



Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell



11 hours ago, 19 tweets, 4 min read

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Because of a lack of qualified foreign policy people willing to work in the Trump administration;
the unprecedented indictment, firing, and resignation of initial appointees and foreign policy advisors;

the rash of recent Department of Defense, National Security Council, and Department of State resignations;
the consistent disregard for the input from traditional allies;
caused by Trump's impulsivity, ignorance, and greed;

the retracted letter about withdrawal from Iraq yesterday is not an exception but a symptom that the leadership of the United States military and the direction of foreign affairs is currently erratic and incompetent.

See the first 25 minutes of the Jan 6, 2020 podcast of The Rachel Maddow Show about recent resignations from the Trump administration.

The Rachel Maddow Show
Rachel Maddow works with unmatched rigor and resolve to explain our complex world and deliver news in a way that's illuminating and dynamic, connecting the dots to make sense of complex issues. Join ...

<https://podcasts.google.com/?feed=aHR0cHM6Ly9wb2RjYXN0ZmVIZHMubmJjbmV3cy5jb20vbXN...>



Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell

To relish the idea of waterboarding, repeatedly fantasize about mass execution of one's enemies, pardon those guilty of the war crimes of murder and mutilation, and repeatedly threaten disproportionate and illegal violence is morally wrong.
[msnbc.com/all-in/watch/c...](https://www.msnbc.com/all-in/watch/c...) @chrislhayes

Chris Hayes on our pro-war crimes president
Donald Trump's position on war crimes is an "absolute moral abomination," says Chris Hayes.
msnbc.com

9:26 AM - Jan 7, 2020

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You know things are f*cked when the Israelis and the Saudis, who have been poking at this admin on Iran and exploiting Kushner to advance their agendas in gross ways for three years, are now like -- hey whoa let's talk about this for a second.

1,082 12:39 PM - Jan 7, 2020

343 people are talking about this



This was Trump's idea of a good National Security Advisor despite repeated warnings to Trump.

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 **Kyle Cheney**
@kyledcheney

JUST IN: Prosecutors recommend 0-6 months of incarceration for FLYNN, say he no longer accepts responsibility for his criminal conduct and that he sought to undermine prosecutors.

The defendant is now scheduled to be sentenced almost exactly three years from the date of his primary criminal conduct – lying to the FBI – and the intervening years have included periods where the defendant has sought to assist and aid the government, and periods where the defendant has sought to thwart the efforts of the government to hold other individuals, principally Bijan Rafiekian, accountable for criminal wrongdoing. Given the serious nature of the defendant’s offense, his apparent failure to accept responsibility, his failure to complete his cooperation in – and his affirmative efforts to undermine – the prosecution of Bijan Rafiekian, and the need to promote respect for the law and adequately deter such criminal conduct, the government recommends that the court sentence the defendant within the applicable Guidelines range of 0 to 6 months of incarceration.

1,435 11:41 AM - Jan 7, 2020

793 people are talking about this



Meanwhile yesterday at the White House.

 **southpaw**
@nycsouthpaw

“Khalid [bin Salman] told [Jamal] Khashoggi, a contributing columnist to The Washington Post, that he should go to the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul to retrieve the documents and gave him assurances that it would be safe to do so.”

[washingtonpost.com/world/national...](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/saudi-ambassador-khashoggi-visit-2018-10-27/)
[twitter.com/kbsalsaud/stat...](https://twitter.com/kbsalsaud/status/1056211111111111111)

CIA concludes Saudi crown prince ordered Jamal Khashoggi's...

Audio recordings, intercepted phone calls and other intelligence link Mohammed bin Salman to killing that Saudis say was conducted by

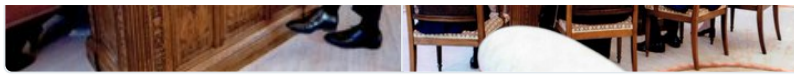
Khalid bin Salman خالد بن سلمان @kbsalsaud

Upon directives from HRH the Crown Prince, I had the pleasure of meeting with @RealDonaldTrump yesterday to deliver a message from the Crown Prince, and review aspects of our bilateral cooperation, including efforts to confront regional and international challenges.



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1,280 10:19 AM - Jan 7, 2020

884 people are talking about this

Paul Krugman
@paulkrugman

Any who believes this is an idiot. Iran has 80 million people — more than twice Iraq — who are strongly nationalistic. What are we going to do — reinstate the draft and send a million soldiers to occupy the country in perpetuity? [twitter.com/oliverdarcy/st...](https://twitter.com/oliverdarcy/status/1214621358493257728)

Oliver Darcy @oliverdarcy

Secretary of Defense Mark Esper to @camanpour: "We are not looking to start a war with Iran, but we are prepared to finish one"



3,695 12:47 PM - Jan 7, 2020

1,512 people are talking about this

Josh Marshall
@joshtpm

same [twitter.com/RichardEngel/s...](https://twitter.com/RichardEngel/status/1214621358493257728)

Richard Engel @RichardEngel

Exasperated Iraqi PM can't understand how USA can send a letter "clearly talking about withdrawal" and then say its a mistake. Prime minister's overall message is: how disorganized is the US administration?

344 12:38 PM - Jan 7, 2020

61 people are talking about this

Josh Dawsey
@jdawsey1

white house did not announce or readout this meeting.
[twitter.com/kbsalsaud/stat...](https://twitter.com/kbsalsaud/status/1214621358493257728)

Khalid bin Salman خالد بن سلمان @kbsalsaud

Upon directives from HRH the Crown Prince, I had the pleasure of meeting with @realDonaldTrump yesterday to deliver a message from the Crown Prince, and review aspects of our bilateral cooperation, including efforts to confront regional and international challenges.



5,081 people are talking about this

 **Eugene Cho**
@EugeneCho

Massive floods in Indonesia. Fires in Australia. Grounds shaking in Puerto Rico. Hunger crisis in Yemen. Just a glimpse of what's going on around the world. We don't need escalating conflict and war. We need peace. We need compassion. We need leadership.

535 12:43 PM - Jan 7, 2020

119 people are talking about this

This was Trump's ambassador to the United Nations who many thought was among the "adults in the room" giving solid advice.

 **Andy Rowell**
@AndyRowell

This is not the first time Nikki Haley has revealed herself to be a reflexive partisan bomb-thrower for unworthy causes. It's disappointing and people should remember it because she, along with Pence, Ivanka, and Don Jr., are the 2024 GOP favorites. [twitter.com/HeathMayo/stat...](https://twitter.com/HeathMayo/status...)

Heath Mayo @HeathMayo

You're a liar. No Democratic candidate or leader has "mourned the loss" of Soleimani. I'm a conservative Republican that used to be an avid fan of yours. Now, I can't even respect you, much less vote for you. Sick of all the casual & conscious lying. It's disqualifying. twitter.com/nikkihaley/sta...

3 10:09 AM - Jan 7, 2020

[See Andy Rowell's other Tweets](#)

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 **Tish Harrison Warren**
@Tish_H_Warren

Look, I tend to lean more anabaptist than Just War theorists do when it comes to use of force. But, still, if you are into Christian Just War theory, Trump helped you out by making it crystal clear that what he is committed to is not Just War in any sense. twitter.com/realDonaldTrump...

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump

These Media Posts will serve as notification to the United States Congress that should Iran strike any U.S. person or target, the United States will quickly & fully strike back, & perhaps in a disproportionate manner. Such legal notice is not required, but is given nevertheless!

248 12:03 PM - Jan 7, 2020

46 people are talking about this

 **Tom Malinowski**
@Malinowski

I haven't seen the intel, but in the days leading to the strike we weren't telling Americans to leave Iraq for their safety, or suspending vital ops with the Iraqi army, or rushing troops to protect our bases & embassies. The threat seems more imminent now than before. twitter.com/CBSNews/status...

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than the days that led up to the strike that was taken against Qassem Soleimani." cbsn.ws/2QOUyAw



1,693 9:51 AM - Jan 7, 2020

663 people are talking about this



Lis Power
@LisPower1

Fox News' Griffin calls one of Pompeo's answers "baffling" and "an exaggeration at best":

"He didn't provide any new evidence, but talked about Iran's involvement in Afghanistan and its support for the Taliban's Haqqani network which is baffling and an exaggeration at best."



756 10:24 AM - Jan 7, 2020

265 people are talking about this



Tim Alberta
@TimAlberta

Almost every Trump voter I met in 2016 said it was time for someone to run govt like a business—efficient, responsive, etc

This is an underlying failure of Trump's presidency: The government is a mess. No CEO could keep their job amid such chronic turmoil & dysfunction. Will he?

[twitter.com/jonathanvswan/...](https://twitter.com/jonathanvswan/)

Jonathan Swan @jonathanvswan
The incompetence of this defies description.
[twitter.com/rabrowne75/sta...](https://twitter.com/rabrowne75/status...)

6,371 4:33 PM - Jan 6, 2020

1,973 people are talking about this



Lis Power
@LisPower1

Replying to @LisPower1

Some Fox News correspondents are becoming increasingly critical of administration answers

lack of understanding from America's top defense official about what's actually happening on the ground here in Iraq."



160 1:44 PM - Jan 7, 2020

45 people are talking about this



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Brett McGurk
@brett_mcgurk

Replying to @brett_mcgurk

For the good of our country, I want the administration to navigate its way through this crisis—but each day demonstrates complete lack of coordination or serious thought. This was a foreseeable outcome of a maximalist Iran policy (as I wrote six months ago in [@ForeignAffairs](#)). 🙌



In Iran, the administration cannot seem to agree on an objective even as it seeks to implode the country through “maximum pressure” and sanctions. Pompeo says he wants Iran to be “a normal country” and has issued a list of 12 maximalist demands (adding a 13th later) that no expert says Iran can ever hope to meet. Bolton last month warned Iran’s leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, after the 40th anniversary of Iran’s 1979 revolution, that he should not expect “many more to enjoy” (suggesting that Khamenei may be gone in a year). Trump, on the other hand, has

351 4:12 PM - Jan 7, 2020

138 people are talking about this



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Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell
9 hours ago

This article from 2016 about women and alcohol is quite something. "Giving up alcohol opened my eyes to the infuriating truth about why women drink." By Kristi Coulter August 21, 2016

Andy Rowell
@AndyRowell
Dec 30th 2019

Thread on Fri, Jan 3, 2020 5 pm: "'Evangelicals for Trump' Coalition Launch" event at King Jesus International Ministry in Miami led by Guillermo Maldonado, who is one of the twenty core "evangelical leaders" who have frequently gathered at the White House to support Trump. 📍

Guillermo Maldonado at the White House on his Instagram: [instagram.com/p/Bcn5ugun_xI/...](https://www.instagram.com/p/Bcn5ugun_xI/)

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Andy Rowell

@AndyRowell

Dec 19th 2019

Thread with reactions to this below.

I have put "evangelical" in parenthesis because people increasingly do not use the term because it is so associated with politics. They would have used the term in the past to express their high regard for the Bible and conviction that Jesus is "good news" (Greek: euangelion).

English professor at "evangelical" university Oklahoma Baptist and writer:

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Related threads



@natsnews

@natsallnews

Oct 19th 2019

1 The current #Ukrainian #ambassador Bill Taylor called #Democratic #Presidential Candidate and former Vice President Joe #Biden a "MAN Of INTRGRITY," he had issues w/accepting the job due 2 @RudyGiuliani involvement. Let's review the secret #ImpeachmentHoax @realDonaldTrump

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Filomena Rocha

@Filomen03258997

Jul 26th 2019

21. Holocaust in Yemen caused by US, France, UK, Saudi Arabia, UAEmirates, Israel, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Senegal, Sudan, Qatar, Morocco, Canada, Australia, Germany #Yemen #CrimesAgainstHumanity #WarCrime #Holocaust #YemenCantWait #YemenHolocaust #WorldHypocrisy

1-20. Holocaust in Yemen caused by US, France, UK, Saudi Arabia, UAEmirates, Israel, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Senegal, Sudan, Qatar, Morocco, Canada, Australia, Germany
👉 threadreaderapp.com/thread/1151972...

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Linda KWS

@LindaKWS1

Jun 1st 2019

Trump & the Republicans inhumane treatment of people seeking asylum then separating the children from their parents and throwing them into separate concentration camps possibly never seeing them again continues. They're taking newborns from moms 6/1/2019🙄

Trump and his administration are punishing good hearted people for helping people in need..

#republican @GOP and #Trump administration are packing migrants seeking asylum in El Paso like they're cordons

Read 4 tweets



snarke

@snarke

Jan 19th 2019

#Trump starts his "major announcement" bragging about performing a swearing in ceremony in the oval office. PEOPLE ARE NOT PROPS, JACKASS. #TrumpAnnouncement

#Trump: Many mothers give their young daughters birth control for the long journey to America because they know they may be raped or assaulted. The worst part of this? There's no way to know whether it's the birth control or the assaults that offend them. #TrumpAnnouncement

Read 6 tweets



Richard W. Painter

@RWPUSA

Dec 5th 2018

This is utter nonsense. Even in normal political times many spouses work for opposing sides. And these are not normal times. Democracy is at stake and the notion that people whose spouses work for the Trump administration can't speak out is ridiculous. cnn.com/2018/12/04/opi...



Farzan Sabet

@IranWonk

Oct 30th 2018

Excited to share my first piece in 18 months and in @ForeignPolicy, co-authored w/ Simon Miles, an assistant professor @DukeSanford, completing a book on US-Soviet relations during the early 1980s based on new Eastern bloc archival sources. 1/ foreignpolicy.com/2018/10/30/wha...

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The article also ignores the four kids. At least they can tell their friends "but look at dad" When the perp walks begin that will be very helpful.

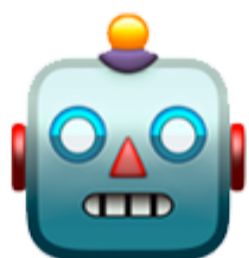
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Context: @mike_giglio had an excellent piece last month on how the #Trump admin may be executing a strategy of "maximum pressure" against #Iran, partly inspired by the

Read 18 tweets

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- #DOJ
- #restofus
- #Trump2020
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- #Hafez
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- #terrorists
- #Tariffs
- #climatechange
- #SOON
- #Steinhardt
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