

When people of conscience are removed from power, we all

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As [The Telegraph reported yesterday](#):

*Pete Hegseth fired the most senior US army officer one month into the war with Iran.*

*The sacking is the latest succession of senior individuals who have been dismissed by the US defence secretary after claims that they clashed with his vision for the military.*

*Gen Randy George, the US army chief of staff, was asked to retire immediately from his role.*

Why was that? Why was a man who, by all accounts, has been successful in restoring rates of recruitment into the US Army and in achieving cohesion previously missing, dismissed by the US defence secretary at this precise moment?

And why is he being replaced by the general who has acted as Hegseth's senior military advisor?

Could it be that Trump and Hegseth are planning to issue an order that they knew General George would either question or resist on the grounds of its illegality, which right he has in US law?

And could it be that they wanted a more compliant general in place before they issued the order [to reduce Iran to the Stone Age](#), which Trump has announced to be his intent?

When those who, it is thought, might act in accordance with their conscience, or even the law, are removed from power, we all need to worry.