

Twitter Thread by [emptywheel](#)

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Oh huh. Trump's defense isn't going to address the impeachment case (and seems to ignore his demands of Mike Pence again).

Michael Van der Veen pretending that 61 losses is normal.

And, again, note that he didn't address Trump's unconstitutional request of Mike Pence.

Van der Veen lies about who asked for recounts in 2016.

And lies about Hillary's claims about Russia.

Trump's video is made in the style of propaganda, taken out of context.

Van der Veen now trying to make much of tweets Trump didn't send until hours too late.

"There had never been mob-like behavior" at Trump's earlier rallies?

Has this guy ever met Corey Lewandowski?

So when Trump is prosecuted we should expect Van Der Veen to back a 20 year sentence for Trump?

Again, Van Der Veen is not addressing the actual case.

Van Der Veen is now blaming someone who's not the Commander in Chief from protecting the country.

And he's misrepresenting the requests from LE.

The press should use Van der Veen's invocation of known provocateur John Sullivan and his false claim he's Antifa to ask why his brother, James Sullivan, a guy with ties to Proud Boy who was coordinating with Rudy, hasn't been arrested.

Note: To the extent that this was planned by Trump, it is actually very damning. I've been wondering if Kash Patel planned to use his failure to respond to the riot by referring back to June. This suggests that's the case.

Cancel culture! Drink!

Trump's lawyer lies about how many people voted for Trump.

Can we agree that the use of word "unity" here is sickly fascist?

That's it! They're not going to address:

- 1) Anything before January 6
- 2) Anything involving Mike Pence
- 3) Why Trump didn't do anything ON January 6

There's your headline. They have no response to the facts.

Reminder: John Sullivan's brother James APPEARS to have been in direct contact with Rudy, and he set up that false flag Antifa attack then.

BREAKING: Trump's lawyers say they can't trust the integrity of Trump's tweets!

David Schoen now trying to start a false conspiracy theory about SEKURITY VIDEO WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

David Schoen making the case that Trump should be called as a witness.

Any bets on how many times Trump's people are going to replay these clips? I think this makes 3 now.

Congratulations to [@tedcruz](#), [@SenMikeLee](#), and [@LindseyGrahamSC](#) who have so little self-respect they think this is an appropriate way to treat their own body.

Folks, don't get distracted by this false equivalency.

Remember: they're playing this to avoid talking about why Trump ordered Mike Pence to do something unconstitutional, and spent 4 months setting up the riot.

Apparently Schoen doesn't think an insurrection is a dire threat.

Again, Schoen is comparing a lie about an inappropriate blow job to launching an insurrection and refusing to protect the country.

Schoen doesn't believe defending the country is a constitutional imperative.

Van der Veen:

Democrats hate Trump so I won't address all the Trump supporters who said that Trump incited a riot.

Van der Veen complaining that Dems didn't spend more time talking about 1A, but thus far no Trump lawyer has addressed the facts presented. Any of them.

Again, don't be gaslit by this: This is NOT the total of what Trump is being impeached for.

They're simply ignoring all the other things that aren't speech, or aren't legal speech. He ordered Pence to do something unconstitutional. He did nothing while the Capitol was attacked.

1:15 hour in and Trump's lawyers have not addressed any of the facts presented by the managers, save a blue check.

Is this the third or fourth playing of this?

Didn't this fella promise us precedent?

Also, has he addressed the unconstitutional demand Trump made of Mike Pence?

Finally!

1:31 in, we're at an argument.

"Just like Mr. Trump has done here."

Uh. Explain how it's on point? You're just gonna leave it there?

Does this dude know about Take Care clause?

Van der Veen: Trump's actions for an entire year leading up to his riot are irrelevant.

Van der Veen: But Raskin should be impeached for a single legal challenge.

Van der Veen is claiming the managers focused on Fight--that's false. That's what THEIR defense did. The Managers focused on far more.

Interesting defense strategy, showing Trump insulting Republicans.

Dear Senate Republicans: HIS DEFENSE IS TO CALL YOU WEAK.

Again: Trump's own defense cited Mike Pence's observation that that request, just now, was an unconstitutional request.

AGAIN: The impeachment managers didn't focus on fight. Trump's defense did. It's a distraction technique, from the other allegations which they're simply not addressing.

Congratulations, again, to [@tedcruz](#), [@SenMikeLee](#), and [@LindseyGrahamSC](#), who have such little self-respect they think this is a valid defense.

There are a slew of arguments that Trump's team hasn't addressed.

A key one, though is that he did nothing as the Capitol was attacked by terrorists.

<https://t.co/pSo4P2EV9a>

Remember: Van der Veen said the entire lead-up to the attack was irrelevant.

Now they're going to claim there was no lead-up.

We're to a pounding table stage.

They're back to claiming that Trump sent his rioters to talk primary challenges with MoCs.

Castor says he feels like he was under oath but he has accused the rioters of being leftists.

BREAKING: Castor emphasizes that Trump knew protestors were at the Capitol by 2:30 but did nothing ... but tweet.

BREAKING: Castor admits that the Commander in Chief did nothing to fend off terrorists.

Castor now calls the Proud Boys -- Stand back and Stand by -- violent criminals.