

Trump's descent into chaos is continuing at pace

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I posted this video last month:

<https://youtu.be/i5dFtWngptA?si=yIOYuFBZI0U9xmhV>

In it, I suggested:

Donald Trump is planning to starve the beast. The beast in question is, of course, the US government, and what he's trying to do is starve it of taxation revenues.

As I explained, he was going to do this by cutting the staffing at the Internal Revenue Service, the tax authority of the US Federal government.

This was already astonishingly small, at 100,000 people. But now the [New York Times](#) has reported:

About 22,000 employees at the Internal Revenue Service have signed up for the Trump administration's latest resignation offer, according to four people familiar with the matter, an exodus that could weaken the agency's ability to collect taxes.

They added:

The I.R.S. had about 100,000 employees before President Trump took office. Roughly 5,000 employees have resigned since January, and an additional 7,000 probationary employees were laid off, though those firings have been contested in court.

This means that around 34,000 people might be leaving the IRS, or around one in three of its staff.

No organisation can remain effective with such an exodus of staff.

Nor will there be sufficient people left to both do the job and to train any new arrivals.

Trump and Musk are delivering chaos for the US tax system, a breakdown in US federal

tax revenues, and a threat to the funding cycle (note I use that term: this is not a threat to funding, *per se*, but it is to the macroeconomic funding cycle) of US federal government activities that tariffs will not be able to replace. It is quite likely that inflation might be fuelled as a result.

My forecast has turned out to be true. Trump is trying to starve the beast, and it looks like he will be so successful that he might actually kill it.

The far-right, who have created Trump's policy agenda, might be very excited by this, in the short term. I am sure that having their fantasies fulfilled will give them dopamine highs to match those that other drugs provide. But, the reality is that the USA can't survive without a federal government, and so without a functioning IRS.

The descent into chaos is continuing, as forecast, and at pace.