America's Colossal Failure In Afghanistan Is History Repeating Itself

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Introduction Stage

      The United States has absolutely botched the official cap of the War in Afghanistan. It's no secret, people on both sides of the political aisle agree, this whole process has been one long nightmare for the United States. From the day that this whole war started, the United States has been tripping over its' feet, failing to meet their own expectations, and honestly, failing the worlds' vision of America being the sole superpower and super-military on Earth. The United States spends exponentially more money on its military than any other nation on the planet, yet most agree that they've lost a war against an enemy that, on paper, should've been easy to obliterate.

      American morale in the war has been quite hectic over the years. While many Americans still feel that the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were necessary due to the September 11th terrorist attacks, many other Americans have viewed this conflict and global mission as a waste of taxpayer's money and another historical embarrassment for the government of the United States.

      It's insane to think about how different a country the United States would be had the September 11th terrorist attacks never happened. The legacies of Presidents George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump and Joe Biden would be drastically different, if even still actually existent. World history would vastly change. It wouldn't even be the same world that we live in today. It's hard to predict exactly what America would be, but personally, I predict it would be a country with massively less political tension, political divide, and perhaps even political views. The War in Afghanistan has likely hugely impacted the political views of Generation Z

in a massive way, after they've grown up in the post-9/11 society that we see today that's had two massive global recessions, increases in many different types of tensions, and more.

The War in Afghanistan was officially started on October 7th, 2001 when the United States invaded Afghanistan following the terror attacks in New York. Other nations were also involved in the invasion, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and with the support of nations including Iran, Russia, India, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Turkmenistan. George Bush's presidential approval rating had recently skyrocketed to 90% after the terror attacks and his presidential address to the nation that followed in which the American people rallied around the call for strength, unity, and force against those responsible. For months afterward, his approval ratings still held in the 80% range. For this short period of time, George Bush became the most popular President out of anyone since 1937. The second closest was his father, George H. W. Bush, who was the 41st President.

Early in the war, it appeared that America was accomplishing their missions fairly well. Within a short period of time, The United States and supporting allies had toppled the Taliban-led government and forced them to respond with an insurgency on the run in 2004. But many things have gone wrong since then, and the United States today is trying to save face as quickly as possible, exiting what is considered the longest uninterrupted conflict participation in American history. Technically, the United States fought the American Indian Wars for over 300 years until 1924, however, the fighting was intermittent and broken up, so therefore it's oftentimes not considered the actual longest American war.

The questions have started to truly arise from the American people: What did our nation get out of the conflict in the Middle East? Was killing Osama Bin Laden enough when the Taliban retook their country in mere weeks? Was this conflict worth thousands of Americans to give their lives,

tens of thousands to be injured or wounded in some form, and for the trauma that it's caused to a nation already reeling from crisis after crisis?

Current President Joe Biden has recently been taking an extreme level of flak for his administrations' handling of the pullout in Afghanistan, but is he solely responsible for this entire thing? Who in America deserves to take the fall for the horrific situations we've seen? Will America be able to recover from a crisis like this? Let's dig into it.

Chapter 1: A Country Pleading For Resolve

The American people have been rightly angry for what happened on September 11th, 2001 for 20 full years in just a few short days. When thousands of innocent civilians were brutally massacred on commercial airliners, in the Twin Towers, at the Pentagon, in a field in Pennsylvania, first responders bravely trying to save lives, there is reason to be upset. When thousands of Americans are sent to the Middle East to serve their country and are killed, there is reason to be angry. When your entire way of life has been quickly disrupted and ultimately changed due to something that happened this long ago, you have a reason to be angry.

The truth of the matter is, the United States government failed its people with the September 11th terror attacks. There are many conspiracies that terrorists were never genuinely responsible for it, that President Bush orchestrated the attacks, and much more, but I don't want to spend this video sharing conspiracies. I want to talk about the fact that the United States government blatantly failed the nation on that day. Not only did the United States government have actionable intel that such terrorist attacks could be planned, but it had been intel they'd received years prior to the terror attacks.

In December of 1998, the Clinton administration was rocked by reports from the CIA's Counterterrorist Center that potential terrorist flight hijackings were being prepared by Al-Qaeda, the group who later committed the 9/11 attacks. This was nearly three years before the actual attacks occurred. In April of 2001, the leader of an enemy of the Taliban, the Northern Alliance, shared a warning from their leader to the European Parliament in Belgium that included a request for humanitarian aid, and a stark warning that intel suggested a large-scale terrorist attack was taking place immediately on United States soil. Tragically, Ahmad Shah Massoud,

the leader of the Northern Alliance, was assassinated by Al-Qaeda terrorists two days before the 9/11 attacks.

President Bush was told on May 1st, 2001 that a U.S.-based terrorist group was planning an attack. In a Daily Brief given to President Bush on June 29th, 2001, suggested that, "an interview that month with a Middle Eastern journalist in which Bin Laden aides warned of a coming attack, as well as competitive pressures that the terrorist leader was feeling, given the number of Islamists being recruited for the separtaist Russian region of Chechnya." The CIA went on the claim these attacks were imminent and would have, "dramatic consequences."

On July 10th, 2001, the CIA's director and counterterrorism chiefs met with the current National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice. This meeting detailed intelligence that proved Al-Qaeda was planning to attack the United States imminently. Condoleezza Rice, instead of listening to these concerns and taking action, instead prioritized other issues that were facing her desk and ignored this advice from one of the most important investigative branches in the world. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld believed that the information was essentially false info fed to the United States meant to see how the military leaders would respond in such a scenario to scout them out.

On August 6th, 2001, yet again at a Daily Briefing for the President, titled 'Bin Laden Determined To Strike In US", described that Bin Laden and his Al-Qaeda operatives were immediately mobilizing a terrorist attack in the United States, including FBI information that suggested the patterns of activity were consistent with planning for hijacking aircraft. Condoleezza Rice replied to this by saying that it was "not prompted by any specific threat information" and that "it did not raise the possibility that terrorists might use planes as missiles."

Unfortunately, as we all know now, the terrorists that these people were warned about for years ***did use planes as missiles.*** Merely 36 days later, four commercial airliners were used as missiles by 19 hijackers to kill 2,996 Americans and injure a further 25,000.

Government agencies had suggested that this was planned, imminent, and real for years before the attacks. Yet nobody listened, nobody reacted, and frankly, nobody cared. Until it did happen. Until the United States faced the bloodiest terror attack in world history.

Americans were, and have been, rightfully mad. Many, however, are completely ignorant to the failures and wrongdoings of its' government that, had they never happened, may have prevented this entire timeline in global history from even happening. The US economy was damaged by $3 trillion. Two icons of the United States were completely destroyed after collapsing in the attacks. Things could never really be the same.

Americans united after the 9/11 attacks in a way that may never truly happen ever again. American humanitarian efforts swelled, people across the nation donated blood or traveled to New York to help the rescue efforts. Money was raised for the victims of the attack and it appeared that, behind the might of the United States Armed Forces, America was about to kick some ass like never before.

Throughout the tragedies of what's happened since then, the average American has not been given the proper answers as to what the government is going to do to actually make this situation better in any way. Sure, Bush gave his speech and rallied the country behind him, but by the time his Presidency came to a halt, he had an approval rating of 25%, one of the lowest since 1937 (Actually only behind Nixon and Truman.)

20 years later it is hard to imagine that most Americans feel any form of pride about what we've done in Afghanistan and such. A serious failure of the country has occurred throughout this whole process, and as a result, trillions of dollars in taxpayer dollars have essentially gone to waste, and families now have to cope with the loss or permanent change of many of their loved ones that served in the conflict. Even if soldiers weren't killed, the post traumatic stress disorders that many face when they come home make them feel like social outcasts, lead to potential homelessness, damaged and broken families that struggle to heal, and tragic suicide rates that should never be as high as they are.

People who've served this country have been failed. Afghanistan veterans are coming home and suffering daily for their service. Much of this in a rush of patriotism following what happened to our country, the want to defend their families and loved ones from a threat across the world has permanently scarred an obscene amount of young American men and women.

Throughout all of the questions, the lies, the truths, the war, the blood, everything, Americans have suffered from the conflict in Afghanistan. A country that once thought it would win this war easily and prove the greatness of America is watching in horror as evacuation efforts have resulted in several servicemen and women being brutally murdered in suicide bombings by Islamic State affiliates. Afghan civilians would rather cling to the side of American aircrafts and face certain death than to face the leadership of the Taliban, which has systematically gone door to door to find and execute Afghans who worked with or cooperated with the United States during the country's occupation. Americans still remain in the country as of the writing of this video, and a genuine crisis has unfolded in the Middle East trying to wrap up the end of another crisis.

Chapter 2: The Evacuation Crisis

There are worries that another imminent terror attack will happen at any minute according to the United States government. President Joe Biden has been on the hot seat for the crisis in Afghanistan, and rightfully so. During the unfolding of the crisis, as the Taliban took full control of Afghanistan, President Joe Biden went on a long vacation to his home in Wilmington, Delaware where he initially refused to answer media questions and to make a statement on the crisis that was endangering American civilians, soldiers, and allies.

Much of the country has since felt that Joe Biden's handling of the situation was poor. According to Rasmussen Reports, 34% of Americans currently believe the country is headed in the right direction, and nearly 1 in 10 Biden voters have expressed regret for their vote. 39% of likely United States voters actually believe that Biden is currently running the country, while 51% of likely United States voters believe that the Presidential decisions for Joe Biden are being determined and planned by other people on his behalf. Support for Joe Biden has wavered, and quickly.

It's no surprise why - recently this clip of Joe Biden at a press conference came out where he openly admitted that a roster had been selected for him to call on media questions, starting with an NBC reporter. The President of the United States is being openly instructed on who to call on. Do people not see a problem with this? I surely do.

Americans have died in the evacuation efforts, along with countless Afghan citizens. The Taliban has full control of the nation of Afghanistan. And their oppressive rule has come full circle. There have been numerous reports of media journalists being harassed if not outright beaten in the

streets by Taliban fighters. Personal liberties have been widely cracked down on in Taliban society. Women's rights will be balanced with the Taliban's interpretation of Sharia law, essentially guaranteeing that women's rights will be outright suppressed under their rule. In the capital city of Kabul, reports indicate that the Taliban might be going door-to-door to seek out Afghan citizens that worked with the former government or United States in any capacity, but they're unsure if it's truly the Taliban or if it's just criminals pretending that they're the Taliban. Given the extreme nature of the Talibans' past, it would not be a surprise if it really was them.

It's a messy situation - one that Joe Biden has repeatedly defended. He's repeated that he believes the American withdrawal was the best option to end the presence overseas - which most Americans also seem to agree is the case. However, most people will not defend Biden on *how* the withdrawal was handled and executed. More American service people have been killed. The Taliban are being trusted to not interfere and are being trusted by the American military to ensure the safe passage of Americans, even. We've gone from being an enemy of the Taliban to essentially pleading with them to not hurt our people. And Americans, once again, are rightfully pissed.

Chapter 3: The Fall of Afghanistan

Much of Biden's blame is directed on the now-collapsed Afghan government and armed forces, essentially noting that their military collapsed under the pressure of the Taliban and literally fled cities and gave up surrendering if confronted. American weapons and military equipment left for the Afghan forces were abandoned to be claimed by the Taliban. The President of Afghanistan, Ashraf Ghani, fled the country without even telling U.S. officials or top Afghan leadership, fearing the bloodshed that would ensue probably against him and his people after the Taliban overtook the Presidential palace of the nation.

Biden is not inherently wrong in blaming the collapse of Afghanistan on the government that Afghanistan was controlled by: it's just intentionally misleading people on the amount of failure indirectly responsible against the United States. This Afghan government was not built by itself - it was a complete packaged product propped up by the United States and its armed coalitions. The United States rebuilt the national government in Afghanistan, and largely supplied, funded and trained its' national security forces. The system that the U.S. designed flat-out failed. So yes, while Afghanistans' prior government holds responsibility for a lot of what happened, the United States also holds that blame for creating a government and military that was so weak-footed that it could collapse so fast.

America would like for the world to believe that this Afghan collapse wasn't due to their propping up of this government that failed so hard, but it genuinely was. I find it hard to not blame our government for this issue. Corruption was rife within the Afghan government and military. Most of the major officials in the American projects were extremely corrupt people. Afghanistan had led the war in its nation after NATO and the U.S. handed

them control in 2014. This support was honestly all that kept Afghanistan 'free.' A major issue within Afghanistan's military was the inability to detect true loyalty.

Many members of the Afghan forces were loyal to two separate parties: Either they were loyal to their country or they were loyal to local warlords and terrorists. Many of the soldiers enlisted in the Afghan forces didn't even exist - deemed 'ghost soldiers', they were simply names on the payrolls so Afghan military leaders could still collect a paycheck for overseeing them. Who do you think paid for this? The United States largely did. In fact, the U.S. is obligated to pay $4 billion dollars each year to maintain the Afghan forces that really don't exist anymore. Also, as of the end of 2020, the U.S. was announced to have spent $88.3 billion reconstructing Afghanistan's government security forces, which was nearly 62% of United States reconstruction funding. Most Afghan soldiers were poorly trained and ill-equipped, simply rushed onto a battlefield to be churned into a war machine.

The United States did not build a functioning government and security force in Afghanistan. They built corrupt puppet states rife with corruption and uncertain loyalties. The military largely was not loyal to the new Afghan society and government. They were loyal to whoever was nearby. The leaders of the Afghan government cowered away and collapsed. The American experiment failed miserably.

Chapter 4: Who Is To Blame In America?

Of course, people are to blame in America for the mishandling of this situation. For the trillions of taxpayer dollars wasted. For the disturbing amount of life lost. For all of it. However, it is not one singular person. It's an entire government. There are several notable government figures spanning two decades. It is four separate Presidents and their administrations. They are military leaders. They are politicians. Of course, they're not regular everyday people. The people in power over the course of this are to blame.

Security branches and the upper tier of government from the late 1990's to the 2020's are responsible. From the people who ignored the repeated warnings before September 11th, to the Presidents that have shifted blame off of themselves while still feeding this nightmare tax dollars and fresh Americans to bleed out for a country that wouldn't piss on them if they were on fire, and to officials in office who have turned the other cheek while the military industrial complex profited off of the carnage.

Starting with President George W. Bush, many Presidents have been to blame. He rallied great support from the nation, sure, however, the master goals he set out under his administration and military officials simply did not succeed. Twenty years later, not entirely his fault, the Taliban once again now control Afghanistan. However, four times throughout 2001 was this attack predicted in some capacity, sometimes directly to the President himself, yet no control over the situation was presented. Two wars were started in the Middle East with disastrous effects on the American nation.

George Bush demanded the Taliban to give up the Al-Qaeda operatives who were responsible for 9/11 instead of sheltering them - a demand that went ignored by the Taliban and later led to the Invasion of Afghanistan. By the time that George Bush left office, 30,000 US troops were staged in Afghanistan in a now-years-long conflict that was preparing to defend against the Taliban resurgence it was seeing.

President Barack Obama was not much better with his handling of the situations that he inherited in 2009. Facing pressure from military officials, Obama greenlighted the deployment of tens of thousands more American troops into Afghanistan. He initially planned to pull out of Afghanistan in 2011, but obviously, this would not happen at all during the Obama presidency and remains one of the major failures of the Obama administration to deliver on promises made to the American people.

One of the major wins during the Obama administration, however, was the Pakistan Navy SEAL raid that led to the assassination of the mastermind of 9/11 - Osama Bin Laden. In May 2011, America accomplished one of their primary goals under Obama's direct order made on April 29th - they got him.

However, this was of course not the end of what happened in Afghanistan. Obama did announce a plan that would eventually lead to the full American withdrawal by the time that he left office, and did hand over major combat operation control to Afghanistan on December 31, 2014. However, things changed, the situation in Afghanistan was deemed too risky to leave, and Obama ended his Presidency failing to fully end the conflict he promised to and left Donald Trump with the war and 10,000 soldiers in Afghanistan.

President Trump kind of took the gloves off in a pretty major way. Shortly after taking office, the United States dropped the Mother of All

Bombs, AKA the MOAB, on Islamic State cave systems in Afghanistan, marking only the first time that the MOAB was used in combat. It supposedly killed dozens of enemy fighters. In 2019 under the Trump administration, the United States dropped a record 7,423 bombs on Afghanistan. At the same time, Trump and his administration also helped negotiate the withdrawal deal with the Taliban that is widely spoken of today. This pretty much was done without the Afghan government, which angered them severely, but in February 2020, a deal was struck that would trade American withdrawal for Taliban cuts in violence and to end ties with terror groups. It notably wasn't protective of the concept that the Taliban could lie, though.

President Trump was also heavily criticized for negotiating the release of 5,000 Taliban during his time in office, as well, a statistic that is being often brought back up by Biden supporters to point blame on the former President for much of the issue that is happening today. While, of course, it's a terrible statistic, Biden still has to own up to what happened on his watch.

President Joe Biden inherited this mess, that much is true. But, that isn't necessarily a valid excuse for the horrible execution of the sped-up process of withdrawing American troops and allies. 6,000 US troops were re-deployed into Afghanistan to help with the evacuation efforts, which have been largely struck with tragedy and anger by the American public. The deadline of August 31st still stands. As of me writing this, thousands still await evacuation.

Truth is, four Presidencies have mishandled this situation. It's not to be blamed on any one individual person. This is a group effort, and a group failure. Many things could've been handled better across the board, and the failure that we've seen will permanently mar the image of the United States on a global scale. Our biggest allies watched our efforts die

in vain with thousands of dead soldiers and trillions spent for the same outcome to rearrive two decades later. Our enemies are celebrating their victory hanging onto our military equipment abandoned by our Afghan security force project.

Estimates suggest that the United States spent $2.26 trillion in Afghanistan throughout the duration of the wartime operations. The country collapsed faster than anyone anticipated. Twenty years for naught. Americans have the right to be pissed.

Chapter 5: A Smoking Gun We Never Saw Coming

By this time, I've spent a great portion of this document/video detailing the critical failures of the United States government to prevent and react to the issues that we've discussed in this video. I've laid out a solid foundation starting before even I was alive, all the way until today. However, during the writing of this video, a bombshell report has come out that has fundamentally changed the entirety of this video, and will likely absolutely stun you.

The fall of Kabul was the final blow to the government of Afghanistan, the final moments before the Taliban fully controlled the nation again and the last nanoseconds before the embarrassment fell squarely on the backs of the United States. However - it turns out, that the United States not only could've peacefully prevented it during a conversation with the Taliban, but could've saved hundreds of lives, reorganized its' withdrawal efforts on its' own schedule and pace, prevented the terrorist attack that killed U.S. soldiers and Afghan civilians, and would have fundamentally changed the entire outcome of this situation.

Kabul was never ***truly*** captured by the Taliban. As we all believed, at least. From what we read in the media, we were to believe that the Taliban was marching through the streets, securing the checkpoints and police stations and other government buildings with relatively no counterforce against them. Kabul was a pushover capture. However, Kabul was SURRENDERED to the Taliban by the President of the United States, Joe Biden, and Kenneth McKenzie, the commander of the United States Central Command.

Yes, the city where hundreds of people have died since the Taliban have taken control, could have been controlled and patrolled by U.S. troops as the withdrawal took place. More lives could've potentially been saved. America didn't have to force an August 31st deadline that was barely met. America didn't have to leave anyone behind they didn't want to - this could've taken place on their timing, they just would have to be responsible for the entirety of it, according to the Taliban.

And the United States refused accountability for the situation at the direction of the President.

According to the Washington Times, it all took place when a meeting was arranged among top U.S. military leaders and Abdul Ghani Baradar, the leader of the Taliban's political wing. Baradar told the Americans that there were only two ways that Kabul could be situated: either under American responsibility and control, or the Taliban had to be allowed in to do it themselves.

The decision came down to President Biden, the commander in chief. At the time, the President was unconvinced to change his mind by the quicker-than-anticipated collapse of the Afghan government to step out of his plan for the withdrawal and to stay longer than he wanted to. Biden did not want the United States involved in anything further than what it absolutely needed to be - even if, as it showed later, doing so would have potentially drastically changed the outcome of what happened and potentially even rewritten history.

The Americans have painted this picture the entire time that they're relying on the Taliban's compliance to keep them safe and secure in Kabul while the Americans are withdrawing. This is not true. The United States pushed responsibility on protecting themselves back onto the Taliban - literally the people we invaded Afghanistan to get rid of in the first place.

Chapter 6: What's Next?

The biggest unanswered question of all might simply be: what is next? After the terror attack against the outer perimeter in Kabul's airport that killed US soldiers and over 100 Afghans, the United States conducted a drone strike against an ISIS-K planner and Biden has announced that this is not the last of prepared strikes meant to avenge these soldiers. Evacuation efforts are reaching a dangerous but critical moment where the U.S. is predicting a high chance of further terror attacks. Lives are at risk.

The potential for America to resume operations in case of anything else is still on the table, as well. It was announced that the military has been planning for options that aren't currently playing out, which sounds a lot like plans could be in store to re-enter Afghanistan if significant actions play out that would lead to such an event. This of course, is no guarantee, and isn't the current plan from what we know as of me writing this video.

But would it shock you? Would it shock anyone? Would it be a surprise if the country that has planned this withdrawal for a decade plus now were to delay it once more? It wouldn't surprise me, and if further attacks against Americans occur, I almost expect military action against those responsible. Is this best for America? Who really knows. In reality, we all realize that further conflict is likely to end just as it is now - American withdrawal and future re-occupation of Afghanistan by the opponents of the United States.

At the end of the day, a solid point rings true. You cannot help people who do not want help. Of course, thousands of Afghans look to the United States for protection after valiantly helping our efforts to rebuild the country and to combat terrorism, but the military force we built and the government we propped obviously held no loyalty to their country. They

were not people willing to die for their country as many nations' soldiers would. They were not willing to fight for a better future for their country. They fled. They were poorly trained, and sometimes outright uncooperative. They were corrupt. They held loyalties to warlords. They committed fraud. They abandoned their country when it mattered most. It's not a total surprise, even to American intelligence sources, but the speed in which it happened is.

The Taliban now control Afghanistan and will almost guarantee commit countless human rights violations, killing those who oppose them and cracking down on civil liberties across the board. They've done it before and are showing signs of doing it again. Afghanistan will suffer, surely. However, fault lies on people who will not face accountability for it. Most Americans are more worried debating which President was better or which political party to follow than to critique any and all Presidents who have actually failed on this subject. Which, to be honest, is every President that has had extensive touch on the topic.

It's been a disaster, but it's finally over. The United States has formally gotten its final flights out of Afghanistan, and the withdrawal is complete. Taliban Afghanistan is sealed as a sure thing, America has ended the war, and the future is what's ahead. Many questions still lay, but I hope that this video was able to clear at least some of it up and provide some new perspective for you.

Regardless of political leaning, I think we all can agree this situation hurt the United States as a country and that we did not execute everything properly. We didn't do what we should've done. And we need to hold our government accountable for that.