Trump's HUGE Backflip on Russia Stance

by Finian Cunningham via steve - MOA *Thursday*, *Jul 19 2018*, *10:55pm* international / prose / post

Aftermath Of Helsinki Summit

It seems that Trump's political naivety has been cured; indeed, Trump has learned that the president of the USA is NOT the democratically elected boss; that US presidents lead nothing unless it conforms to the dictates and policies of the ruling, deep state elites. Nevertheless, and notwithstanding that he deplores the constraints imposed by the office he holds, I would imagine Trump cares less. He wants out but with some dignity, which currently seems an impossibility. And so, if Trump's unorthodox creativity is unable to remedy the situation, America would face a completely dog-whipped compliant puppet president -- which focus I would shift from the person to the OBVIOUS FAKE DEMOCRACY that America is forced to endure from unrepresentative and unelected oligarchs and plutocrats.

Whatever you may think, it is NOW abundantly CLEAR that powers other than democratic representation rule the USA. Good luck, dreamboats!

After his landmark summit with Russian leader Vladimir Putin in Helsinki, US President Donald Trump was apparently forced into an embarrassing u-turn over allegations of Russian interference in American elections.

On returning to the White House from his summit in Finland, Trump read out a statement, saying that he "accepted" US intelligence claims that Russia had meddled in the 2016 presidential election.

He offered the explanation that he had "mis-spoken" during his press conference with Putin in Helsinki the day before, when he appeared then to accept the Russian president's "powerful denial" that his country had not interfered in the race for the White House.

What to make of it? Was Trump correcting a glitch in his speech, or is there something more sinister at play?

In any case, political and media critics in the US don't believe the president's "attempt at backtracking," as the Washington Post <u>put</u> it.

Senior Democrats insisted Trump "could not squirm his way out" of the torrent of accusations that he had "capitulated to Putin" and dishonored US intelligence services by appearing to accept Moscow's assurances it had not interfered in the elections.

The context of words spoken at the press conference in Helsinki does indeed suggest that Trump was countenancing Putin's denial of Russian meddling. The US president went on to say that the various probes into the matter were a "disaster" for America's international image and for bilateral relations with Russia. This is consistent with Trump's long-held view that the Mueller inquiry is a "witch-hunt" based on "fake news".

So, Trump's belated about-turn on what he meant to say in Helsinki regarding alleged Russian

interference does not seem to be a convincing, genuine correction on his part. It suggests rather that the president is being forced into making a retraction.

What could be viewed as more disturbing is the way the American president has been browbeaten and cowed to make an embarrassing denial of something he actually believes. In other words, Trump has been humiliated or intimidated into toeing a line.

The US media reaction following the summit with Putin was immediate and shockingly coordinated, like a full-on assault.

"Trump faces tidal wave of criticism over handling of summit with Putin," reported US government-funded Radio Free Europe.

The president was assailed with a torrent of abuse, decrying him as a "disgrace" and "traitor" for having engaged in a cordial manner with the Russian leader. The uniform scorn poured on Trump by the political and media establishment was something to behold.

Rabid pundits in supposedly prestigious newspapers such as the New York Times were <u>declaring</u> that it's "Trump and Putin vs. America," claiming that "the president's refusal to condemn Russian attacks was a betrayal of every single American citizen."

The media backlash of vituperation against the president was nothing short of extraordinary. It was a concerted campaign of sedition against his authority which, at times, openly called for a palace coup to oust him.

Under the headline, "This sad, embarrassing wreck of a man," one oped in the Washington Post posed the question: "Which Republicans will stand behind a president who puts Russia first?"

Ironically, Trump's instincts about the whole Russiagate affair are correct. It is a load of unsubstantiated farrago promoted by Democrats and large sections of supportive news media who have never got over the ignominy of Hillary Clinton losing out to "deplorable Trump." Clinton was also backed by high-ranking officials in the state intelligence apparatus, as well as the foreign policy establishment.

This constituency of the political class in Washington shared Clinton's avowed hostility towards Putin. It is to their unforgivable chagrin that Donald Trump was elected. Moreover, Trump was elected partly on the promise of restoring normal relations between the US and Russia. His policy was given a democratic mandate upon his election to the White House.

After nearly two years of relentless Russophobia from the US political and media establishment, the case for alleged Russian interference in American politics remains embarrassingly vacuous. Not even the latest so-called indictments produced by special counsel Robert Mueller have any credibility to anyone who looks earnestly at the charges. What's more, ordinary American citizens seem to agree that the whole Russiagate affair is a frivolity indulged in by the political and media elites confined to Washington's Beltway Bubble.

In a poll out this week following the Helsinki summit, a small majority of Americans (55 percent) seem to think that Trump is "mishandling" relations with Russia. It is perhaps not surprising, given the wall-to-wall media pillorying of the president as a "traitor." Nevertheless, the same poll found that only a minority of Americans view Russia as "an enemy" (38 percent) or an "imminent threat" (27 per cent).

These figures are cold comfort for the US political establishment, which has assiduously pushed the narrative of Russian malevolence.

What the astounding media backlash against Trump shows is not so much the fecklessness of his character. No, the really perplexing issue is how American democracy is warped and fashioned to meet the demands of powerful unelected forces. The imperative is brazen and brutal.

Trump may want to normalize relations with Russia. The people may have voted for this policy. But the powers-that-be are making sure that this policy is not implemented. They want hostility towards Russia to prevail, as it would have explicitly if Hillary Clinton had been elected.

In short, what we are seeing this week is "American [FAILED] democracy" in action. Meaning there is no actual democracy exercised by the power of the people or their elected representative. It is power exercised by elite interests only.

In that way, Russian reaction to the Helsinki summit should be restrained.

Indeed, it was welcome to see Trump and Putin engage in cordial, mutual dialogue. Trump deserves credit for holding the summit and for his civilized manner towards the Russian leader, instead of adopting the vulgar offensiveness for which so much of the US establishment is baying.

The problem is that Trump has evidently very limited political authority to implement the obvious goodwill he desires between Washington and Moscow. He has limited authority to actually adopt one of the key policies for which he was elected by the people.

Trump's cringe-making u-turn was not a correction over his misuse of "double negative speech." It was a positively damning sign that the president and the citizens who voted for him have actually negligible power when it comes to overturning a fundamental objective of the unelected plutocrats of the deep state.

For Russia, and indeed the wider world, that is deeply troubling. Because the American powers-thatbe are evidently hell-bent on pursuing a hostile agenda towards Russia. Their Russophobia is not just some passing phase. It's a symptom of an incorrigible malaise and desire within the US establishment for conflict.

 $\underline{http://www.moonofalabama.org/2018/07/israel-declares-itself-apartheid-state.html}$

Inverse Times Open Publishing. http://inversetimes.lingama.net/news/story-134.html