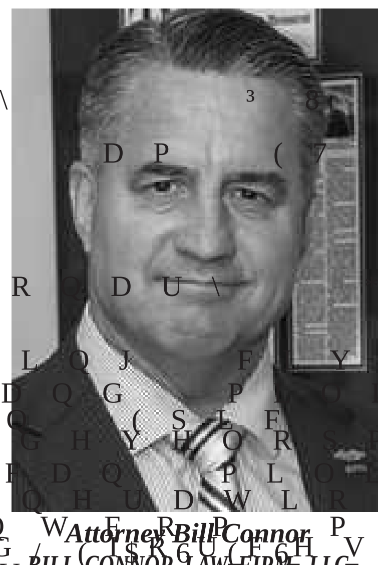
Opinion / Editorial

OBSERVATIONS OF OPERATION EPIC FURY

By Bill Connor



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On Saturday morning I woke up to learn America and Israel had launched strikes on Iran. This came after around two months of the Iranian regime's crackdown on its own people, killing tens of thousands. This also came after weeks of negotiations between the United States and Iran aimed at stopping , U D Q I U R P P X U G H U L Q J F L Y L O protesters, curtailing Iran's nuclear program, and limiting , U D Q ¶ V These talks broke down a couple of days before operations against Iran were launched and after W K H 8 6 K D G (6 W K H U H J L R Q F R P Z R U O G Q X F O H D U against-backdrop-military- W K U H D W to those familiar with the talk, , U D Q Z R X O G Q R W program.

From the Central Command press release about "Operation (S L F) X U \ forces began striking targets D W the Iranian regime's security apparatus, prioritizing locations that posed an imminent threat. Targets included Islamic 5 H Y R O X W L R Q D U \ command and control facilities, Iranian air defense capabilities, missile and drone launch V L W H V D Q G P L O L W 2 S H U D W L R Q (S L F) X U \ the largest regional concentration R I $ P H U L F D Q P L O L W D U \ L Q D J H Q H U D W L R Q us-forces-launch-operation- H W S D O F N V I X U \ D Q G S D U W Q H U E H J D Q W K D W L P P L Q H Q W Note that the launch time of am Iranian time. Launching at D P 8 6 D Q G Q L J K W D Q G D D U N

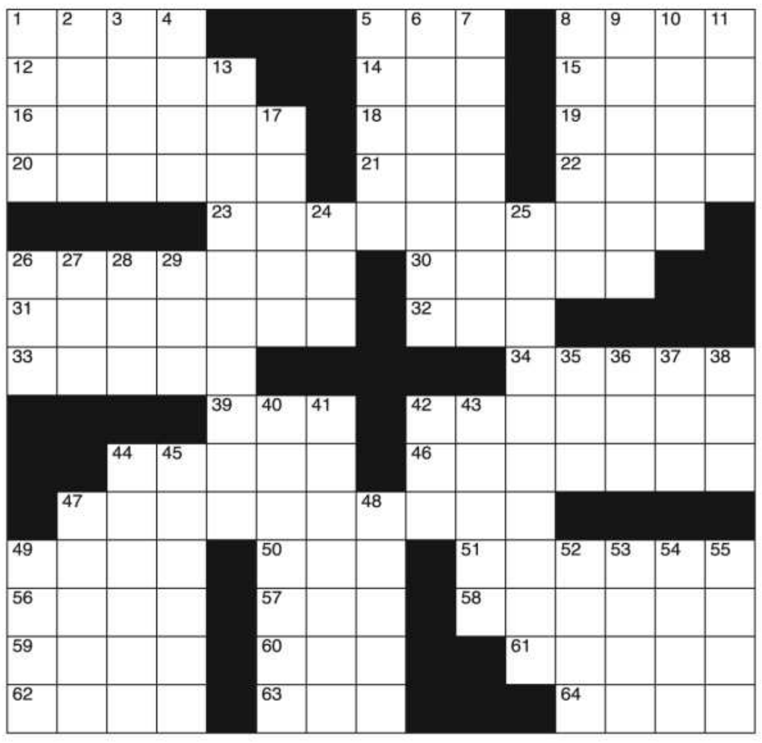
We now know the launch of this P L V V L R Q Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah $ O L + R V V dozens of other senior regime leaders were meeting that morning at the Ayatollah's headquarters. Multiple missiles were launched to obliterate it. This was a masterstroke, as the top leadership of the regime was "decapitated" at the start of the operation. As I write this article, most other key military Iranian O H D G H U V along with command and control V L W H V D Q G D W X Q I R U W X Q in the erratic Iranian missile barrages. The Iranians blundered with missiles by attacking the neutral gulf state nations, Z K R K D Y belligerents with the US against Iran.

0 \ months the U.S. has not only P R Y H G W K H U H J L H Y H U \ D with the Israelis. Intelligence, both Mossad (Israeli intelligence 6 H U Y L F H key role with gathering critical information like the Saturday morning meeting. We determined K H , U D Q L wouldn't come during daylight hours and not during the Jewish Sabath (Shabbat on Saturday). Israel Mossad has thoroughly L Q ¿ O W U D W the regime, including within the , 5 * & 7 K precision of intelligence. Israel admitted Mossad had substantial assets within Iran after the 12 G D \ Z D U R I W K D W I G G R U J israel-confirms-mossad-teams- R S H U D W L Q G H F R Q À L F not only with Israel, but Z L W K L Q 1 D Y \ 0 masterful and underscores the L P S U R Y H P H Q W V X Q G H U 7 U it "employed low-cost one-way D W W D F N in combat" and this appears to K D Y H P D G on targeting. Attack drones K D Y H Q R Q P D Q Q H G À rescue teams, g-force limitations, and risk of human casualties. Air Z D U I D U H the past few years and the U.S. has kept up.

Despite the successes of the operation, Democratic hyper-criticism against the operation has been palpable. Ilhan Omar, for example, posted the following R Q ; ³ 7 K to strike Muslim countries during 5 D P D G D Q L V Q ¶ W Z G R Q H W R but about who they worship." K W W S V X V Q H Z V gets-community-noted-for-spreading-misinformation- L Q O D W H Democrats slammed Trump I R U D O O H Constitution by launching without a Congressional Declaration of War.

Ilhan Omar's screed is almost as repugnant as yelling out the President was a "Murderer" during the State of the Union. Considering the Iranian regime has been murdering thousands of its Muslim citizens during this Ramadan, without a peep of criticism from Omar, she has absolutely no credibility in alleging religious bigotry. Additionally, according to Time Magazine, "Trump had recently U H F H L Y H G assessment that Iran intended to use its ballistic missile arsenal S R W H Q W L D O O \ American forces amassing in the U H J L R Q trump-attack-iran-why-now- I D F W R U V Resolution allowed President Trump to launch these kinds of military actions to protect U.S. personnel and interests. He must Q R W L I \ & (which he did). The President has D Q D I ¿ U P has literally minutes to decapitate O L Y H V correct action. From the beginning of the , V O D P L F 5 H Y R O X W L R Q regime in 1979 it has been our enemy seeking to harm us. The WV D T N X L D Q G J hostages in 1979, the killing of Americans directly or through proxies in places like Beirut (hundreds of Marines) and Iraq D I J K D Q L V W D Q W K U R X J K , U D Q L D Q sought nuclear capability to destroy both Israel and the U.S. It continuously demanded "death to America". It was a regime W K D W Z R nuclear weapon in America if not V W R S S H G stopped.

3 D O P the Lord, 'He is my refuge and P \ I R U W U trust.'" Let us say the same now.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Unit of dry measure
5. One who defies authority
8. Social media giant
12. Render holy
14. "Much __ about nothing"
15. Computer manufacturer
16. Creed
18. Immoral act
19. Mountain pass
20. Winged nut
21. Don't know when yet
22. Elected officials
23. Corrupt tendencies
26. Popular adult beverage
30. Made a mistake
31. Morally correct
32. Type of whale
33. Portable conical tent
34. Native people of the Congo
39. More (Spanish)
42. Classroom implements
44. Cognizant of
46. One who tells
47. Free from bondage
49. Thick piece of something
50. Containing two adjacent nitrogen atoms
51. Removed from the record
56. Legendary singer Turner
57. Broke up the earth
58. Hunting expedition
59. Contributes
60. Unit of work or energy
61. Wreckage on the sea bed
62. Affirmative! (slang)
63. Witness
64. Scrape (Archaic)

CLUES DOWN

1. "__ and flows"
2. Humble request for help
3. A position of leadership
4. Continent
5. Adherent of a particular religion
6. Things that can be eaten
7. Self-governing Netherlands territory
8. Long-tailed crow
9. Repeated
10. Bluish greens
11. Humanities
13. Someone who serves in the armed forces
17. Labor (Spanish)
24. Zero
25. Shared by involving three parties
26. Queens ballplayer
27. Consumed
28. Rest here please
29. Men's fashion accessory
35. American time
36. Sound unit
37. They __
38. Soviet Socialist Republic
40. Places to play video games
41. A sudden attack of illness
42. When you hope to arrive
43. Charges
44. Actress Seyfried
45. A tributary of the Ohio River
47. Omit when speaking
48. Armored fish
49. Remain
52. From a distance
53. Adventure story
54. Geological times
55. Eat dinner

PUZZLE SOLUTION

E	P	H	A				R	E	B		M	E	T	A
B	L	E	S	S			A	D	O		A	C	E	R
B	E	L	I	E	F		S	I	N		G	H	A	T
S	A	M	A	R	A		T	B	A		P	O	L	S
				V	E	N	A	L	I	T	I	E	S	
M	A	R	T	I	N	I		E	R	R	E	D		
E	T	H	I	C	A	L		S	E	I				
T	E	P	E	E						L	U	B	A	S
				M	A	S		E	R	A	S	E	R	S
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	E	M	A	N	C	I	P	A	T	E				
S	L	A	B		A	Z	O		E	R	A	S	E	D
T	I	N	A		D	U	G		S	A	F	A	R	I
A	D	D	S		E	R	G			L	A	G	A	N
Y	E	A	H		S	E	E				R	A	S	E

Family & Marriage

Parenting with Support

Roger Rollins,
Family and Marriage Coalition

"Family isn't always about the people in your life who are blood relationships. It's about the people in your life who want you to be in theirs. It's about the people in your life who accept you for who you are, support you in the things you choose to do, and no matter what, they are there for you. It's the people in your life who love you, respect you, and who you can depend on. Now that's family!" – Family Support Quotes

"A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." – Bible (Proverbs 17:17)

Tom and I were in a church that L V I R U Y H U \V ladies in the church would call or stop by periodically to see how things were going. They weren't particularly those who had raised a number of children, just wanted the family with the new child to N Q R Z W K In 2006 Hillary Rodham Clinton published a book entitled "It Takes a Village." She illustrated her main theme with a quote by + H U P D Q O L Y H V 7 K H tions run as causes and return to us as results." While I am not promoting the book, it has much good information in it. It is certainly true that we need others in R X U O L Y H V family.

One of John Donne's famous classic poems is entitled "No Man Is An Island." It's worth reading again.

"No man is an island, entire of L W V H O I - tinent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, (X U R S H L V W K H O H V promontory were. As well as if a manor of thine own, or of thine I U L H Q G ¶ V G L P L Q L V K H V in mankind. Therefore, send not to know for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for me."

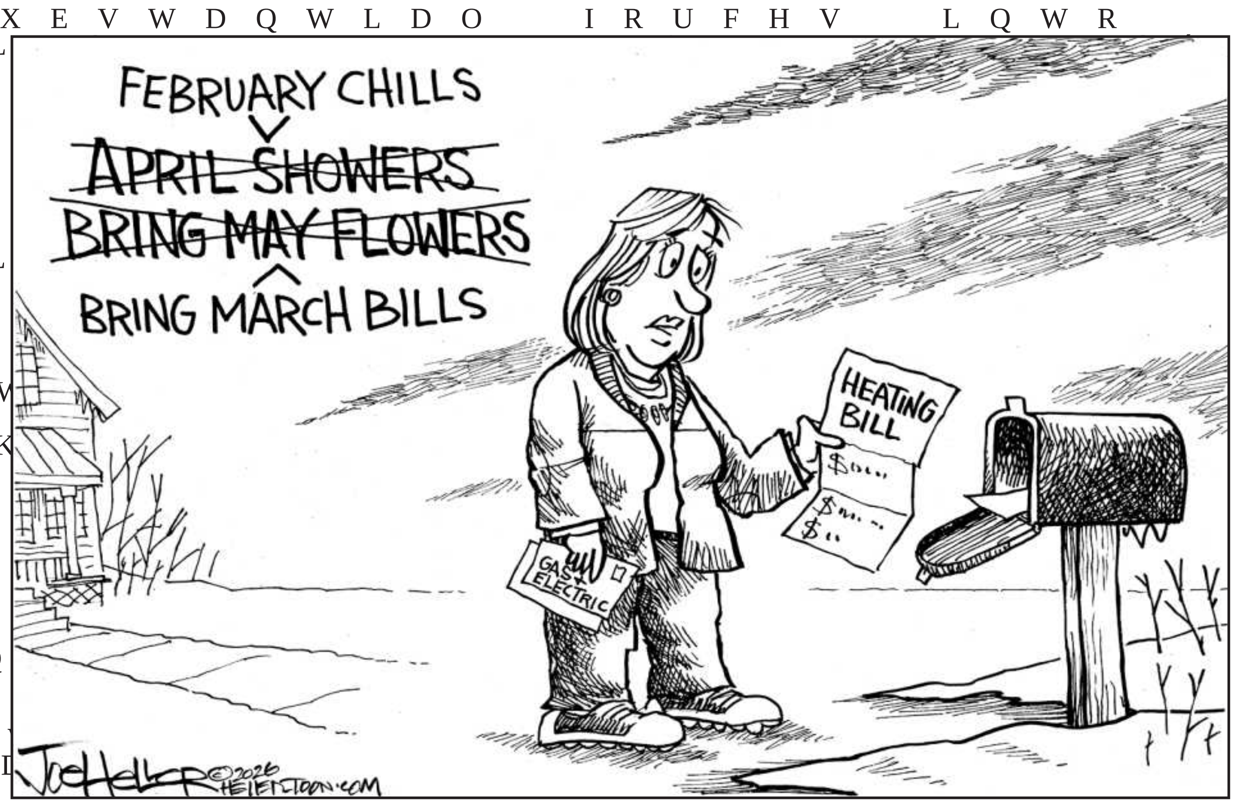
Lyman Stone, with the Institute for Family Studies, published a report earlier this year entitled ³ 6 3 8 D 7 U (H Q W - L S R U W when husband and wife are in basic agreement on the important issues, and when their parents raised them and continue to support parenting hardest when the kids are under 2 years old. As the G D G V ¿ Q - cally are more nurturing, which is needed from birth up, whereas fathers encourage independence D Q G U L V N occurs as they mature.

Interestingly, the years when moms say they feel parenting is easiest also tend to be the years when they carry the biggest load (for example, many mothers take time off work during these years, and infant feeding and care tends to fall more frequently on their shoulders). As their children make the transition to school, moms tend to describe parenting as harder.

6 R P H P R W letting go of their children. The challenge is knowing when to loosen those apron strings. Consider this quote by Lisa Wing- D W H ³ . L G up and cut the apron strings. It wounds."

Although support from outside the immediate family is important, when moms feel their husbands, parenting, they tend to report that parenting is a lot easier effects are somewhat smaller seen as worse than a spouse who doesn't contribute at all.

Although for many of us our children may be grown up and on their own, perhaps there are couples within our circles of influence. Family and Marriage Coalition of Aiken, Inc. (FAMCO) was F U H D W H G you to succeed in your marriage D Q G I D P L O com. Let us know how we can help.



SUDOKU

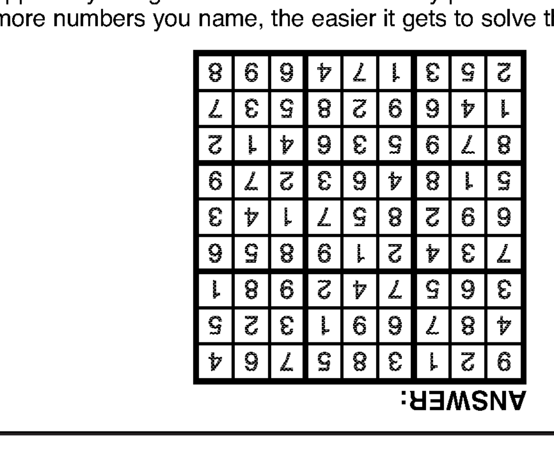
4				9				5
	6	5	7			9		1
				1				
		2					4	3
		8		6			7	
	7		5		6			
1		6			8			
2					4			8

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



ANSWER: