to them, as much as he tries to make everything about himself.

He has to at least pay attention to the fact that members of his own caucus are now saying that this is threatening their reelection. So he's in a bind, but he doesn't have any answers because he's not willing to say to them that he lost, that he failed, and he's not willing to defy Israel yet — at least not publicly. So he's just stalling for time and coming up with new fake claims of this new operation to free the Strait, even though he's not even going to try to actually send in ships to fight Iran. So he's in a bind, and now we're just in a waiting game to see how long he can stall for time.

**#Max**

And these were such revealing comments by Trump about his priorities and how lost he is, how politically lost he is. I love the background here — "Golden Years."

**#Donald Trump**

It's nonsense. Look at this.

**#Max**

Hold on.

**#Donald Trump**

It's nonsense. Look at this. I'm talking about all these things you're getting. You stand up when I talk about you can't let Iran have a nuclear weapon. We can't. But I did something that was, I don't know, foolish, brave, but it was smart. I would do it again. But I thought the numbers would be much worse. I thought...

**#Max**

I thought it was foolish, brave, could have been smart. I mean, whoever says I did something that was foolish and just launched this war, it shows how careless he is. Now, listen to what he says next.

**#Donald Trump**

The stock market would go down much more. I thought the oil prices would go up much more. I said, but we have no choice. Whether it does or doesn't, I have to do what's right. It's that sense.

**#Max**

Look at this. So, oil prices, when he said that, were at the highest level since COVID — like \$108 a barrel. The inflation rates were surging. The stock market was another stock wipeout. And he's saying that he thought it would actually be worse, but he would have done it anyway, and that he did it just because it was the right thing to do. But he never made the case to the American public before February 28th about why he had to attack Iran. The entire decision was made in a Situation Room meeting where Netanyahu sat at the head of the table and Trump sat to the side, and Netanyahu and his Mossad director dictated to Trump, and Trump followed their orders to stage a surprise decapitation attack.

And now he's saying, well, he thought it would actually be worse than it already is. That shows just how demented he is. And his own base is getting hammered. I think the key here is fertilizer costs are surging. So much fertilizer passes through the Strait of Hormuz, and the costs are surging so much that, you know, farmers in Asia, Africa, Europe are going to be hit extremely hard. And some of them won't even have fertilizer. But in the U.S., I mean, this is eating into Trump's base in the heartland, the agricultural producer base that sent Trump back to office.

### **#Speaker 1**

My family's farmed for 100 years. You don't want to be the one that can't keep it going, you know?

### **#Speaker 2**

I am a Republican. I voted for this administration, but my patience is running thin.

### **#Drew Hawkins**

We're here in the heart of the Mississippi Delta to talk with farmers about how the war with Iran is impacting them. Oh, it's been awful. The closure of the Strait of Hormuz is causing prices to skyrocket — things like diesel fuel and fertilizer.

### **#Speaker 2**

We're buying a little bit at a time, and sometimes we know that we've only got two weeks of fuel. So what has happened to us is not just the impact of one year. We have lost customers forever. They will never come back because we're deemed an unreliable supplier.

### **#Speaker3**

I'm paying 60% more for diesel fuel than I would have been paying 45 days ago. You've got to have diesel for everything. You've got diesel to disk, to plant, to harvest. So diesel's steadily going up like this, man. It affects us bad.

## **#Speaker 1**

You have no choice. You know, you've got to go ahead and buy it, no matter what the price is.

## **#Max**

So they can't afford diesel. They can't afford fertilizer. They're completely screwed. And then we all pay the price in food prices at a time when inflation is surging. But Trump thought it would actually be worse.

## **#Aaron**

You know, I have the answer for these farmers. Let's just bring in the Israelis who made the desert bloom. Right? Right. You know, Israel — like, before Israel came into Palestine, it was all just desert. And then the ingenious Israelis, as the Israeli myth goes, just made the desert bloom. So, to compensate for these farmers who just can't get by because they don't know how to work the land like the Israelis do, let's just bring in the Israelis — because, after all, this whole war is for them. So the Israelis surely have the answer to the woes that they've caused for American farmers.

## **#Max**

Yeah. What did the Israelis do? Oh, yeah, they took over all the orange groves in Jaffa, kicked the Palestinians out, and made it bloom. That worked out well.

## **#Aaron**

Yeah, yeah. Unfortunately, that indigenous teaching is not really transferable to the U.S. because there's no more land to colonize here. So, I don't know. The Israelis have to come up with some other idea to fix the woes that they caused, the mess that they caused. But it's just, yeah, Trump has to be getting this message despite the, you know, like insular shell he has around him. Some of this has to be sneaking through, and he's got no answers whatsoever. Absolutely none.

## **#Max**

I mean, you know, he, I actually think he believes his own bullshit. If you judge from his late-night AI slop binges, he really believes that he has all the cards. I mean, I feel like this is something like a late-night bit — like Jimmy Kimmel could do this. We don't need to do this at The Grayzone, but it's gotten to the point where there's pretty much nothing else to say about Trump. He is a late-night liberal Blue Anon punchline. Like, Blue MAGA turns out to be kind of right. The TurboLib boomers are basically right, except about the part that negotiating with Russia is wrong.

## **#Aaron**

Well, and they were even right that he's a foreign asset doing a foreign power thing. They're just doing the bidding of their oligarchs. Again, it's just the wrong passport — it's Israeli, not Russian. Yeah.