

Will Trump's attitude to US states transfer to Westminster...

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Pete Hesgeth, who quite bizarrely is US Defence Secretary, said yesterday that troops sent to Los Angeles [were expected to stay for at least 60 days](#). No clear reasons could be given. It is clear that they may stay longer.

In other words, Trump is clearly setting the federal government against the state government of California, with the threat implicit in this being that every other state should take note. Although the US is a federal system, Trump is making clear he will not tolerate dissent, and cares not a jot about precedent, the constitution or law on such matters.

I cannot see how this cannot end without some form of conflict.

I also worry about the precedent being set for the UK. I seriously wonder how long it will be before a Westminster government, whether Labour or Reform, or a coalition of the two, decides to suspend devolved power in the UK, following the same trend.

The stresses that develop in the USA are often exported to the UK. This one might travel, and the consequences would be profoundly uncomfortable.