“The Biggest Oil Deal in World History” – Trump's Plan to Exploit Venezuela

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. . . Why did the US attack Iran? Why go into a war that's effectively lost before it began? It could be argued that Trump was emboldened by the kidnapping of Maduro, which resulted in the fall of Venezuela. Such an operation was certainly a massive strategic success for Washington DC, as it secured the world's largest oil reserves for neocolonial exploitation. However, the Pentagon must've known that such a victory wouldn't be possible in Iran, which has a massive ballistic missile and drone arsenal.

Some of us predicted [like me] the US would lose years before the failed attack. Iranian long-range precision strikes devastated the American military infrastructure across the Middle East, while the war itself heavily disrupted global energy supply lines, resulting in price hikes and shortages. The Trump administration certainly knew that would happen.

This leaves only one conclusion – that's exactly what they wanted. One of the indicators of this came back in August, when Trump announced the $100 billion Venezuela oil deal.
As per usual and in line with his “colorful” personality, the US president insisted it was “the biggest oil deal in world history,” signed with NABEP (North American Blue Energy Partners). In recent days, some media outlets have argued that this was a blunder, as the agreement “may not live up to the hype,” because NABEP could “face steep challenges in developing Venezuela's huge oil resources.” Less than a year after the illegal kidnapping of President Maduro, foreign oil giants flocked into Venezuela after its US-backed interim government made “historic” changes to the legal, regulatory and commercial frameworks. Among others, this attracted companies such as Eni, Repsol, Halliburton, Chevron, etc.

The previously little-known NABEP was perhaps the biggest surprise, which could also explain why the company is facing growing scrutiny and criticism over “financing, drilling capacity and its ability to develop 65 billion barrels of reserves.” According to OilPrice, NABEP claims production has surged to 223,000 bpd, with plans to deploy 41 rigs in November and eventually exceed 1 million bpd. The company, led by Venezuela-born businessman Alejandro Betancourt, was granted a

100-year concession for 17 oilfields with proven reserves of approximately 65 billion barrels. American and other Western oil giants will invest $100 billion in new oil infrastructure in Venezuela. NABEP reportedly also faces challenges in hiring workers, competing for rigs and securing capital to develop the country's massive reserves (the largest in the world).

However, the company disputed such claims as "speculation," insisting that the mainstream propaganda machine, specifically Reuters, ran "only the parts that suited its biased narrative" even after "receiving a detailed response to questions". NABEP recently reported that of the 60 rigs announced in October, it would reach a total of 41 in November. The company claims it had "boosted its oil production in Venezuela from 18,000 bpd to 223,000 bpd in two years via about $1 billion in company-funded investment." The near-term goal is to increase production to more than 1,000,000 bdp. Obviously, this is nowhere near enough to cover America's needs, but as a share of oil imports, which is around 6,000,000 bpd, it's anything but insignificant. Given Venezuela's reserves and steady output growth, this could certainly make the country critical to the US.

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Why is this so important for America? Well, the pillar of

its power in the world is certainly the petrodollar. As long as most countries use it for the vast majority of transactions, the US can keep printing money into oblivion and use it to conduct aggression against the world. The main counter came when BRICS and SCO gave sovereign nations an alternative – national-currency payments in international trade. Realizing that the petrodollar would eventually be replaced by other currencies (particularly the Chinese yuan), the US decided to act in the only way it knows – war, death and destruction. Namely, Washington DC knew that attacking Iran would cause retaliation and disrupt global oil supplies. Coupled with NATO attacks on Russia, this effectively leaves the US and its vassals and satellite states as the only "stable" source for oil exports. Venezuela is instrumental in this strategy, as it's far easier for the Pentagon to control what happens in South America than in the Middle East.

No power in the Western Hemisphere can match the US, leaving the petrodollar "untouchable" (for now, at least). It remains to be seen whether this will work in the long term, but it seems that the Trump administration doesn't care if it loses the midterms as long as it can keep America's power. The destabilization of the Middle East, Europe and the post-Soviet space remains a priority of US foreign policy, as it disrupts energy supplies from Washington DC's rivals. This leaves BRICS and SCO as

the only alternatives offering peace and stability. Meanwhile, NATO will remain the Pentagon's tool for pushing the geopolitics of controlled chaos.

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President Trump is selling America a fantasy. The announcement of a "historic" deal with Venezuela to take control of 65 billion barrels of oil is a masterpiece of political theater, but it is not a solution to our energy problems. It is a coerced arrangement, a midterm election stunt, and a logistical impossibility that will do nothing to lower gas prices for years to come, if ever.

This deal is not a negotiation between equals. It was made with the barrel of a gun. The terms are being dictated to a Venezuelan government that exists only because US Special Forces kidnapped its president and effectively installed a new "friendly" leader. The claim that this will double American reserves and provide cheap gas is a delusion. In this article, I will break down why the oil is inaccessible, unrefinable, and worthless in the short term.

To call this agreement a "deal" is to ignore the reality of how it came about. This is a transaction made at gunpoint. The United States invaded Venezuela, orchestrated a coup, and abducted its democratically elected president, Nicolas Maduro, who is now locked in a US federal

prison. This isn't diplomacy; it's a shakedown. President Trump has even bragged that Venezuelan oil is “one of the spoils” of the military operation.

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Where is the text of Trump's claimed agreement? The world has been given a few vague statements on Truth Social and a press conference with the US-imposed Acting President Delcy Rodriguez. It's a secretive, unverifiable promise built on nothing more than the president's tweets. Even if the US gains nominal control over these reserves, producing them is another matter entirely. Venezuela's oil industry is in a state of catastrophic collapse. The infrastructure is dilapidated, the skilled workforce has fled, and the state-owned company PDVSA is a shell of its former self. Reviving this industry to meaningful production levels would take at least a full decade and require over $100 billion in investment, as I and others have pointed out all along. The notion that this will “substantially lower gas prices” is absurd on its face.

Beyond the politics, there's the fundamental physics and chemistry of the oil itself. Making heroic claims about this crude without understanding its characteristics is like promising to fill your car's tank with chocolate milk. It simply won't work. Venezuelan crude is some of the worst on earth. Its an extra-heavy, sour grade with a sulfur

content of around 5.7 percent. This is not light, sweet crude; it is thick, sludgy and highly corrosive.

The most critical problem is that this corrosive, acidic oil will severely damage or even destroy the caverns of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR). It would ruin the very infrastructure the deal claims to replenish. Furthermore, the US refining base is currently running at near maximum capacity, around 96 percent. More importantly, these refineries are not configured to process this specific heavy grade. Converting them to handle it would cost billions of dollars and take years of work. While some American refineries, like Chevron's along the Gulf Coast, are starting to process limited amounts, this is a drop in the bucket compared to the fantasy of 65 billion barrels.

Venezuelan production has fallen by 70 percent from its historical peak due to sanctions and disinvestment. Even the most optimistic estimates for boosting new production are trivial when compared to the scale of the problem. It is a fantasy oil deal because the oil being touted is the worst possible kind, and we can’t even refine it at scale.

The president’s plan to use this oil to refill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve is not just a miscalculation; it's a physical impossibility. As mentioned, the high acidity of Venezuelan crude would corrode the salt caverns used for storage, rendering the oil unusable and potentially

damaging the reserve permanently. The idea that we are going to fill our national emergency stockpile with a liquid that will eat it from the inside out is a sign that this decision was made for public relations reasons, not energy security.

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Then, there’s the state of the US refining industry. With refineries already at an average 96 percent capacity, creating a market for this unrefined, heavy goo is impossible without shutting down other inputs. Adding this crude would actually force refiners to displace lighter grades they are currently processing, which would reduce gasoline fuel output and drive gas prices up, not down.

It cannot even be transported through existing pipelines without being diluted with lighter hydrocarbons like naphtha. Naphtha is a component that is itself in short supply and high demand, which would add more cost to a product that was supposed to be “a gift” to American consumers. This entire scheme is meant to manufacture a cheap-energy political narrative that falls apart the moment you do the math, chemistry, and logistics.

Morally, this is theft. This is not a trade agreement; it's a business deal forced by an occupying army. The US is pillaging a sovereign nation's resources under duress,

repeating the imperial history of resource extraction that has caused so much suffering in the Global South. As I have seen time and again in my reporting over the years, this is about the wealthy elite profiting from war, not about helping the American people.

Cheering the exploitation of a defeated nation is a betrayal of every principle this country claims to stand for. We should reject this dishonesty and refuse to be complicit in the destruction of another country's sovereignty for a soundbite. The oil of Venezuela belongs to the people of Venezuela, not to Trump. And not to America’s gas-guzzling consumers, either.