

Your Poor, Your Tired, Your Huddled Masses, Yearning To Be...Deported - Ep 37

2019

Transcript

[0:00] Welcome to fortress on a hill this is episode 37.

Today the guys and I work to catch up on the last month or so of important headlines we include recent news about after effects from the Vietnam War.

The recent Supreme Court decision Banning transgender service members from being recruited.

A few National Security points on Fallout from the government shutdown the recent capture of an Indian pilot by Pakistani forces.

And these substandard military housing investigation that is currently being conducted by several committees in Congress.

[0:42] Music.

[1:13] I'm in RI this is fortress on a hill.

Thank you for joining us for those who do the podcast BT Danny and I are three left is combat veterans you take the military and Veterans stories of the day.

And provide some much-needed historical context an examination.

Are so I want to I want to take a minute here I'm going to run through a bunch of headlines today catch everybody up on some little tidbits the things I've been keeping track of.

I want to start first with the with the Vietnam War and in studying the effects of our military policy.

[1:53] Anti-war activists need understand that the job is never done.

There's so many layers to how a country or its people respond to foreign Invasion and occupation.

Which is exactly what the United States has done too many countries many times.

For those who got to hear the last episode I had some very explicit things to say about the Long Road Home National Geographic sir series on a specific war in the Iraq War.

And how many lines in the series referred to the occupation of Iraq is a peacekeeping mission.

[2:27] I'm thinking of the destruction of Vietnamese foliage and soil through agent orange exposure along with the diseases and sterility and caused in the population I'm thinking of chloral astrakhan,

kids in Yemen Worth local sewage of a structure has been destroyed by bombing runs.

I'm thinking of a rocky Shore forced to breathe nasty fumes from our base is burning garbage, or from where soils gotten contaminated by shells made from depleted uranium and these are two other headlines that I'd like to add to that pile.

First a little history and something I didn't know until recently when we fought in Vietnam.

South Korea came to our Aid there were approximately 320,000 South Korean soldiers sent to Vietnam between 1964 and 1973.

And during their occupation of Vietnam alongside ours,

South Korean soldiers rape Vietnamese women in large numbers in the show notes I linked to a Reuters article that discovered describes a woman named transite the guy, who was repeatedly raped by multiple South Korean soldiers all right I got a little clip here to share with you guys.

[3:41] Since President Trump came into office he has made clear his desire to restrict immigration his administration has severely limited Refugee admissions it has banned travel from several mainly Muslim countries and detained and deported Central American asylum-seekers now the administration wants to send back some members of another group that was assumed to be protected from deportation Vietnamese people who came here and the aftermath of the Vietnam War the administration first race this idea last year then dropped it now though the Department of Homeland Security says does want to deport 7000 convicted criminals non US citizens, have to be at Nam when the proposal first came up the u.s. ambassador to Vietnam resigned in protest that former diplomat, osseous is with us now by phone from Ho Chi Minh City Ambassador thank you so much for joining us it's a real pleasure Michelle thank you just briefly remind us of when this particular group of people came to the United States and under what circumstances I'm thinking here that some people may be old enough to remember the pictures of start of desperate people trying to flee on these rickety boats after the South fell to the Communists so just remind us of that history yeah well most came between 1975 and 1995 Saigon fell in 75 there were a lot of both people who, left Vietnam at that time and came to United States and we were the place of Refuge for people who'd fought.

[5:06] Side by side with us during the war in many cases the children of American servicemen, but for the most part people who were fleeing the regime that had unified Vietnam status of these refugees, well a lot of them eventually were able to get green cards some didn't get green cards because they got messed up with the law or they didn't speak English well enough to get through the process some became American citizens at some did not and it's the ones who did not become American citizens who seem to be at rest, the Trump Administration says that this group of people. So that's a a clip that all include with the with episode I need to cut it down to be more specific I just wanted to give you guys in a little taste of it.

[5:55] Trim boards three children from her sexual assaults along with being imprisoned by Vietnamese authorities and accused of Sleeping with the Enemy. She described one of her rapists and as a man in his full South Korean army uniform in addition to him being armed at the time she said she was terrified for her life. But it didn't in there the next to South Korean Soldiers made it an ongoing horror that tran had to suffer through. Repeatedly raping her over a. Of years. Train and her children were ostracized from her community infusion province in central Vietnam being seen as having consorted with the Enemy. This is also happened to Vietnamese children fathered by American troops were deployed to Vietnam and Tran is just one of many women who have suffered like this.

It's a curious situation that.

[6:50] South Korea in Hot Pursuit Of Justice For The Suffering that their citizens endured at the hands of the Japanese Army during World War II.

It's interesting that they've denied giving that same relief to the people of Vietnam.

Japan first part has claimed that the 1965 treaty restoring diplomatic ties with South Korea settled all wartime compensation claim.

Overactive is claimed that Japan's apologies have not gone far enough with South Korean courts to clearing the both the treaty and a separate 9 million-dollar agreement.

Funding the foundation for South Korean sexual slavery victims do not prevent victims from seeking reparations from Japan.

[7:33] No the second part of this is very much about our president we.

A lot a lot large number of Vietnamese refugees to come here after the war translators people who were in local government anyone whose life was threatened because they decided.

Side with us.

Trump Administration is working hard to rescind an agreement between the US and Vietnam from 1995 that Exempted any refugees from deportation if they were in the US prior to July 12th 1995.

Today u.s. Vietnam formerly re-establish diplomatic relations it's important to note the tens of thousands of people came here after the war.

[8:20] And will the Trump Administration is mainly wanted to evict those of criminal records They may find a way to send back non-criminal Vietnamese immigrants.

There are people like Fran who have been cut off from ordinary parts of Vietnamese Society because they're seeing is attached to the American Invaders.

[8:39] The moment deportations are at a standstill as Vietnam must take back any refugees the us siviks something Vietnam has so far refused to do.

[8:51] There's someone else I want to mention with this story and the power of her recent actions is really moving to me.

Last October a woman named Nadia Murad became the first Nobel Peace Prize winner from Iraq.

She is a ZTE activist who was held as a sex slave by Isis forces along with about 7,000 other women like her in a row.

She spoke out specifically in support of Vietnamese victims like Tran, who were harmed by South Korean forces quote as these criminals enjoy more rights freedom and life than the victims themselves how can we restored they did eat the victims, if everyone turns a blind eye to the prosecution of perpetrators and allows them to enjoy impunity.

I call upon the International Community to hold his responsibilities to protect women from sexual violence in Conflict zones.

[9:44] So my last my last little note on this there's a Vietnamese term for the children of people like Tran.

Whose parentage involved South Korean fathers it's considered highly derogatory the term islay dahon.

I've included a link in the show notes to an organization call Justice for Les Tejon which specifically advocates for Vietnamese victims of sex crimes perpetrated by the US and Allied Forces.

[10:17] You know one of the things about the Vietnam War as it never really Ended as you know in the American Collective Consciousness and the Vietnamese and Asian Collective consciousness.

You know whether it's Asian orange affecting our troops to talk it out before on the pod. Or or these these children born of American or South Vietnamese or South Korean fathers.

[10:41] Or whether it just be the resentments that continue in Asia, I mean if you're not home or is ongoing It cast a shadow over everything you do a lot of people don't know what you mentioned which is that South Korea sent many thousands of troops to fight.

In Vietnam on our behalf and in fact, in many cases the South Koreans were considered some of the most brutal soldiers that the vehicon are reported enemies were afraid of, they often Act V international human rights law the Ravens were were one sort of symptom of this.

But there were instances where South Korean soldiers were sent to Sun most dangerous areas or areas where the United States Commanders.

[11:29] Spell that a heavy hand was needed, but that American troops would come under too much media scrutiny in the increasingly anti-war American political landscape and so therefore, you know the South Koreans or what they're the only reason South Korea would agree to send soldiers to Vietnam current interest, in Vietnam being communist or not, but rather because they were counting on the United States to maintain a security backing for them against China in the North Korean, so this is a way in which American Alliance systems actually end up dragging other players into Wars that really aren't there fight, but they feel obligated to do so under the umbrella of American Security guarantees.

[12:19] Yeah it was it is a really curious thing Danny to watch that Dynamic that how. How would conflict that worked out if the us or others didn't have certain allies didn't have certain assets.

You know the D the alliance's that Venezuela has right now are the only things that, keeping us from doing much more brutal regime change their because Russia and China and others are actually doing things for them otherwise who did it just wouldn't wouldn't happen. I think that the biggest thing the biggest reason I wanted to mention this is that.

[12:58] In terms of understanding you know with all the variety of ways that we damaged Vietnam we damaged the soil through agent orange in the end in that way we damn it did they damage the people, the addition of Argan of the rapes and assaults on Vietnamese people Vietnamese women over a almost decade-long War.

[13:19] These are common things that happened in almost every war. They're not there I wouldn't say they're Universal but they're definitely comment and so when we look back at our Wars we need to understand that we left a footprint. In the ground where we were in Blood and it in probably a lot of other nasty things yeah absolutely.

[13:42] I think it was New Mexico lawsuit against.

Or pollution on the on the state or.

[14:01] Wake me up in show super fun sites of former military installations that have all of these shed or what not and.

Later with the house think we just see that when it comes to, setting up establishing a nurse in the military.

Highest regard as far as what are we doing to the environment what are we doing to help the people that are on our own country, you know it leaves very little to the imagination of how we're going to treat you as an anime or whatever.

Whatever filter somebody wants to put on whoever we're old to look at negatively.

[15:02] I think it's instructive that.

Recent botched Us North Korea Summit was held in Vietnam.

Obviously the United States wanted to send a message to North Korea which is look this country Vietnam used to be our enemy,

but now it is our tacit Ally in the region against China and,

also this uniform early closed socialist economic system of Vietnam has of laid over the last two decades kind of opened up itself to capitalism at least at cities at least the longest coastline, and and hopefully North free will take a lesson from these two things now I don't think that Kim Jeong Hoon took that lesson,

I don't think he looked at Vietnam and says I want to be just like Vietnam I want to open myself to the world and I want to know loosen the reins of power I think he looks at me an almond says one thing and one thing which is this is the country.

[16:06] Small countries like North Korea if they hold out and if they refuse to quit can be the United States and a protracted conflict so I think that's the lesson that Kim takes from the Vietnam locale,

for these these Summits rather than the one that the US state department in, you know presumably the shopping ministrations wants them to take and so in that way Vietnam does continue to cast a shadow on American dealings in Asia.

[16:35] As as it should and I think that that's what I mean it's it's a horrifying thing but at least our history is more well-known these days.

[16:45] Absolutely so as we ship West a bit I think we have to talk briefly about.

India Pakistan and the recent uptick in violence and threats seen these two nuclear-armed powers.

[17:05] It's a big deal you know.

American political discourse mainstream media has been obsessed with Venezuela of late in foreign affairs and Michael Cohen and the Trump soap opera and domestic affairs, write this is the story and they're important stories,

but what gets lost is the fact that two nuclear-armed nations came to the brink of War over the last couple of weeks.

And I'm going to hypothesize,

that actually when it comes to the things that should keep policymakers up at night that should keep American foreign policy experts up at night there is perhaps no country more than Pakistan which should worry has,

Gates Pakistan and Incredibly fragile semi democracy,

with a few hundred nuclear weapons and an enormous islamist,

movement or undercurrent that's growing within itself especially within the military natal judgment,
good night write the possibility of a coup in Pakistan perpetrated by Islamist Military Officers or the possibility of State fracture
under the weight of civil war or Insurgency or even just in the sense of sharing nuclear secrets potentially be from Pakistan to groups like Al-Qaeda or the Islamic State or whoever the next.

[18:31] But so all these are the things we should be really worried about okay I would argue that American Pakistan policy as a has-been opaque it has been model and it sometimes it's actually been contradictory,
but let's look at what happened with Indian Pakistan okay first of all.

[18:49] A little small history lesson is required and the takeaway from the history lesson is the same as Henry you know that the takeaway of every history lesson which is the British fuck the world up everywhere.

[19:03] So in the United Kingdom ruled India and in a relatively direct form from the mid-eighteenth century all the way up until 1947,
okay and what we now know as India Pakistan, Burma and Bangladesh all used to be rolled under one you know Imperial government which was in India okay so this was all considered India,
after Independence is granted okay this is after Gandhi's non-violent nonviolent protest movement there were some violent organizations within India when the British, agree to leave economically and politically bankrupt in 1947,
at least the three main parts of the Indian subcontinent Bangladesh Pakistan and India together as one country,
but especially the Muslim minority which is a size woman already,
decided that they wanted an independent state for Muslims just called Pac-Man and of course that's part of it. Until the mid-1960s early 1970s,
when a war breaks out Bangladesh in Bangladesh gets its independence from Pakistan will here's the deal.

[20:28] Hundreds of thousands and in fact millions of, Indians and Pakistanis Muslims and Hindus were moved either forcibly or voluntarily from one country to the other okay in order to make,
Pakistan more homogeneously Muslim and India slightly more logically Hindu and there's a lot of it when the British sandwich and the locals just kill it out of themselves,
since then Indian Pakistan have been mortal enemies they fought for Wars okay for outright shooting war and they've remained at war in a in a low-level sort of proxy settings,
in the northern mountainous disputed provinces of Jammu and Kashmir Kashmir being the more well-known product,
okay so both countries claim that they should rule Kashmir and I have very different reasons for why.

[21:23] The Pakistanis been fishing rule it because Kashmir is, majority-Muslim okay and therefore their presumption is that if they were allowed to vote they would vote to become part of packs and that may be true,
the Indians and the other hand say hey know this was granted to us,
in the partition treaty and oh by the way we don't care that Kashmiris majority-Muslim because we have a lot of Muslims hundreds of millions of Muslims in India and we are a multi-National diverse multi-ethnic multi religious society and it's important to remain that way

okay so they're at their at a loggerheads over Kashmir and provide Safe Haven.

[22:07] Various Insurgent or terrorist groups in Kashmir depending on your viewpoint. Escalation between the two countries was really brought about by about forty Indian paramilitary soldiers being killed in a bombing by a, a Kashmiri Insurgent who was probably supported and perhaps even given Safe Haven in Pakistan.

So India for the first time in four decades.

Bombs Pakistani territory Jason's fighter bombers over and One Pilot is actually captured by the Pakistanis.

Well this is all a big deal because in the mid-1990s India and Pakistan both developed nuclear weapons and you can guess where they're pointed their pointed right at each other.

[23:00] India has a stronger economy larger economy in the larger Army but their nuclear deterrence are about equal okay their body was destroyed the other pretty well and this is scary.

[23:13] Extremes for the United States because the United States is tacitly allied with both of these countries, you know lump them in with Israel and Saudi Arabia as our greatest Frenemies you know Pakistan out of one side of their mouth says they support us and they support the war on terror and I the other side of the amount they give Safe Haven Tucson been gone for over 10 years you know so.

Or I forgot that he is still the home of the Taliban,

and all the Taliban guys that come over seasonally at the Kandahar Province and killed my soldiers we know where they went through they wintered in Pakistan safely without much, you know what that much pressure from the Pakistani government so Pakistan is it it is a country that we have a very paradoxical relationship with, it's for cynical relationship between Washington and Islamabad or United States and Pakistan put another way.

India is interesting because they are also a notional American partner we have a nuclear agreement with them a nuclear power sharing agreement with India and we're really hoping, that India with its growing population is growing economy will serve as a counterweight to China in the future will growing Chinese military not, Prima.

Well here's what we found out in this latest episode of the fighters being shot down in his military is like.

[24:40] It leaves a lot to be desired I mean is larger than Pakistan the economy is growing but. India's military has a lot of antique equipment okay a lot of Legacy equipment a lot of problems with the over centralization of bureaucracy and it's not clear that anytime soon, India's going to be able to militarily balance China just seems unlikely, and my final point on these two countries and why we should give a shit okay this is all goes under the category of Danny why should we care about in your packs and will here's one reason.

I left the others were important. These are both fragile state is a butterfly fragile democracy, okay they've never really had more than a decade and a half of Civilian rule they've had numerous military cruise and takeovers of the military government and and, again and that's problematic because the in military which used to be a secular Institution, has become infested of late during the war on terror years with islamist inspired Military Officers and the intelligence, organization the ISI there CIA is littered with islamist to support the Taliban and sometimes

support okay. So that's barely holding onto with Nissan, Democratic civilian life document and at any moment I could fall, and conflict with India is only more likely to empower the military and therefore in danger us entrance.

[26:09] To say nothing of the nuclear fallout of an exchange of thermonuclear weapons 22 countries I mean they could set off a war that destroyed the planet I mean, always probably the primary issue India doesn't have a history of military coup, and India is in fact the largest or the most populated democracy in the world something they're very proud of.

[26:31] Pretty fragile is a lot of corruption there's a lot of poverty and they are ruled by Narendra Modi who heads up a wildly right-wing chauvinistic Hindu nationalist party. And again you know we look on with caution and some concern as that power as a power of the BJP which is I believe the name of the party increases. And so what do we know about war what do you know about military conflict it tends to empower nefarious actors in both Society. Which in the case of India Pakistan could mean further empowered Modi and his right-wing Hindus and the further empowerment of the Pakistani military and their influential Islamist officer so so that's the backstory it looks like tensions are cooling packs and handed over the years with the Indian pilot. What I would say guys is keep watching this conflict and don't sleep on Pakistan because it's what keeps me up at night.

[27:36] I think in all the headlines I've gone through recently of the dozens and dozens and dozens I've seen about Venezuela I've seen I think two. That were on Indian Pakistan on what on the The Fighter getting captured in the Fallout from that.

[27:53] Scary yassine one.

[28:00] American people don't know what to be afraid of I mean they don't need their told, by our president to be and I can say that shit now that I'm retired officially has a February 11th my first post-retirement Show created by. You know some rats and and told that they should be scared of they should be scared of Mexicans they should be scared of black people that you know and gun violence in Chicago they should be scared of North really scared of Muslims. There's so many likes so much fear mongering coming out of the Trump Administration that we forget sometimes there are genuine threats in the world, there are things we should be worried about it we're so busy with the Trump soap opera or whatever the latest shiny object that mr. Trump in his administration has focused on worldwide. We forgot the fact that look Pakistan is, highly problematic nuclear-armed country that has really been a friend of me across three administrations at least that being George W bush Obama and Trump so this isn't a new issue but it's a really scary one.

[29:05] Danny do you recall how our policy towards Pakistan changed after we captured Osama bin Laden you know.

[29:16] It didn't in in it in the NF meaningful away as a perhaps should have.

Look I'm not a big conspiracy theorist you know I think 9/11 was perpetrated by you know 19 guys with box cutters but I do you know I'm not a truther.

Which I get criticized for from the far left all the time but here's the deal it goes beyond reasonable belief.

Just things that no one in the Pakistani government or especially intelligence Services realize that I found Bin Laden was living in plain sight, about a mile from the gates of its version of West Point okay in a tent in a major city not in the mountainous cave, in the ungovernable Border region between Pakistan and Afghanistan as was surmised but rather in a city outside of their Military Academy, gates to it it it it it it is to me outside the realm of possibility that there were at least some actors in the Pakistani government that were supporting us right or they were knowledgeable.

[30:24] Despite their denials of course and so one would have thought.

That post-execution you know raid on Osama Bin Laden's Lair that the Obama and then the Trump Administration would have never played a lot tougher with Pakistan.

[30:41] But we really have you know they they still receive some version of American Aid they are still at asset Ally in the warranty I think it's because we're scared to death of them.

Not not scared of like Pakistan you know invading New York City but afraid of the hair trigger response of an islamist,

lad government over the nuclear Arsenal afraid that they'll wrap stop support for the Taliban or Al-Qaeda afraid that the state will just collapse, and therefore you know who knows who takes over Pakistan and it's you know 150 to 250 nuclear missile,

you know because I was thinking Administration like them or not syncing Administration like the Obama Administration didn't really have a good answer,

and if the Obama Administration didn't have a good answer I don't think you can expect some sort of rational strategic calculus from the Trump team,

I mean these guys are unhinged you know they're right once in awhile about like pulling troops out of certain areas but you know so I mean,

American Pakistan policy is,

absolute model the fair is a mess and I don't think that the think tanks on the left or the right the mainstream tactics I don't think I have backstamp all I really don't and I'm not.

[32:06] You know submitting that I have the answers what I will tell you is it is shocking the degree to which packs that has not been held accountable for actions that if any other country did it.

I mean the the outcry would be phenomenal in the United States for packs and forget the past and I think it's cuz we're afraid of them and we're afraid of what might happen in that country.

[32:28] I still have the the skeleton of that stealth Blackhawk who knows how much was blackmailed at this worth.

[32:39] Stealth stealth Blackhawk,

stealth helicopter that had like to put a blade on each one of the wing that's it looks absolutely ridiculous.

[33:03] Yeah that whole thing just blew my mind when we woke up the next morning and. It was all done and they left the helicopter behind and yeah.

[33:16] The guys that I love doing the podcast being able to share our experiences in the military with allies and supporters means the world to us.

But we can't do it all we need you to share an episode of ours with somebody anyone who you might think.

Could be affected by it young people looking to join the military or parents advocating for one. Conscientious citizens who care about the violence that us wages in their name.

Advocates for women and people of color who understand the harsh environment the military crates for minorities and the violence inflicted by some of those same minorities around the globe.

[33:56] Did anyone else you think it might affect please share this with them but sharing our episodes is just one of the many ways you can support the podcast.

In addition does patreon we're blessed to have an array of wonderful supporters helping BT Danny and I paid for some of the podcast expenses.

Those who contribute \$10 a month or more we mentioned here as an honorary producer helping keep you are listener stocked with new episodes.

But you don't have to contribute \$10 a month to help us for as little as \$8 a month you can help keep us going thing for hosting and storage fees transcribing old and new episodes promoting expanding the podcast.

And more I'm sure I can't think of right now.

Let's bring out our honorary producers and they are Matthew Howe will Lorenz gauge counts became shirazi Henry Zmuda James Higgins James o'barr.

[34:56] Adam Bellows and Eric Phillips your contributions are so helpful to us thank you all so much,

however if patreon isn't your style you can contribute directly to us through PayPal at PayPal. Me for a fortress on a hill or,

the great Bill krupinsky did an amazing job helping us design our first t-shirt which you can find at teespring.com stores for fortress on a hill and if you use the promo code militarism, you get free shipping 22 bucks for an amazing t-shirt and you get to support the podcast and speaking of that let's get back to the podcast.

[35:51] So quick headline here about the transgender troops community.

The Supreme Court has allowed President Trump's ban on transgender individuals in u.s. military service to go into effect heading ongoing litigation.

However individuals were currently serving that have been all right that have already transitioned or have not begun their transition and remain in service.

[36:16] It's terrifically ironic to see Trump and the dod push transgender members away.

Wall at the same time watching the dod public affairs people tripping over themselves to make sure everyone knows that the US military treats transgender military members with dignity and respect.

[36:35] I blinked in the show notes to a recent hearing that was held on Capitol Hill,

where several current and former transgender service members testified to their value to military service please please take a link to that there's hours and hours of footage but the, it's very much worth watching while watching hopefully be the current ongoing litigation will send this policy packing very much in the way that the courts did with the don't ask don't tell.

[37:07] The couple things here about the government shutdown.

[37:12] First there were some really serious delays that were caused in the Coast Guard's maintenance system from The New York Times.

Internal documents obtained by the X show that the Coast Guard ship maintenance command lost at least 7456 productive work days, or 28 and 1/2 years worth of work days as a result of the partial shutdown which furloughed 6400 civilian employees.

This reality poses significant risks to operational availability of Cutters and boats the documents concluded the service also noted a domino effect that caused delays and repairs and maintenance on his roughly 200 aircraft.

Which in turn could keep them from being available given President Trump's huge push on security at the southern border.

I wouldn't imagine this would be welcome news to him except for the fact it's ever been about 4 scary Owen and speaking of being pissed off about the Border.

My old military police company the 66th MP Company is currently deployed to the southern border I'm sure they are down there.

Playing as much C wire as they can and I don't know teaching Spanish classes to.

[38:29] Order guys that can already speak it for some dumb reason,

I realized the importance of the situation in front of me and Annie were activists finding buckets of anger at my former unit being sent to the Border.

But nonetheless I think it's a horrible waste of Manpower and resources yeah.

[38:49] First of all what a shame that your units down there and what a shame that they're away from their families for an on.

Ask for an unnecessary appointment for a non-emergency emergency is this National Emergency is a non emerge.

I mean immigration is down crime among the illegals is I hate that word illegal to Crime long on undocumented is is is actually lower per capita than among the citizens.

You know I'm most of the Manny.

People who are here illegally overstay their visas are come through a major ports of Entry rather than across the Sonoran Desert I mean all of this.

Being a non-emergency,

what's fascinating is what you said which is that if if drugs and some of the more nefarious illegal actors or undocumented actors are coming through via the sea, your ports of Entry right isn't it ironic including the Coast Guard.

In order to get his wall right because you know as you mentioned I mean that you know the Coast Guard getting paid during the last shutdown and you know.

[40:03] They do a huge service to the country and in relation to counter drug.

You know and also to some extent Maritime border security so look this this is about politics.

I mean if it was policy than the stats that I began this little rant with would matter but we are in a post factual environments this is fear-mongering,

children are in cages not because there's a legitimate National Emergency but because the president knows that.

Scapegoating brown people helped him win elections with his base and I'm not afraid to say that shit anymore because I can and it's true and it's fucking horrified.

[40:51] It really is. Really really is an end he continually passes over I'm sure it's intentional, the idea that our borders are everywhere airports,

boat bow Crossings you know the Deedee real places where I suspected terrorists might come through generally aren't at the southern border.

Doesn't happen very often why would you want to try,
no just hearing about the abandoned thing in as much as I said over the whole Dental Air
Force Base wasn't even something that came to my mind,
Coast Guard shutdown but I had 24 aircraft that I was responsible for when I was in a
maintenance company,
and we are working during a deployment,
working for five aircraft at a time and just trying to juggle this insane amount of logistics it had
to be taken care of.
And.

[42:02] Trying to think about having all of that shut down and then having to step back in that
first day that you get paid again and you're like how am I supposed to knock out 200 whatever
it was the maintenance that.
Miss probably barely being able to be maintained to begin with all of this in life.

[42:23] The the propublica article on,
the US Navy and the USS Fitzgerald all of the issues in the story is when the Fitzgerald was sent
out,
it was supposed to be doing,
maintenance run it wasn't supposed to be going out into operation but they change that
maintenance run and then the ship was going out there with,
systems that were not operating properly being expected to perform their jobs huge issue,
in the military when it comes the reality of Maintenance has to get done and people are
pretending like that is something that can just be swept aside,
when it is a 24-hour process that goes into maintaining Mission Readiness you can't just stop
this at some point,
and you see all of these breakdown and now we're putting people's lives at risk on top of all of
the other Kristen Ashley comes with being a service member or being in the Coast Guard,
these are all issues that are being created that are not necessary it's been a constant thing you
know when when there's,
when was budget cuts to me made because of the huge contracts that people.

[43:49] DOD has with the military industrial complex it means that they're like wolves toast in
the money does contracts but the trainers in the maintainers the 6400 guys that I mentioned
that were furloughed.
They're not around and so the people that are most important to help people in service and
even do the actual work because there's some work that people can service members don't
even do because it's that sophisticated.

[44:14] Yeah it just fucking blows my mind.
ISO next on the shutdown list the quarterly cigar report cigar standing for special Inspector
General on Afghan reconstruction has been cut down significantly due to the shutdown.
A quote in this is this is from the state department do the partial government shutdown in the
furlough of staff,
Department of State in the u.s. agency for International Development this report does not
contain sections on governance and Civil Society humanitarian assistance and development
and stabilization and infrastructure.
You would think with the situation in Afghanistan right now those would be the most
important sections but again,
what you were just talking about BT is that it just that they attempt to pretend that it's okay
that they keep going to attempt to pretend that it's okay to send the Fitzgerald it's not.

For Duty out to do actual operations they just.

It's okay it's no big deal that we cut out this super fucking important part of the report that's always there this mandated by law.

[45:19] And anything is a cigar is like a really important.

Report okay it's like their reports are really important or quarterly and they've been telling us for like a five or six years that they've been mandated by Congress what they've told us every fucking quarter is divorce bailing is getting worse.

Over and over again they tell us the same thing and it's like nobody's listening but ironically enough As Trump gets ready to try to pull out of Afghanistan or at least I see ostensibly appears to be you no want to pull out of Afghanistan should be funded because they're his best friend,

because they make the argument you know whenever a rational logical organized fashion, that the war in Afghanistan has its failing and in fact they've argued essential that is already over the sea on its past the point of no return.

[46:11] Meet me at least cutting these sorts of reports,

to the Bone during a shutdown is a big deal look your average American doesn't read the cigar report but I wish that the executive summary of those reports which is pretty long and of itself, was mandatory reading for like every school kid in high school because it would get us out of Afghanistan so much faster if the average American okay knew the truth and could contact your Congressman after having read one of these before they release the summary.

[46:40] And I've got one more one more going to stay a little headline it's not little it all but one more headline attached to the war in Afghanistan and.

That the war killed a record number of civilians in 2018.

Casualties included 3804 deaths and 7189 injuries in fighting between the Afghan government, are you asleep Coalition military forces,

the Taliban the Afghan branch of Isis and other unidentified malicious more than 32,000 civilians have been killed in Afghanistan in the last decade.

That's just since 2009 that's around 10:10 911s for those looking at the map and that's just deaths in Afghanistan.

[47:26] Yeah but everyone knows that brown Afghans Muslim civilians aren't as important as, American or even European civilians right isn't that isn't that the rule is not what Jesus said he said however you treat the least of my people as long as they're not brown and Muslim is how you treat me. That's what the Bible said right and Matthew ugly,

yeah Garland said it you said it because she's got brown difficult,

your country is full of brown people oh we like that song and that's our Hobby.

That's our new job in the world bombing around people,

Iraq Panama grenade Olivia you got some brown people in your country tell him to watch the fuck out for real goddamn phone number,

who wins the last white people you can remember the weave on can you remember the last white can you remember any white people,

we've ever bomb the Germans are the only ones and that's only because they were trying to cut in on our action play wanted to dominate the world bulshit that's our fucking job,

yeah he did the world is so much worse. George Carlin it Miss that man yeah so that was so briefly I want to touch on one of my favorite.

Subjects for those who follow my riding which is israel-palestine and The Incredibles.

[48:48] Just American favoritism for Israel the one-sided nature of our.

You know involvement in the reported you know what used to be called the peace process which don't even he tries for peace and Palestine anymore the United Nations Human Rights Council again.

You know released a report that again tells us what we already knew which is that the Israeli military is overly harsh and committing more crimes, this one is report refers specifically to last year's at and their ongoing but especially last year's, mostly peaceful Palestinian protest along the Gaza border wall, they are protesting for the right of people to return to their former homes from refugee camps, they are protesting to end the blockade that is literally putting a Stranglehold on Gause and creating what one British politician called the largest open-air prison in the world, you know and an animal or other things are there another protest against Israeli settlements with her legal there is rarely occupation of the West Bank which is illegal etcetera Sera Sera. But the UN Human Rights report found that the Israeli military May well have committed war crimes.

[50:07] They shot six. Shot in was it 6000 Palestinian almost all unarmed protesters in Lake and they killed I'll go 235 one including 35 children and a number of journalists in fact the most damning,

parts of the report which I've only read the summary but it's pretty lengthy.

Look one way to understand.

Whether a crime has been committed or whether there was too heavy-handed or to the response is to look at proportionality and proportionality is very important in international law especially in the international military law.

And.

[50:53] 130 235 Palestinian civilians protesters were killed where it were murdered along the border and a total of two Israeli soldiers were killed and and only one of those was even at the border,

the other one was involved in a whole separate operations so this is very lopsided which doesn't mean in and of itself Israelis were wrong.

Does raise some questions right it doesn't pass the smell test okay there's a lot of there's a lot of smoke there and then the report found that there was indeed fire.

Will President Trump and his administration or War even would a President Clinton if she had one do anything to change America's relationship with Israel know the answer is naturally no. The American government the bipartisan mainstream consensus from left to right Democrat or Republican.

Behold in to the Israel Lobby and to the Israeli right-wing governments.

[51:53] Interests and that has been the case since at least 1967 and it's only gotten worse year after year because to criticize Israel.

The say hey maybe they shouldn't have killed a hundred thirty-five civilians along the border who are protesting and maybe they should have shop 6000 others you know to say that.

Open Co-op the charges of anti-Semitism you know what they say is if you criticize Israel You're criticizing Jews worldwide.

[52:24] That's not true and we have to stop being stop being scared of being labeled as anti-semite.

Because those of us who criticize Israel okay in cogent well-thought-out ways we know we're not as we know it's not about that.

And we got to be.

Less and less afraid of those who would label us as such this is not the first and it will not be

the last you and you even Rights Council report that calls, Israeli response or Israeli mil tourism or the Israeli occupation to be illegal or to be a war crime.

[53:06] In the United States were not even allowed to have this debate one of the first things that the new Senate has.

Was a massive violation of the First Amendment which was the anti-bds legislation BDS is an international anti-occupation at the Israeli occupation movement.

Stands for boycott divestment sanction it essentially follows the international model of the response to South African apartheid,

where are most of the world except for American Israel most of the world sanction and isolated South Africa until they,

agree to one man one boat and agreed to allow black power and eventually Nelson Mandela to be president,

there are a lot of differences but there's also a lot of similarities between apartheid South Africa and what I would consider apartheid Israel,

and you know I think it's important we had that discussion but even if you disagree with me on his real.

Certainly we should be able to agree that I have the right to question these things that the BDS movement has the right to take action and it's private sphere.

[54:12] But in United States Free Speech only applies so long as you're not talking about Israel and that is scary.

That is scary because the truth of the matter is America's lopsided one-sided support for Israel is making us less safe.

I can't tell you how many Baghdad living rooms and how many can owls I went into where these illiterate usually citizens had a major in a large picture of the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem on their wall.

They care about.

Jerusalem they care about the way the Palestinians are treated they care about the plight of the Palestinian people and it makes them angry with the US doesn't just make a make a wreath US policy makes me angry with All American.

And it's a recruiting bun or the islamist and so look this alliance with Israel.

Is it say that a point of diminishing returns. None of this is to say that Israel doesn't have a right to exist it doesn't doesn't mean that you're right to security,

it just means that Israel has to comply with international law like everybody else,

there can't be two standard there can't be one standard of international law for everybody else and then another standard of international law for the United States and its friends he's really.

Israel like a protected class they got a whole separate set of rules and it has to stop so suffice to say this report.

[55:36] Was damning and it was shocking even for this relatively numbed soul that speaking right now.

[55:47] Why you been gone Danny the.

[55:52] Twittersphere has been full of bullshit about representative ilhan Omar she has been making you some truthful.

[56:03] Observations about a pack and other things on Twitter she.

[56:09] Quoted a P Diddy song saying it's all about the Benjamins in reference to a pack and then it starts everybody the whole thing get started flooding with, the word antisemitic tropes and that's the that's the that's the shielded all the politicians use is that you can't be using these antisymmetric tropes well. How do you talk about money in Israel then.

[56:34] That is considered one of them it's not but that's that that's B connections are attempting to make for people but.

The ugliness that involved rep Omar.

Definitely had to do with the fact that she's Muslim it it wouldn't have continued nearly as long.

With her being browbeaten by everyone including Nancy Pelosi forcing her to give some kind of a ham-fisted apology about it just so within the party within the Democratic establishment, but there's some kind of parity at 8 fucking blows a hole in my head it's just it's just ridiculous.

[57:14] Totally agree I've been following a story since I got back and it it shows that this is a bipartisan consensus this this this wildly pro-israel this this.

Israel apologizing,

I mean it it's a strong the Democratic party among the Pelosi's in the Spain Warriors of the world as it is among the Mitch McConnell's and the Paul Ryan's of Republican world I mean it's it's scary I mean her freedom of speech is also being you know, you know limited to a certain extent and nothing she said and nothing she tweeted was overtly at these medic and nothing that she tweeted and nothing she said was even on true, power of the Israel Lobby is extraordinary in Washington and if and if nothing proves that more than the response of her detractors.

[58:00] Absolutely absolutely it's just it's just been ugly and.

I'm at least grateful there's a community of people that recognizes it for the ugliness that it has we had a question from Linda,

I'm on that exact subject Linda I hope that answers it I think we covered everything in your question but if we happen to miss something please please send me a send me an email.

[58:26] Music.

[58:50] Almost anywhere you listen we're already waiting for you and hey we're always in the market for more patreon supporters.

[58:57] Music.