

Donald's 4th of July: Sherman Tanks and Other Death Machines

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Once upon a time, the Fourth of July was about liberty and the Declaration of Independence. Now it's about grilled burgers, beer, and fireworks made in China.

For President Trump, the upcoming "holiday" is about showing off the latest death merchant gizmos, including fighter jets and tanks.

Trump said this week's [#July4th](#) celebration will feature brand new tanks and "the best fighter jets in the world."

"Gotta be pretty careful with the tanks because the roads have a tendency not to like to carry heavy tanks so we have to put them in certain areas," he said pic.twitter.com/O3xO6R2JcG

— POLITICO (@politico) [July 1, 2019](#)

Did you catch that? Trump believes the death merchants still crank out Sherman tanks. The US has not produced Sherman tanks since WWII.

As for the "best fighter jets in the world," is it possible the Donald is talking about the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter? This puppy came in 100% over budget, something the stockholders at Lockheed Martin undoubtedly celebrated.

In response to the embarrassing fact the F-35 dog don't hunt, in 2012 the Pentagon dumped an additional \$450 million into the project.

Russia's Sukhoi Su-57 cost an estimated \$10 billion to research, develop, and prepare for production. Believe it or not, the F-35 cost \$1.5 trillion to get off the drawing board. It is the most expensive weapons program in history.

The Donald's militarized Fourth of July might be considered part of his sales pitch for the MIC (Military Industrial Complex). He would like to roll tanks—maybe including an ancient Sherman tank or two—down Pennsylvania Avenue, but it's out of the question, as he noted in the above video.

Thomas Jefferson, the principal author of the Declaration of Independence, warned about keeping "instruments on foot" and said one such "instrument is a standing army."

But then, far too many Americans are at a complete loss when it comes to the foundational principles of America, formerly and briefly a constitutional republic.

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