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# The Solari Report

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## The Emerging Multipolar World Why Syria? with The Saker



Catherine Austin Fitts



The Saker



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**C. Austin Fitts:** Ladies and gentlemen, it's always a privilege to welcome back The Saker for our quarterly Emerging Multipolar World. There is a great deal to talk about and he's been very busy and so has his website. It's fabulous. If you haven't visited, you will want to at The Vineyard of The Saker, and he has a new book and a prior book, both of which are excellent and shed tremendous understanding and light on what is going on. I can't recommend them enough to you.

We discussed his book the last time and you can listen to that in the archives. Of course, today we have the drumbeats of war.

Saker, welcome to The Solari Report and thank you for taking time from an explosive website and a very busy schedule.

**The Saker:** Thank you for having me. It is always a pleasure.

**Fitts:** How is the book doing?

**The Saker:** The book is doing fine. It's going at a steady pace, so I'm very happy about the results.



**Fitts:** There is a review on Solari, but why don't you give us two minutes and tell us about the book and how we find it.

**The Saker:** The easiest way is to go to my blog at [www.TheSaker.is](http://www.TheSaker.is), which stands for Iceland. On the right-hand side, you have the column where you can order my book. The first one is now free for downloads, and you can order the second one, *The Essential Saker II*.

**Fitts:** The multipolar world is complex; it's not simple. It brings remarkable insight and understanding.

Okay, 'Drumbeats of War'. The title of our discussion this quarter is 'Why Syria?' We see severe multiple personality disorders going on between what the United States says it's doing and what it is really doing. Bring us up to date. What has the United States been up to in Syria for the last two or three months?

**The Saker:** I think that what we need to do to understand that situation is to separate two realms completely. One is the realm of what is actually happening in Syria, and a totally separate realm is what is being presented to the public – primarily the US public, but generally the public in the West. These things don't even overlap at this point in time.

What we have on one hand – I will start with the latter, the theoretical issue – is disagreements. We are told that the Western governments are upset by the following: 1) That there is ISIS or Al Qaeda in Syria. 2) That there is a dictator there who is ruthless and kills his own people. What we are trying to achieve ('we' being the collective West) is a negotiated settlement and a destruction of the terrorists.



I don't know if anybody can actually take that kind of nonsense seriously. When was the last time that the West had objections to Arabs killing Arabs? I don't recall any other case. What about Muslims killing Muslims? I don't recall any other case. As for the chemical accusations, we had exactly the same ones with Saddam Hussein and his stock of weapons, and we even had that in Syria a couple of years ago.

All of this is a complete façade, and it is actually poorly maintained. It's important to the fact that it's not credible and is actually crucial for what is really happening. I will come to that shortly. Now it's even strengthened by another meme or paradox that is being offered to our minds: 'The Russians are basically chemical-using evil men. They used chemicals on Skripal. Now they're at least not disagreeing with Assad using them on his own innocent people, or maybe even shipping them. Maybe there is collusion. We are really, really upset about that'. That is all absolute nonsense that has no bearing at all in reality.

What is happening in reality is that the United States has completely lost control of the Middle East. That is the first thing to understand, and I would argue they have lost control by the absence of any kind of foreign policy, and that began under Obama. It certainly continues today. It's different in its presentation, but what we have is a completely dysfunctional President. Obama couldn't do it, and Trump doesn't do it today.

Secondly, a number of gross miscalculations by the United States made things worse. The biggest one of all is the first one, which was the invasion of Iraq, which was really an insane thing to do considering the impact that had upon the Iranian influence of the Middle East, but there were other miscalculations.



The US is actually losing control of the situation, whereas the Russians have moved in, and they have moved in very, very successfully with a small force.

Obama predicted that the Russian economy would be in shreds. He said that if the Russians moved militarily into Syria, there would be body bags. None of that happened. Actually, the small Russian task force in Syria made the crucial difference with the help of Iran, which is essential.

They turned the course of the civil war. They essentially allowed the government of Syria to liberate at least most of the urban centers of Syria, and things are not going well at all for the United States. But the problem is not even Syria; the problem – and it is very, very clear in Western statements – is the UK Defense Minister, in a moment of frustration, said that Russia should, “Shut up and go away.” Then we had a recent statement, which I think was from Mattis, but I’m not sure. It was either Trump, Mattis, or one of them said, “We have a ‘deconfliction line’ with Russia. We talk to them, but they don’t get to veto what we are doing.”

The reality, of course, is that is what is actually at stake. Does Russia – and not just Russia, but anybody on the planet – get to veto the omnipotence of the world hegemony? That is what is at the core of it. That is what is so scary.

The US doesn’t really have any vital interest in Syria. Israel does, but unless you assume that the US had a God-given mission to do whatever the Israelis tell them, the US has lost Iraq and Afghanistan already. Syria and Libya are in the same process. Frankly, the US can afford that.



What the US doesn't want to accept – and I'm not talking about the country's people, but the ruling elites in the West – is that they don't get to do whatever they want. This is essentially what this is all about. This is, for instance, why the Skripal false flag in England is so important.

Yes, it is ridiculous. Yes, they have changed their story many times about the agent that was supposed to be a biological warfare agent that kills with a microgram on the skin but doesn't kill three people who were exposed. It was first on the air vents, and then on the bench, and then on the doorknob, and then with buckwheat imported. All of that makes absolutely no sense, and they are still continuing. But it doesn't matter and that is the beauty of it.

The leaders of Europe are declaring that their honor is solidarity. It was loyalty in World War II, and now they say that it is solidarity. That's their explanation, "We are in solidarity." With what? What a nonsensical narrative!

That is the key thing. That means forget about international law, forget about logic, forget about facts, forget about anything; the only thing that is at stake right now is: Does the hegemony get to do whatever it wants worldwide? Russia says, "No." Other countries say, "No," but they are less exposed than Russia.

The outcome is very, very uncertain, and I'm very afraid about the latest rather pathetic strike that Trump ordered. Yes, the strike was pathetic, but Trump declared it a 'perfect strike'. So, you see that facts don't matter; it's only the rhetoric.



One of two things is going to happen: Either the facts will eventually catch up and become undeniable – for instance, military defeat for the so-called ‘coalition’ in Syria. At that point, the leaders of the West will be infuriated. Or, they will have to back down and accept reality for what it is – that they cannot control the entire planet – but I don’t think that they are willing to accept that.

**Fitts:** Let me suggest what I think their strategy is. The West is now operating on a model which is much clearer than it was 20 years ago. It’s not that it’s changed, but it’s become much clearer. Their economic model depends on warfare and it depends on organized crime, but it’s a flow model. The Bretton Woods model depends on controlling the flow. As long as they can control the flow, they can print the currency. As long as they can print the currency, price is no object. In other words, they can debase the planet to get more. They can just print it off their printers.

So, they will do anything to maintain that power – the power to basically stick the bill for whatever they do to the entire planet. I think that is what this is about: To maintain that power, you have to control the flow.

If you look at the economics globally – because I think at the end of the day this is a currency and economic war – Asia is converging regarding per capita income, and Europe is the biggest market. If you have Asia rising and the per capita income is rising, and then connecting directly to the land mass instead of through the seas to Europe, and if the US gets cut out, then how are they going to maintain the flow? How are they going to maintain the currency?



The thing to understand about their military strategy is that they don't need to win; they don't need to be efficient, but they do need to be able to economically bankrupt their competitors. I think that this is about Iran and Russia not being able to satisfy China's need for energy in a way that removes America from controlling the flow in the middle.

What they are trying to do with the combination of the sanctions and everything is collapse Russia and Iran economically before Russia and Iran make China so powerful that they lose control of the flow model and the ability to print the currency. That's what it appears to me.

**The Saker:** Yes, but the ability to do that is predicate on a number of assumptions which are just not applicable today. The first one is the usual narrative that Reagan and the West outspent the Soviet Union, which triggered its collapse. That is good political science, but it's actually bad factual analysis.

Right now, the US does have a military budget that is actually bigger than the rest of the planet combined, but it doesn't result in a useful military machine. That is the key thing to understand.

I've said it many, many times already. Specifically, in the Middle East, and more specifically, in Syria, the US-Israel-Saudi Arabia coalition, which is what matters (and you can add the Brit's and the French to it if you want) does not have boots on the ground. They do not have that capability. These countries simply do not have ground forces capable of actually operating against a meaningful opponent.



The fallback option wants to use high technology – to use air strikes, to use special ops embedded with friendly insurgence. That is not working anymore either. Even more alarming right now, Russia has been proven rather conclusively that Syria had NT technologies such as a long-distance cruise missile in their defense systems. I would argue, actually, that they also had air superiority fighters and submarines while we're discussing it.

For all these reasons, the notion to make the entire planet pay for the American printing press is predicated on having the ability to honor what it was – the sadness to beat up a small country every couple of years or so to send a message to the others. The problem is that there are no candidates for that left.

The countries who represent a challenge to the United States' hegemony today are all capable of fighting back. So, if you want, you can see that the dollar was backed by gold, then by oil, then by aircraft carriers. Now it's backed by nothing. That is a big danger for the entire structure of the hegemony worldwide.

**Fitts:** I used to think it was a problem that the military wasn't efficient. We have \$21 trillion missing from DOD and HUD. There is \$20 trillion missing from DOD since fiscal 1998.

I struggled with this when I litigated against the Federal government. I couldn't figure out why they would spend what I estimated to be \$45 million to fight with me for 11 years. It just seemed unbelievably wasteful. Finally, I realized that control was the biggest job program.



If you look at the military budget, much of it in this country is designed to buy political support and to get everybody into the model, not to produce a military – let alone an efficient military.

**The Saker:** I think the main goal is to actually produce revenue for the corrupt people running the system. I completely agree. From that point of view, the perfect example would be the F-35, which they had considered a stunning success. It's a lame, pathetic, over-engineered piece of technology. Concerning the financial windfall, it's fantastic.

The system is predicate on being able to frighten, and if need be, beat up. The entire Military-Industrial Complex is completely dysfunctional. Thus, it does not produce an instrument that would allow it to continue that policy. Regarding Russia, 10% of the American military budget is producing equal or better – mostly better and much better – weapons systems and the training of the personnel. It's infinitely a higher country to the roaring repeated mantras of American politicians about 'the best fighting force in history' and 'the best soldiers' and 'the best trained'. That is absolutely utter nonsense. If you actually look at what happens when there is any kind of a position, you rapidly see that these myths crumble.

**Fitts:** I really want to believe you are right about that. Here is my concern. I've spent the last 20 years tracking money disappearing from the Department of Defense, and I've concluded that whatever is going on is very, very different than what is published or publicly known.



Fundamentally, in March and April we have a competition between Putin and Trump – Putin’s speech before the assembly and right before the election, and then Trump in San Diego to the military. They were talking about their ‘new powerful weapons’ and with Trump, of course, very mysterious, intimidating, and magical space weaponry.

What this comes down to is technology and advances in the application of technology to weaponry, which are all classified. Whatever Putin and Trump said, no one knows what cards are in their hands in terms of weaponry. That’s my question: What is going on with the black budget technology, and what is happening in space? What does it do to this equation? The answer is, “I have no idea.”

**The Saker:** First of all, most of what Putin spoke about was actually known to military specialists in the West – not in details- but the general outline was known.

Secondly, I do not think that it was a message intended to US leaders and analysts because, for them, even if Russia did not have these new weapon systems, they still know that even the older generation ‘strategic’ nuclear forces that existed for the past 10, 20, or 30 years, both sides can inflict unacceptable damage on each other.

If you see that, you then realize that Putin was not really addressing those who were aware of that; he was addressing those who were not aware of that, particularly those in the West who delude themselves that by deploying an active ballistic missile system, somehow the West could protect itself from a retaliatory strike.



Without those weapons, I'm still absolutely convinced – and I don't think anybody ever challenged that – that even without those weapons, the retaliatory strike could inflict unacceptable damage on the US, just as the US could inflict unacceptable damage on Russia.

The important thing here is to change the mindset of the people to make them understand that should a war start, they will be affected. No magical weapons system will show up. That is one problem with the notion that there are secret technologies out there. Yes, there are, but as soon as you integrate them into a functional weapons system, it's very hard or impossible to hide it because you have to test it. Much of the testing, even in labs, doesn't provide you with what you need. What you really need is to test it out on a battlefield situation, which you do incrementally. That kind of testing is impossible to conceal. So, I don't really believe that there are many secret technologies and weapon systems on either side.

There are plenty of technologies being worked on. They are integrated into systems which are on the development level in a laboratory, but they haven't even reached operation capability], much less the ability to be deployed on a battlefield.

So, we are very much still left in the real world with what we had ten or fifteen years ago. Remember that I said at the beginning that you have to completely separate the realm of what really is happening with this 'la-la land' in which the Western public opinion is kept.



Putin attempted to explain to the Western public opinion and politicians, who are not experts at these things, that they are quite mistaken if they think their ABM system is going to prevent us from being out if they attack us. I think that was the intended message of this, just the same way that the use of long-range cruise missiles was a way to indicate to the West – not that the specialists already knew that, but everybody else did.

Russia has a much longer reach and more powerful missiles than the West currently has. That has tried to turn over what I think is a very dangerous process, which is that we are headed for war. People here in the West think they are completely safe, that this is not going to happen, and so they don't discuss it.

It's not at all like the Cuban Missile Crisis where everybody was 'freaking out' and jumping under tables with the 'duck and cover' and, "Oh my God! Will humanity end?" Now nobody discusses it, and the situation is far more dangerous.

So, what the Russians are reduced to doing is threatening now.

**Fitts:** I don't think that anybody discusses it. In other words, if you look at what is fantastic about the West's weapons, in my opinion, is their success at mind control.

Mind control is a complex topic; it's not one thing. It ranges all the way from media and propaganda to entrainment. I think if you look at the technological mind control operation that has been arrayed, part of the problem with the Western establishment is that they have had too much success with it, and it's made them overconfident, and that has made them stupid.



**The Saker:** I agree with that, except I don't think they have had much success. I think it's even worse than that. They've covered up their failures, and they've gotten away with it. They are politically successful in spite of their failures. That is even worse.

I don't think the military technology has been successful at all.

**Fitts:** Oh, I do. I think that the entrainment technology has been wildly successful. It has had a dramatic impact.

**The Saker:** I don't know anything about that, and I'm not confident in that.

**Fitts:** It's had a dramatic effect on the behavior and the mentality of the American people.

**The Saker:** I think buzz words such as 'stealth' or 'network-centric warfare' or 'space weapons' and words like that, if that is part of mind control, then yes. But there is really nothing behind that, at least as far as I'm aware of.

That kind of mind control works until you get to the battlefield where somebody actually fights back, and then all of that instantly collapses.

**Fitts:** I agree that the mind control ultimately has to come up against the concrete, and I have seen it. If you consider the entrainment that has been rolled out since I was on Wall Street in the 1980's. In 1984 I gave away my TV. Except for a brief period when I worked in the Administration, I never had a TV again because I heard two billionaires talking about the entrainment that was going to be implemented on TV, and it scared me to death.



One of the most popular interviews on *The Solari Report* was with Adam Trombly, who is a scientist studying the entrainment that is on smartphones, on TV, and on the media. It's very, very significant.

I think part of the arrogance of the US establishment is that they have been so successful. If you can basically steal through the bailouts the equivalent of 100% of the value of our pension fund -our pension funds are \$25 trillion and the bailouts were approximately \$24 to \$27 trillion.

\$20 trillion is missing from HUD and DOD. The US government has never produced audited financial statements. In the meantime, people are being economically drained. The general population is having done to them what the Russians are having done to them. We're struggling and we're not doing as good of a job as the Russians have.

They've gotten away with all of it. My history with the US establishment, and I'm nowhere near as involved with them as I used to be. Throughout the 1960's, 1970's, and the 1980's they couldn't believe that they could get away with it. The problem is now you've reached a point where their hubris is enormous.

But I will tell you that behind the scenes, the covert operations and the targeting against people who do things like what I do is very, very significant. If you look at the investment that they put into control and mind control and the covert investment, it is very, very extraordinary. Unfortunately, so far, what I see is that it's working.



It's working, not because the American people are stupid and don't care; they're struggling to figure out what they do. The clear message to them is between voting corruption and financial fraud and the corruption in the court system, etc. They're struggling to find a way to have any impact. They have essentially no vote.

**The Saker:** I completely agree with that. It's not because they're stupid, but because there are no options. The system is literally dictatorial in a sense. There is no absolute people power or representation, and people are being brainwashed. Certainly the media does a superb job of keeping people ignorant and stupid. I completely agree with that.

The problem is I'm afraid that events on the ground will make it impossible – even for the Western media – to cover up the reality of failure. At that point, I am not convinced the leaders of the Anglo-Zionist Empire would be willing to settle for being a great power in a multilateral world ruled by the rule of law. I'm afraid that if they fail militarily, and I think they will and are, they will fall back on the last thing that will be left in their arsenal, which is nuclear weapons.

Regardless of how dysfunctional the US military is, and regardless of how corrupt the Military-Industrial Complex is, and regardless of how poorly trained and commanded American forces are, the nuclear capabilities of the US nuclear triad are still functional. It is functional enough, for sure, to trigger World War III. That's all it takes, and I'm afraid that is their last tool.

**Fitts:** But I don't think that their strategy is to win militarily; I think their strategy is to win economically. So, what they want to do is outspend and outlast Iran and Syria, and Russia and Syria, to the point where the Russians and the Iranians collapse economically or come into submission.



I think their goal is not to win militarily. I think their goal is to win economically through overwhelming military expense.

**The Saker:** I understand, but the problem is that this strategy has now very clearly failed. Both Russia and Iran are countries which have not and will not be destroyed or put to their knees economically. We have an even better case, which I think is the DPRK.

Putin clearly said that. He said, “They are willing to eat grass if needed, but they will not give up on their nuclear weapons.”

I think that is the reality this logic is faced against. It doesn't work anymore. The Russians and the Iranians are forcing the US, by not being crushable economically, to do with what they have done with other adversaries who were resisting them in the past. They either use terrorism or actual military intervention and bombing. That's where they are headed for defeat.

I agree with you that the Western elites don't want a nuclear war. They don't even want a direct confrontation militarily with Russia. The problem is when everything else fails, that is what they are left with in their toolkit. They're not just going to go, “Okay, I guess our time is over.” That is where I see the danger.

**Fitts:** I think you are exactly right on this. They thought that Russia and Iran would collapse by now. If you look at their writings, they thought the collapse would come, and it hasn't come. Something else has happened.

It appears that their strategy is: “Okay, then it's a matter of time. We just need to keep this up longer”.



**The Saker:** Yes, but that also doesn't work. You have the example of Cuba, and the best one that I can think of is the DPRK.

Sanctions and mismanagement internally have had a dramatic impact, but society is still resisting. The country still has what it takes to fight back. Therefore, that, I believe, is the perfect symbol. They are not going to achieve that with any of these countries. It's just not going to happen.

**Fitts:** It's really interesting. Did you see Lavrov's interview on the BBC?

**The Saker:** Yes, I did.

**Fitts:** The same thing happened to me when I saw what happened with the fires in California. It's the second time in my life I've gotten nauseous looking at world events.

Lavrov struck me as extremely competent, very intelligent, and arguing for the rule of law.

**The Saker:** I 100% agree with you.

**Fitts:** The Anglo-American Alliance felt like a 'bucket of slime'.



**The Saker:** Yes, but it's worse than that because, with the Anglo-Americans, look at Macron? He is pathetic, I mean, he is truly pathetic. And look at the rest of the Security Council, with the exception of Bolivia. They basically refuse to condemn the US for breaking UN Security Council rules.

It's not only the Anglo-Americans; the entire West is just 'slime', and there is absolute, total moral corruption with hypocrisy elevated to stratospheric heights. That is what is so scary. Now facts don't matter, decency doesn't matter, logic doesn't matter, and even the rule of law – which is one of the greatest intellectual achievements of the Western civilization – is now 'flushed down the toilet' in ridiculous fashion, and nobody cares. That is what alarms me.

**Fitts:** Why do you say that nobody cares?

**The Saker:** Because I see 200,000 people going to Washington DC to protest the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, which is an achievement in civilizational terms, and now we are risking 100,000 to 200 million people dead in 48 hours, and I don't see demonstrations in Washington DC. I get individuals who write to me. Some people do care, but the general public has been so 'zombified' that they are not realizing how dangerous the situation is right now.

We could have had a nuclear war if those strikes in Syria had happened differently. We could not have a USA and Russia as of today. We were that close a short time ago.

**Fitts:** That's interesting. I would not have said we were that close recently. That would have been my guess, but we were certainly on the way there.



**The Saker:** I was driving through the Ocala National Forest when I received a telephone call from a friend who told me, “Trump has just gone on national TV and has announced that he is going to punish Russia and Syria.”

I said, “Oh my God!” What I visualized at that moment was a strike on the main Crimean air base. The scenario is just so simple and I will restate it. Strikes or attempted strikes on Russian forces would result in Russian forces shooting back, and shooting, of course, the carriers. At that point, just look at Trump with his big red button and all of his rhetoric about a perfect strike. Do you really think he would accept that there would be actually losses impossible to conceal in the US armed forces?

He would have to escalate. Just bear with me for a simple couple of steps. He would have to then retaliate- the Russian contingent in Syria is small. It’s technologically superior but just by numbers sent from NATO, they can overwhelm them. The only help for them can come from Russia, which means that the next strikes would be cruise missile strikes from the Black Sea, the Caspian Flotilla, and the Russian Air Force. Where do you think Trump will strike back to punish the Russians for that? On Russia’s national territory.

**Fitts:** First, we see a tweet from Trump two or three weeks ago saying that ISIS is defeated and it is time to leave Syria. So, he is saying, “I want to get out of Syria.” Then the next thing you know, we have a fake chemical attack, and Trump being cornered into having to look like he is doing something about it.



If you listen to the discussion with Lavrov, what I heard – and I’m guessing – is that the military of Russia and the United States got together and said, “Okay, we have to look like we have retaliation. What can we bomb that won’t hurt anything?” The whole thing was like a coordinated, staged chemical attack, and then we had a staged retaliation that was specifically designed to not make things worse for the Russians, and the complete staged reality had to make it.

**The Saker:** I think that is exactly what happened. I don’t know if Mattis deserves the credit that some people give him, but clearly, with the US strike, the Americans went out of their way to not appear to be striking Russian forces, or Iranian forces for that matter-which is always forgotten- or even Syrian government facilities that are of consequence.

**Fitts:** If you look at what was happening coming up to that moment that they had this staged, it’s almost like a false flag retaliation.

**The Saker:** Yes and no, because there was an attempt to hit the Syrian Air Force. So, it was not that benign.

I agree with you that there was an effort made by the US side, but look at the outcome. The outcome is really pathetic. The outcome is that the majority of missiles were very successfully intercepted, and crucially not by the Russians.

So strictly speaking, when the Americans say, “We saw no activity from the Russians; they didn’t shoot down any of our missiles,” it is technically true because that was done by the Syrians. He can speak of a perfect outcome, but the outcome is pathetic. That is the problem. It’s somewhat seeping into the consciousness of most people but I don’t think that most people buy this. “Not a single missile was hit,” when there is cell phone video from Damascus showing how those missiles are actually shot out of the sky.



So how are we not going to escalate after that? Tell me how.

**Fitts:** Let me bring up one other thing. I know we don't want to talk about the Administration, but I think that if you look at the events occurring between Trump saying, "Great! Time to leave Syria," and all this 'phony-baloney stuff', if you look at the attempts to squeeze Trump or his family, they have been off the charts. The question is: If you look at those kinds of squeezes over the last 20 years, those kinds of squeezes happen, and then suddenly after the American politician gets squeezed, something happens that is pro-Israel.

The reality is, I think at this point, Israel is using criminal means to affect and control American politicians and the Congress and lobby America. It has a role in this which is really very criminal and very venal and very, very dangerous. You're talking about essentially, the ability to blackmail, manipulate, and control people who have their finger on the nuclear button.

**The Saker:** I completely agree with that. You mentioned Israel but let me mention one other thing just to put a rain on the parade of the withdrawal. I remind you that Israel announced a withdrawal from Gaza and then executed it, and look at what kind of 'withdrawal' it is. So, when Trump says, "We are withdrawing from Syria," it absolutely does not mean that we're leaving Syria alone and we are done with it. Plus, it contradicts the plans of breaking up Syria in several parts. It contradicts the Israeli desire to have a Kurdistan of the North.

I'm not a psychiatrist or a psychologist, but I think that Trump has no idea what he is saying. He is saying one thing, and the opposite the following week. I'm at the point where I've stopped listening to him entirely. I don't care what he tweets next because I don't think it has any bearing on what is actually happening. That's really a statement to make because I think that he is irrelevant in the equation right now.<sup>22</sup>



**Fitts:** For a variety of reasons, I would say that America is going mad. Part of it is when you can print as much money as you want to do whatever you want, and there is no check and balance that brings things back to what is productive or what is healthy, you can get far off track. That is what we are watching. We are watching a society that will do anything to keep the power to print, and it's going mad.

**The Saker:** I completely agree with that. The scary thing for me is that as mad as this society is, it still has a functional nuclear triad.

**Fitts:** I would say that it has a nuclear triad and it has plenty of other dangerous weapons as well. That makes the situation extremely dangerous because it is clear that the economic model is now dependent on operating outside the law. So, you have a criminal enterprise and it's exactly what happened in 2001.

In 2001 I went to Congress to try to get my company paid. The government owed us money, and I was meeting with the Chief of Staff to the Senate Chairman of the HUD Appropriation sub-committee. She said, "What do you think is going on at HUD?"

I was trying to be discrete because it was somebody I didn't know. I said, "I don't know. What do you think is going on at HUD?"

She looked me straight in the eye and said, "HUD is being run as a criminal enterprise."

I said, "I don't disagree, but what you need to know is that HUD is run on a matrix structure, and it's controlled by the Department of Justice, the Treasury, and the New York Fed member banks, and the big contractors."



At that time, Lockheed was the number one information systems and payment contractor.

Basically, the Department of Justice, Lockheed Martin, the Treasury, and the four or five biggest banks in New York controlled HUD. To run HUD as a criminal enterprise, they all had to work proactively intentionally to run HUD as a criminal enterprise. At that point, I had concluded that they had because I had been able to do the research and the due diligence to basically prove that to myself, and I've written about that.

Here is the reality: If Treasury and the Department of Justice and Lockheed Martin and the four big New York banks and the New York Fed are running what was, at that point, \$0.5 trillion of money in the Federal government as a criminal enterprise, then the entire 'damn' US government is a criminal enterprise.

**The Saker:** Exactly! I was about to say that. I absolutely believe you regarding what concerns HUD, and this goes for the Pentagon, the CIA, and the entire government. That is why the rule of law inside the country can be completely ignored – or outside as well. Guantanamo is a typical example of that.

One topic that I like is the way the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment is being deconstructed by means of regulation, which is a violation of law, and nobody really cares – the surveillance of American people.

**Fitts:** Please stop saying 'nobody'. I'm not 'nobody'. There are millions of people who care and who are doing a great deal; they just don't get on CNN, but that is a war that is being fought in the trenches.



I live in Tennessee. More than 50% of the active voters in Tennessee belong to the Tennessee Firearms Association. You should see the war on the ground here over that issue.

**The Saker:** I don't want to sidetrack our conversation into a 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment discussion, but here in Florida, we had one Republican man and a committee in the Florida parliament block something just on his own. They were supposed to have a vote with the majority of the people who the members of Congress voted for, and he blocked it by not even having a vote on it. There was no political outcry here outside a specific circle. I agree that some people are aware of it, but do they have an impact? Not really.

The same people are still sitting in positions of power, and they are still continuing to fundamentally break the law.

I agree that there are people opposing it and protesting, but I do not think they are achieving anything. Let me phrase it that way. It's not their fault, but it's the fault of the system that has evolved successfully to completely allow the function of the criminal enterprise.

**Fitts:** Here is the thing: The system is economically dependent on criminal enterprises. I don't know if you remember my red button story, but you have to be willing to push the red button and say, "No, I'm not going along with criminality." That means that financially you're going to have an implosion, but frankly, you need an implosion to get from something which is a downward spiral.



Our economy is like a body dependent on drugs; we are dependent on narcotics dollars, and war dollars, and all of these other things. We have to go – whether we go cold turkey or we are going to evolve off it – you have to kill that addiction to get back to the rule of law. The question is: Are we going to die of our addiction to dirty money, or are we going to have the rule of law? You can't have both. It's one or the other.

**The Saker:** I completely agree. I think that many people who voted for Trump really thought that he would be the one who would allow us to gradually change the system and not go cold turkey or crash and burn but operate on, what I call, a 'soft landing'.

**Fitts:** Right, but the pigs are out. The pigs don't want to survive an implosion and don't know how to manage an implosion.

Nobody knows how to get from here to there, and that is, frankly, why I think having an honest conversation about all this is so important. The only way that we can figure out how to get from here to there is to call out the problem for what it is, which the politicians – including Trump and the major media – are not going to do. So, somebody has to do it.

**The Saker:** I'm with you, and I think that both you and I are trying to do that, but we are fighting against multi-billion-dollar media holdings who can outspend us \$1 trillion to \$1.

**Fitts:** Right, but I'm a great believer that, ultimately, this planet and what happens will be determined spiritually. I think that this is spiritual warfare, and what we are up against is literally demonic.



**The Saker:** I completely agree with you.

**Fitts:** When I listened to Lavrov speak, I said, “I don’t know what team I’m on, but I’m on his team.”

**The Saker:** Do you know how many people wrote that to me? I think the real level of popularity of Putin in the US is very high. What I hear very often in Florida is, “This guy stands up for American values.”

**Fitts:** I remember during 2016 when driving around Memphis, Tennessee, I saw many signs saying, “Putin for President.”

**The Saker:** I’ve seen them too, and it’s true. I actually agree with that assessment. I think this is what is happening. We are actually having a Marxist notion. We are not having a geopolitical competition between two countries; I think we are having a class struggle between different classes of people, and one of these classes would be the transnational oligarchs – or the bankers, or financiers, or whatever you want to call them – who essentially got wealthy and ran the system during all these years versus the rest of mankind. I actually see that as a class struggle.

**Fitts:** Here is what is so interesting. I have two businesses. Since 2008, I have been an investment advisor, and I’m phasing that out to only do investment screens, but I’ve been dealing with individuals. In The Solari Report, I have readers and paid subscribers.



If you look at people who are reading and interacting – at least with me – they range from homeless people who communicate through the computer at the library, to people who are fantastically wealthy. All of them hate what is going on, all of them want the rule of law, all of them are prepared to push the red button, and it has nothing to do with class; it has to do with people who understand that price is useful, but it's not values. Values have to rule and control, or nothing has any meaning, and nothing has any value.

In other words, they are for the law, and they are for a fair fight, whether it's in the marketplace, or political, or whatever. They believe in freedom, and they want a human future. It has nothing to do with class or how much money they have; it has to do with fundamental intelligence and grounding in spiritual understanding. It's as if they are all connected to the divine intelligence and the other people are completely lost.

**The Saker:** I agree with you that class analysis and the notion of class consciousness can be exaggerated and end up meaning ridiculous things, such as that your income defines your political views, but I do think that there are classes in our societies that are with 'fuzzy borders'. Let me tell you why I came to that conclusion. What is happening today is clearly orchestrated, but I don't believe there is a boardroom where the chiefs of the conspiracy meet, make their plans, and then execute them.

I think that what is happening is they are people who have a stake – if you want collusion towards certain policies. I call these people a 'class'. It doesn't mean that it is the wealthy against the poor, but there are those whose entire worldview and consciousness is defined by their position in the hegemony that we are all suffering under.



**Fitts:** I totally agree.

**The Saker:** It is a different class, similar to what the Soviet Union had with the nomenklatura who formalized that class.

**Fitts:** It's similar to a corporate version of the criminal class.

**The Saker:** Yes, and I'm not really a Marxist. I'm saying that it's important to see that we have a collusion; not a conspiracy. If you look for the heads of the conspiracy, we won't find them. This doesn't prevent them from colluding very effectively.

**Fitts:** I think that you can find them in organic ways. Let me tell you a story. I was at the Aspen Institute for a conference last September, and I had an interaction with a person who is a very, very wealthy venture capitalist. He is from the software industry.

He looked at me with complete certainty and said, "Look, we can replace every job in America with software, robotics, and AI, and that is what we are going to do. It's destined. Get out of our way."

That is the thinking. In other words, it's the Karl Rove quote. "We have the technology to do whatever we want. We can print money, and we are going to do it. It doesn't matter what you think because your reality is no longer operating; you're just an observer".

**The Saker:** They will create the reality that we want.



**Fitts:** And we are prepared to liquidate the rest of you. In other words, they are prepared to liquidate the rest of humanity. I don't know if you heard Sean Parker say, "Look, I made money getting kids addicted to Facebook, and now I'm a billionaire, so I'm going to live to 165 in Silicon Valley."

He didn't discuss this, but Tucker Carlson said of him, "We are all going to get children's blood and give ourselves therapy and live to 165 years, and we can afford to do it because we got you all addicted and it worked. Ha ha."

**The Saker:** Here is the problem. That kind of messianic delusion is nothing new in the West. It has existed in the past. It often ended up with Russia having to burst their bubble and bring them back down to reality.

The problem is that nowadays the delusional folks – and I'm going back to that as my obsession right now – have a nuclear triad that can function. Hitler didn't have that. The Crusaders didn't have that. Napoleon didn't have that. These people have it. This person whom you met that said they were going to replace everybody with AI, his people – not him personally, but his group who are in solidarity with him – have a functional nuclear triad. How do we prevent them from destroying our planet now? I don't know.

**Fitts:** There is one way that I know.



I did a large study for the Annual Wrap Up on the state of our pension funds. If you look at who is financing this complete thing, it's our pension funds. We have \$25 trillion of money in our pension funds, and we are the biggest buyers of US Treasuries. So, this is how it works. The pension funds have bought trillions of dollars of Treasury, the money goes to the government, and if you look at government finances, it disappears out the back door.

Imagine that you are financing a company and you have a bond of that company, but the money is disappearing out the back door. The owners are taking it out the back door, so your company is empty.

The US government has become a vehicle to launder real money out of the pension funds and secure it into the corporate black budget infrastructure.

Under the law, the pension funds cannot permit that to happen. That is a violation of all sorts of fiduciary obligations. The minute that the pension funds say, "You know something? We aren't going to buy Treasuries anymore," the game is over.

**The Saker:** What would be the consequences of the people who would make that decision in the pension funds – for their careers, their families, etc.?



**Fitts:** If one of them did it, it would be the same thing that happened to me. They would be targeted, and poisoned, and harassed, and their car would be run off the road and they would get electronic harassment – all that type of thing. That is if only one person did it. But if they all did it over the country, if you had 1,000 do it or 2,000 do it – and they don't have to stop buying Treasuries; they just have to start asking questions.

**The Saker:** Correct.

**Fitts:** You need 1,000 to 2,000 people do it suddenly all over the place.

**The Saker:** And you believe that that could happen?

**Fitts:** I believe it could happen if enough people were willing to do it, but here is the thing. You have to look at the economics of this because we are waging an economic drain – not just against the global world and the Russians and the Syrians, but the economic warfare is against the US, too.

Let me give you an example: The net neutrality laws. The corporate infrastructure was trying to get two things done. One was to pull in the guns, and the other was to kill net neutrality. So, my question was: What is this about?

As soon as they killed net neutrality, my website got hacked. I published the pension fund study suggesting that maybe we ought to pull the plug through the pension funds, and my site got hacked. I was down, and suddenly AT&T is blocking everything.



In other words, all my subscribers who have AT&T and related AT&T products from the mergers' domains can't get emails from Solari. So, this has gone on now for two months. We have done all sorts of things. We moved our mailing server, and – bam! – the block moves. We've contacted senior people at AT&T. They've looked at their inner system, and say, "There's no block; you're clean as a whistle. There is no reason for a block."

I have to tell them, "Apparently you have a super-crypto block that you don't know about."

Finally, what I did was write two articles. One was a recommendation to our subscribers that they are going to have to move their email because we can't communicate with them if they are on an AT&T ISP, or if they have an AT&T email it appears there might be ISP connection problems. It's not as clear.

So that is all documented. Then I sat down with my attorneys and said, "I have 58 subscribers who have paid for The Solari Report and AT&T is not letting the information through, and they are not telling them. Is this not torturous interference, whether with me or with the subscribers?"

They said, "No. Now that they've torn up the net neutrality rules, if you look at what the FCC has done, this is all perfectly legal as long as they can justify it under their terms and conditions."



This is just the beginning. After the election, my prediction is that the telecommunications networks will be used to take the rest of small business income and suck it right up into the big corporations. It gets back to what the man in Aspen said to me when he said, “Between AI and software and robotics, we are going to suck up all of the income and all of the jobs.”

So net neutrality is designed to micromanage anybody’s knowledge or access at a very one-by-one level. That is what it looks like to me.

The second article that I wrote was on net neutrality and the fact that my Congressman, Marsha Blackburn, was the chair of the subcommittee that let this happen, as well as letting the ISP’s give away your web browsing history data.

What is interesting is that Trump won Tennessee by 26 points. Marsha Blackburn right now is down ten points in the polls. She has billboards all over her district talking about what she has done here. What is fascinating is that Oregon and Washington have now passed net neutrality bills, and there is a huge fight in the California legislature because they are trying to pass a net neutrality bill.

There is a big question mark. We are in the same position here as are the Russians. The American people are having the same fight that the Russians are having. What we are all trying to figure out is: How do we organize to support the rule of law across the board?



**The Saker:** I agree, we have the same enemy.

**Fitts:** Here is the problem: The financial dependency of the American people and the American allies on the criminal enterprise is enormous. So, you have to figure out, “How are we going to evolve? One household and one community at a time is our economic model.”

Can I take a moment and scare you to ‘death’?

**The Saker:** Please. I’m already there, but you are welcome to make it worse.

**Fitts:** I’ve been having a great war with numerous people in the independent media because they are all promoting what a great idea it would be to abrogate the debt or fire everyone in the government or dissolve the government and auction off the remaining assets. What they don’t understand is that they are promoting doing the ‘Rape of Russia’ here.

I think it’s either after the 2018 election or after the Presidential election, but they are organizing to say, “Hey, wouldn’t it be great if we dissolved the US government and auctioned off all the assets?”

It’s essentially the ‘Rape of Russia’ plan.

**The Saker:** Do you really see Congress passing a law dissolving the US Government?



**Fitts:** No, but I see a corporate infrastructure very hungry and desperate for more profits. I see a group of politicians desperate to get the capital gains they get when the corporate profits go up and their stock prices go up.

The Congress gets their political contributions from capital gains that result from real estate rising in value and the stock market rising in value that's driven by corporate profits. So, Congress has become a corporate profit delivery machine. That is part of what tearing up net neutrality is about. It's using surveillance and access to people's data and their flow to scarf up the small business income so that it now becomes corporate profits.

You have corporations around the world who are getting clocked. We all went global and made plenty of money in the emerging markets. Now they are coming back because local competition is killing them and the margins are shrinking. So, they need more profits in the US, and that is what the whole Marsha Blackburn fight is about. US politicians are making money delivering it to them.

Will they do these types of things? Yes, because we have used digital technology to re-engineer corporate functions, but all the re-engineering that we could have done to re-engineer government, we haven't done. The corporations are now coming in and using that as an excuse to say, "Government is not efficient. We can make it efficient. Just privatize it."

David Shulkin just resigned from the VA, warning that you have a group of 'ninnuts' running around proposing to privatize the VA in a way that will be horrible. But this is happening in every area.



Mark my words. Either after the coming election or after the Presidential election, they are going say, “Government is not efficient. Let’s bring in corporations. They can run the schools, they can run the military, and they can run this and that.”

To pay the corporations to do something, it will be more expensive, not less. What you can do is transfer large amounts of government land and real estate and assets at below market to keep the corporate game going, but you need to keep the taxes coming. So, you need the governmental function to work to boss people around and keep the taxes coming. That is where ‘the rubber is going to meet the road’.

I think that the ‘Rape of Russia’ is coming here.

**The Saker:** That could be because there are certain parallels. You didn’t use the word ‘voucherization’ but basically breaking up the government is what was happening in the 1990’s. The Treasury had people there that stayed, and the CIA was helping to completely steal the wealth from the country. It is absolutely true.

**Fitts:** Before we end, I want to say a few words about Ukraine. We talked about Syria, and the reality is that the same game is still being played out in Ukraine.



**The Saker:** Yes and no. In the Ukraine, at least, and this is not much of a consolation, but I don't see US forces directly involved in the coming war. Since US-NATO forces will not be directly involved, there is less of a risk leading to the eventual use of nuclear weapons. But will there be a war, and will it be bloody? Probably yes.

Everything is in place. They have been working on it for a long while. Never say never, but I would say that the probability of a Ukrainian offensive this summer is sky-high.

**Fitts:** And what would a Ukraine offensive look like?

**The Saker:** It would be massive and it depends on your working hypothesis. There are essentially two scenarios that are possible. The good one is that the Novorossiyan's are successful in their 3:1 or 7:1 advantage for them. They have better training, morale is infinitely better, and they have better coordination. They are a tough group. If they manage to stop the Ukrainians, the West will say, "Aha! Look, the Russians have intervened again!" Never mind the fact that it was done by the locals. They will say, "Look at the size of the Ukraine army. Are you telling us that just the Donbass by itself could win? That is impossible. The Russians have intervened," and all the other things that we've heard during the past years would be repeated at a higher pitch level.



There is a much scarier scenario. Let's say that the Ukrainians are successful and they actually manage to break through the Novorossiia defense. I don't think it's likely, but I don't think it's impossible. At that point, Russia would have no option but to intervene because the plan that the Ukrainians have is to do what the Croats did in the Serbian Krajina's or what the Albanian Kosovars did in Kosovo, which is occupy and ethnically cleanse. Russia cannot allow that.

This means that Russia would have to move in militarily. The war would stop very rapidly at that point because the Ukrainians wouldn't have a chance against Russian military, but think of the political consequences. For the first time, the Russians would really be there. They would actually say, "Yes, we are there. We intervened."

So, everything that has been alleged would become true overnight. That is the neocons' dream come true because NATO would find a justification. You know the rhetoric after that. If they intervened in Crimea and in the Donbass, next they are going to invade the Ukraine, attack the Baltic State, invade Poland, invade France, and go to Portugal. That is what we are going to be told, and NATO will be immediately back in power. The Europeans will forget the Brexit. The Anglo's will once again be in full control – and they are already, thanks to Macron – of continental Europe. It's going to actually create a very dangerous situation that will be to the West's benefit.

The scariest part of it all is that there is no risk for the Anglo-Zionist Empire to trigger that war. Ukrainians and Russians killing each other – who cares? It's the same as Arabs and Muslims. It's just 'cattle fodder'.



The human cost of such a war would be irrelevant to them. The political outcome is a win-win situation. That is what is so scary.

**Fitts:** Needless to say, it's going to be a long, hot summer. This is far from over, and if it escalates it could go very, very wrong. The situation is dangerous.

On a positive note, I do have to say how grateful I am to you for everything that you have done. I would never be able to understand what is happening over there without much more knowledge. The whole Eurasian world is a very complex world, and it involves many different cultures. The advantage of reading your website and then reading those two books is that I get much more information about a complex world and the cultures that I don't have access to otherwise.

I feel as though I am finally beginning to get my mind around what is happening there. Without your information, it would never have been possible.

**The Saker:** Thank you. You are very kind, and I owe that to all the many, many people who helped me throughout that and are still helping me.

**Fitts:** It shows you how many people really are interested in the rule of law and believe that the truth matters.

**The Saker:** Absolutely, yes there are.



**Fitts:** Before we go, do you have any last words on what is up for the next quarter?

**The Saker:** Just a big question mark: War or no war? If war, how big?

I am extremely pessimistic. I hope that we meet in the next quarter, and I hope that by some wisdom of Putin or by the grace of God things don't look as bleak as they look now. I really hope so.

**Fitts:** I hope so, too. Time for some prayer.

Saker, have a wonderful quarter. We look forward to talking to you next time and thank you for everything that you do. You are an enormous blessing to us and to the world.

**The Saker:** Thank you for your kind words. You are very kind to me.



## **MODIFICATION**

Transcripts are not always verbatim. Modifications are sometimes made to improve clarity, usefulness and readability, while staying true to the original intent.

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