



## AAF: Bravo to Trump on Houthi Strikes

**TOPLINE:** President Trump knocked out significant Houthi military capabilities over the weekend. Despite the loss of not a single American life, isolationists wrongly cried foul.

**Here's why the isolationists are wrong:**

**BACKGROUND:** Since October 7<sup>th</sup>, the Houthis have severely restricted trade by attacking vessels in the Red Sea and at a critical chokepoint between Africa and the Middle East.

### **American Strength Deters Our Enemies. Isolationist Weakness Welcomes Them:**

- President Biden's Weakness First approach, which undermined Israel and appeased our enemies, allowed the Houthis to run rampant in the Middle East.
- **President Biden could have easily destroyed the Iranian-funded Houthis' military capabilities, but he chose not to.**
- Thanks to President Trump's decisive action, **American strength is leading the world and restoring international norms in the Red Sea.**

### **Only America Can Protect Global Trade Routes:**

- The United States is the only free country with the military capabilities to keep international shipping lanes open.
- Europe does not possess the firepower to protect global trade routes. EU nations spend just 1.8% of their GDP on their military.
  - **EU & NATO nations must increase their military-to-GDP spending to 5%**

### **Ensuring Freedom of Navigation Through the Bab el-Mandeb Strait is Essential:**

- The Bab el-Mandeb Strait is the narrowest stretch of sea between Africa and the Middle East. Pirates and the Houthis routinely use this strait to harass commercial shipping vessels.
- Shipping costs have jumped up to 400% on some routes due to Houthi attacks.
- **40% of European and 3% of American trade runs through the Suez Canal.**

### **Restoring Trump-Pence Maximum Pressure on Iran:**

- President Biden empowered Iran to sow chaos throughout the Middle East by reversing the Trump-Pence maximum pressure campaign on Iran.
- **President Trump reinstated the Trump-Pence maximum pressure campaign on Iran, depriving the terrorist regime of billions of dollars of oil revenue.**

**Bottom Line:** President Trump has sent a strong message to the enemies of the American people. America is back. Confront America at your own peril. Bravo President Trump.

