

INITIAL REACTIONS (FIRST VIEWING)

- ◆ Restore respect
- ◆ Great story-teller
- ◆ Captivates audience → godlike (very convincing)
- ◆ Regular guy → Washington D.C. → “common sense)
- ◆ Targeting: Socialism, Green Deal, Open Borders, Abortion
- ◆ Suspicion of long passionate speeches, especially about himself
- ◆ Socialism? What is it? (May not be what Trump considers it to be)
- ◆ “Seduces” support
- ◆ Lots of energy
- ◆ “Traitors among us”: people not really patriots
- ◆ No “decorum”: respect is lost (tribes)
- ◆ Standards: immigrants “merit”, “compassion only for his own
- ◆ Supported by Youth
- ◆ Caricatures: drug dealers
- ◆ Free speech (mean speech, gives mean people a chance to express themselves)
- ◆ One sided
- ◆ Idealist past: contaminated our “glorious past”, restoring a greatness that has been lost
- ◆ Narcissistic hyperbole, anti-establishment, “blow-hard”, antidisestablishmentarianism
- ◆ Americans: no hyphenation
- ◆ “Unity”— “In God We Trust” (not identity by group)

ASIDES (TEAM LEADER)

- ◆ Context: building support (political)?
- ◆ Context: building a combat team? (conflict context)
- ◆ “Military” leader? (Montgomery, Patton)?
- ◆ Acknowledging and focusing peoples attention
- ◆ Concentrating on the significant
- ◆ 3rd level reflective intelligence as politics (fighting with a naked blade)
- ◆ An existential battle? Battle for survival?
- ◆ Macarthur? (or any truly great general)

IMMEDIATE CONTEXT

The Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) is an annual political conference attended by right-of-center or moderately conservative government and mainstream media activists from across the United States. It is hosted by the American Conservative Union. Participants generally prefer non-confrontational debate methods, and a willingness to compromise with political opponents. More than 100 other organizations contribute in various ways.

The conference was founded in 1973 by the American Conservative Union and Young Americans for Freedom as a small gathering of dedicated conservatives. Over the years it has grown to thousands of attendees annually. Roughly half of those in attendance in the past few years have been college-aged.

Speakers have included Ronald Reagan, George W. Bush, Dick Cheney, Pat Buchanan, Karl Rove, Newt Gingrich, Sarah Palin, Ron Paul, Mitt Romney, Tony Snow, Glen Beck, Rush Limbaugh, Allen West, Michele Bachmann, Donald Trump, and other conservative public figures.

— Conservative Political Action Conference, *Infogalactic*, https://infogalactic.com/info/Conservative_Political_Action_Conference

President Donald J. Trump’s speech took place at 12:10, Saturday, March 2nd, 2019, at a general session held in the Potomac Ballroom. The next event was scheduled for 2:50 pm, leaving Trump two hours plus to convey his message.

Prior to President Trump (AM):

- ◆ *Rebels with a Cause* (3 curated speeches)
- ◆ Jikido “Jay” Aeba, Japanese Conservative Union
- ◆ Live from CPAC (Matt Schlapp—American Conservative Union, Ian Walters—American Conservative Union, Tammy Bruce—The Washington Times, Chris Cox—NRA-ILA
- ◆ Wayne LaPierre—National Rifle Association
- ◆ *The Gathering Storm: Would We Still Ignore Churchill’s Warning Today?* (panel discussion)
- ◆ Live from our CPAC Stage at Colorado Christian University.

Post President Trump (PM):

- ◆ Live from our CPAC Stage at Pepperdine University
- ◆ Denis Prager (Prager University)
- ◆ *Left for Dead: Are There No Limits to the Progressive Way on Humanity?* (panel discussion)
- ◆ *Democracy Died in Darkness: Judges, Prosecutors, and America’s Modern Monarchs* (panel discussion)
- ◆ Democracy Saved from Darkness: Brexit (panel discussion)
- ◆ Rep. Matt Gaetz (FL-01)
- ◆ CPAC Straw Poll (sponsored by the Washington Post)
- ◆ Judge Jeanine Pirro (Fox News)

HISTORICAL PIVOT POINT?

The immediate context of Trump’s CPAC speech is CPAC itself. But, like Peterson’s Non-present Presence, there’s a larger dialectic at play in which Trump represents only one of the two major players. While Peterson’s NPP was characterized by unrealistic and highly dangerous Utopian visionaries seeking to take over the law through clamping down on free speech, Trump’s NPP most likely extends this drive for power on the part of impassioned and convinced Utopian visionaries into the political realm. We shall have to pick up such clues as to the nature of Trump’s NPP from his own highly political speech.

It is probably safe to say that Trump’s NPP revolves around the same “populist” revolt being observed in Britain (Brexit) and several EU countries. But great care needs to be taken when labeling these “uprisings” as “populist”, for in fact such events may indicate something deeper at play. What this might be, once again, we must tease out from Trump’s speech. It is important to keep in mind that this NPP must have both historical and geographical components

Finally, in doing so we do not affirm per se the actual reality of this NPP, only that it is the antagonist to Trump’s protagonist—once again from his perspective. Who or what he defines as the “enemy” says as much about his foundational stance as the actual position that he avows and affirms during his speech. If this is true, then his speech is design to rally the troops to get out of the trenches and fight the enemy. And if this is true, then taking such a position also tells us a lot about his foundational stance.

In short, what does he consider to be of terminal value? And is he right in deciding for that value?