

Trump's Refusal To Start New Wars Drives The Swamp Nuts

By John Hanson

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The current President of the United States has always vowed to put “America First,” and pledged not to send our sons and daughters off to faraway countries to fight battles that aren’t ours and don’t make sense.

Donald Trump is the first president of the modern era to not start any new wars. This is something that drives the political establishment in Washington, DC nuts.

The Trump Foreign Policy Is What The Swamp Hates Most Of All

What President Trump has done, in word and deed, is surely unprecedented in the modern era.

Especially for a Republican – a party typically viewed as the hawkish party.

After describing some areas where President Trump hasn’t always lived up to his foreign policy rhetoric, former Special Assistant to Ronald Reagan and Cato Institute Senior Fellow Doug Bandow notes that what Trump has accomplished is largely unprecedented.

Bandow wrote at [**The American Conservative**](#) in mid-September, “Nevertheless, no other president has similarly criticized America’s promiscuous war-making, denounced U.S. aggression, admitted that Washington has abused its power to kill, and questioned the Pentagon’s endless subsidies for wealthy allies.”

“Although the Blob, the ever-interventionist foreign policy establishment, routinely dismisses his observations, its members have been forced to address such critiques for the first time,” Bandow noted.

“Which has horrified, even angered those who evidently believe that they have the mandate of heaven to rule the world,” Bandow added.

A fair critic could say although Trump hasn’t totally drained the Swamp – he sure has spooked it.

Trump has certainly reset America’s foreign policy table.

As the President’s son, Donald Trump, Jr. tweeted September 1, “Joe Biden has a 50 year record of supporting virtually every endless war possible & he’s been wrong on foreign policy every step of the way.”

“My father hasn’t started any new wars & wants to end the wars that Biden helped start!” Don Jr. added.

Trump vs. the Military-Industrial-Complex

The “Blob” Bandow describes is also the Deep State. Or as President Trump has referred to it, the Swamp.

Entrenched and unelected government officials who see it as their job to go around duly-elected leaders like President Trump and make sure the Washington status quo is preserved regardless.

Especially on foreign policy.

When President Trump **accused** top Pentagon brass of starting and prolonging wars to keep defense contractors happy in early September, it struck a nerve.

Because it was true.

Trump said, “The top people in the **Pentagon** probably aren’t because they want to do nothing but fight wars so all of those wonderful companies that make the bombs and make the planes and make everything else stay happy.”

Few, if any, American presidents have been willing to take on these behind-the-scenes power brokers since Ike.

Trump has. And he continues to make them nervous.

Bandow observed, “Nevertheless, the U.S. military brass has lined up solidly in favor of every commitment, alliance, deployment, program, weapon, base, subsidy, expenditure, maneuver, grant, facility, war, guarantee, agreement, promise, and everything else that expands the armed services’ footprint and role overseas.”

The Washington Political Establishment Fears Four More Years Of Trump

“The president’s desire to withdraw American forces from Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq set off collective hysteria in Washington,” Bandow says.

“The wailing and gnashing of teeth was as frenzied at the Pentagon as it was at Foggy Bottom and think tanks across New York and Washington, D.C.”

“Not a single Blob member seemed to dispute the principle that what has ever been must ever be.”

President Trump disputes that principle. He has since day one.

His promise to fundamentally upend the Swamp and recalibrate Washington to serve the interests of Americans instead of elites has been met with massive resistance at every turn, with foreign policy being a glaring example.

Let’s hope he gets to push back another four years come November.