

THREE THINGS: NUKE REBUKE

[NB: Note the byline, thanks! /~Rayne]

Looks like we need another open thread – here's three things we should discuss.

~ 3 ~

You've probably seen the story this week about the [rush to transfer nuclear technology to Saudi Arabia](#) revealed to the House Oversight Committee by whistleblowers.

What I want to know: when did we have a public debate about nuclear proliferation? The House Oversight Committee has [launched an investigation](#) but Congress knew Michael Flynn had been up to hijinks with nuclear proliferation more than a year ago which Jim White [wrote about here](#) in 2017.

Did the GOP-led 115th Congress just roll over and play dead throughout all of 2018, simply forgetting we had laws against nuclear proliferation? There was a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing about our own weapons last April – what about proliferation abroad?

Why are we trying to denuclearize North Korea at the same time Trump administration officials are rushing to transfer nuclear technology to KSA?

What ensures KSA will use this technology for its own electricity generation instead of selling it or trading it to an entity hostile to U.S. interests?

What's to keep NK from claiming they've denuclearized and then acquiring U.S. nuclear technology?

~ 2 ~

Speaking of North Korea, why is special envoy Stephen Biegun [not on the same page](#) with John Bolton?

Jesus Christ, don't make me side with Bolton but what the hell is going on that Biegun is more worried about producing some flimsy pretense of a win for Trump at the expense of real progress?

Especially since [Russia is negotiating with NK](#) on nuclear technology transfer.

~ 1 ~

Has the Trump administration done anything at all to prepare for a no-deal hard Brexit? At this rate thanks to Theresa May's [hacktacular negotiations](#) (or lack thereof), relations between the UK and EU will simply end

Which means the UK will be unable to import goods and clear them through customs on a timely basis, posing a realistic threat of a humanitarian crisis.

Has the U.S. State Department, led by Mike Pompeo, ensured the U.S. will be able to continue trade with the UK on an uninterrupted basis? Are we prepared to aid our ally if they have critical supply disruptions?

~ 0 ~

I have the impression our foreign and nuclear policies are utterly trashed.

This is a open thread.