Cartoons for the Classroom
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Is war chief harming U.S. military?

Jeff Korterba / Courtesy of Cagle.com

1. What are the these cartoons saying about Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth facing criticism about "inept" management?
2. Hegseth reportedly ordered lie detector tests of senior Pentagon officials to punish news leaks about weapon shortages and strategic challenges from the Iran war. Should the public be told about military problems?
3. Hegseth has pushed out or blocked the promotions of more than 80 admirals, generals and other officials. Do you think former National Guard major resents or fears experienced senior officers?
4. Is the U.S. military stronger or weaker since it was sent to war with Iran? Why?

Between the lines

"He is intimidated by competence and retreats to ginning up culture wars instead of soberly attending to the vital work of our national defense and the health and well-being of our fighting force." — Sen. Thom Tillis R-NC.

https://www.nytimes.com/2026/09/04/us/politics/pentagon-staff-polygraph-tests.html

Additional resources

- More by Jeff Koterba
  https://cagle.com/cartoonist/jeff-koterba/
- More by Jimmy Magulies
  https://cagle.com/cartoonist/jimmy-margulies/
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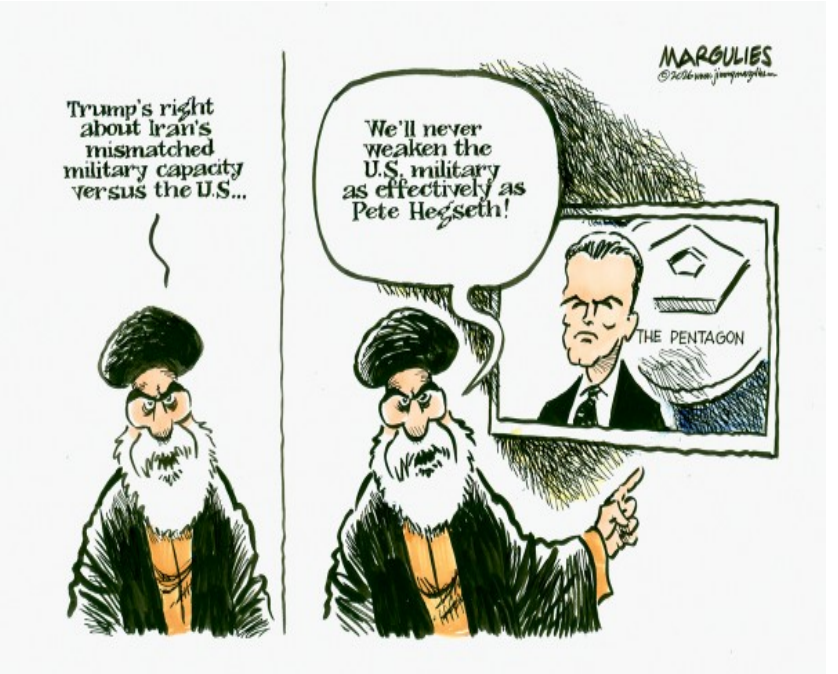

Jimmy Margulies / Courtesy of Cagle.com

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