

URGENT, URGENT: HEAD TO THE PHONES

I can't help it. Trump's so-called national emergency made these lyrics pop into my head:

...You're not warm or sentimental
You're so extreme, you can be so
temperamental
But I'm not looking for a love that will
last
I know what I need and I need it fast...

He needs his bloody wall and he needs it fast, on the heels of his usual dose of projection.

The real emergency is Trump himself. If you only caught snippets of his speech you missed out on the real horror. Here's an excerpt (the entire speech can be found at [The Atlantic](#), do read it in its entirety):

So we're going to be signing today, and registering, national emergency and it's a great thing to do. Because we have an invasion of drugs, invasion of gangs, invasion of people and it's unacceptable. And by signing the national emergency, something signed many times by other presidents, many, many times—President Obama, in fact—we may be using one of the national emergencies that he signed having to do with cartels, criminal cartels. It's a very good emergency that he signed. And we're going to use parts of it on our dealings on cartels. So that would be a second national emergency. But in that case it's already in place. And what we really want to do is simple. It's not like it is complicated. It's very simple. We want to stop drugs from coming into our country. We want to stop criminals and gangs from coming into our country. Nobody has done the job that we have ever done. I mean nobody has done the job that we've done on the border.

And in a way, what I did by creating such a great economy—and if the opposing party got in, this economy would be down the tubes, you know, I hear a lot of people say, "Oh well, but maybe the previous administration ..."—let me tell you, the previous administration, it was heading south and it was going fast. We would have been down the tubes. The regulations were strangling our country, unnecessary regulations. By creating such a strong economy, you just look at your televisions and see what is going on today, it's through the roof. What happens is more people want to come.

What the almighty fuck? If this rambling nonsense is what FBI's former deputy director Andrew McCabe experienced on the phone and in person, you can understand why he would have been wiggling out about this person's capacity to perform his Article II duties.

But this isn't the first time Trump has spoken and acted this way. One only needs to revisit

journalist Daniel Dale's so-patient coverage of Trump including his live tweeting and dissecting each of Trump's public speeches. (I don't know how Dale does it, though it may be his tolerance is bolstered by his Canadian citizenship and working for the Toronto Star.)

Not only is Trump's presidency questionably legitimate, not only is the man an inveterate liar and an unapologetic freeloader milking the presidency for profit, he is mentally incompetent. He's unable to string together a complete sentence if more than four words long.

His declaration of a national emergency is all the more untenable. Though lawsuits have already been filed – including Public Citizen on behalf of landowners and the ACLU – we can't hope that the courts will see the declaration as unsustainable under law. We have to make it clear to Congress they must do their jobs and ensure the emergency is unapproved.

Representatives Joaquin Castro and Jerry Nadler are drafting a joint resolution to this end; though it's expected to pass the House, the GOP may bottleneck the resolution.

This is where we need to come in and make it clear the GOP cannot continue to fail its sworn obligations under the Constitution. The GOP's Class II senators in particular must be held to account and told they own this if they do not push back and disapprove the non-emergent emergency.

This is what the hollow men approve if they don't stop this insanity:



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just in — a source at the Trump International Golf Club in Palm Beach just texted me this photo taken a short time ago.

omelette bar:



9:55 AM - 16 Feb 2019

...Make it fast, make it urgent
Do it quick, do it urgent
Gotta rush, make it urgent
Want it quick
Urgent, urgent, emergency...

Just make your calls, leave voicemails;
Congressional switchboard number is (202)
224-3121. Do reassure Democratic representatives
and senators they have our support on
disapproval. Need a script? @Celeste_P has you
covered here.

This is an open thread.