

DISPATCH FROM THE WAR ON COVID-19 [UPDATE-1]

*[Check the byline, thanks. Update at the bottom.
/ ~Rayne]*

If you're a regular here you know I don't like to share stuff from Fox or affiliates. But local station Fox5NY picked up and republished a video online I haven't been able to capture elsewhere. It's extremely important.

She isn't the only nurse we've heard from here in Michigan about the "war zone" in which they now work. I shared a link earlier today in a previous post; I'll share it as an embed here so you can hear these health care workers back to back.



[View this post on Instagram](#)



Dear Family, Friends and Complete Strangers, Please STAY HOME!! Love, an ER Nurse

A post shared by Mary Macdonald (@marymac019) on Mar 23, 2020 at 7:32pm PDT

Now, a word to Sen. Lindsey Graham who denigrated nurses because of the possibility they may collect \$24 an hour on unemployment.

Senator Graham:

Nurses are degreed professionals who not unlike lawyers must pass a state licensing test and earn continuing education credits on top of their regular job. The ICU nurse has had very specific training as has the ER nurse; both have likely had to add more training to cross over to do the jobs they've performed this week.

They are our foot soldiers in the war on COVID-19. We will not have enough of these soldiers because they will get sick from a combination of exposure to high viral loads, especially when they don't have adequate protection, and from the heightened, sustained stress of this pandemic war.

They do not deserve your disrespect. These professionals will treat every patient as someone worthy of their efforts. They will do their level best to save whomever they can provided they have the resources. The least you can do is treat them with the same respect they'd treat you as a patient. For all you know you will find yourself sick with this virus and you'll be on the business end of one of these professionals who are in such high demand there won't be any unemployed

nurses in this country for more than a year.

Get over yourself, Graham. And stop taking social cues from that rude, nasty cretin in White House. Your friend McCain would be ashamed of you if he were still alive.

To whoever is bashing Governor Whitmer about her performance, a word:

Just like these health care workers who are pleading for supplies, so has Whitmer pleaded for assistance. Her constituents in the state of Michigan deserve all the services they've funded their federal government to provide. They are already getting what the state of Michigan can provide because Whitmer is ensuring this happens.

You cannot hide the fact that the federal reserve for supplies should have been ordering and collecting materials in January after China told WHO that a novel coronavirus posed a pandemic risk. Attacking Whitmer won't change the fact that it is the federal government, directed ultimately by the president, which was responsible for detecting pandemic risk and responding proactively to it, informing states of the risk as early as possible.

That didn't happen and now governors like Whitmer are forced to do both the job their states have elected them to do and more, taking responsibilities which belong to federal agencies, while Trump denies states the **Honest Services** they are entitled to because he has not received some sign of obeisance.

To use an aphorism well-known former Michigander Lee Iacocca enjoyed, "Lead, follow, or get out of the way." Bashing Governor Whitmer is none of those

things. Pick one of the three.

To everyone else: pay heed to what these health care workers are saying. Overall mortality will go up, not just from COVID-19, because first responders will be overwhelmed by both the demands this virus places on our systems, and by illness and death as their own ranks are infected and sickened. Stay home. Keep your distance. Heighten your hygiene practices to reduce risk of infection. Wash your hands. Help your loved ones, friends, community as best you can.

To health care workers and all other first responders: do the best you can. That's all we can ask of you. If the best you can do is allow someone you cannot save to die in peace, so be it. We should have done more for you before this war began.

And someone should have told us all when that war started instead of lying to us until it was nearly too late.

UPDATE-1 – 7:00 P.M. ET –

I am suitably chastened by this video by a doctor at Emory:

[BREAKING NEWS]

This doctor identifies the mistake the frontliners are doing in handling #COVID19 – they must stay home!

You MUST watch.

pic.twitter.com/w0LrmezEh1

– Beni Rusani (@DrBeniRusani) March 28, 2020

YOU are the frontline, the foot soldiers. What you do during this period of necessary social distancing makes the difference counted in lives. We may have to be patient longer because we didn't start early enough, but our loved ones, friends, their futures depend on it.

And the lives of health care workers also rely on us. We've lost a number of nurses and doctors, people like these women in these videos. We can't afford to lose more.