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WOMEN *for* **AMERICA**
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

CWA Talking Points

U.S. Drone Attack Kills Iranian General Qassem Suleimani

January 3, 2020

What to Know Now:

- Iranian General Qassem Suleimani was the head of the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) in Iran.
 - President Donald Trump [designated](#) the Quds and the IRGC as terrorist organizations in April 2019.
 - Suleimani has the blood of hundreds of American lives on his hands. According to the U.S. State Department, he has [killed](#) an estimated 603 Americans.
- Suleimani [approved](#) the attack on the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq, that took place on New Year's Eve, 2019.
- Suleimani was in Baghdad on January 3, 2020, to orchestrate the next wave of attacks on U.S. interests. He was only 15 miles away from the U.S. Embassy.
 - There was an imminent threat to Americans by Suleimani.
 - For the U.S. to show weakness in this region is unwise in the long term.
- This action is consistent with President Trump's responsibility to protect U.S. citizens and to further U.S. national security and foreign policy interests.
 - The President has constitutional authority to conduct U.S. foreign relations as Commander in Chief and Chief Executive
 - After the operation was conducted, members of Congress were notified and will continue to be briefed according to the White House, pursuant to law.
- Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu issued a [statement](#) of support for America's right to self-defense.
- This action signals that the U.S. will "definitively" respond to any further attacks by Iran.
- Iran continues to be emboldened for evil without opposition. As an example, the Iran Nuclear Agreement under Obama, where the U.S. gave significant concessions and released \$150 billion to Iran, did not appease or quell their instigations in the region.

Going Deeper:

- Iran is the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism.
- Suleimani was the [architect](#) of nearly every significant operation by Iranian intelligence and military forces over the past two decades. He ran Iran's sphere of influence through governments across the region from Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen.

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- In 2019 alone, Iran [shot](#) down a U.S. drone, [seized](#) a British oil tanker, [threatened](#) to shut down a route through international waters used by oil tankers, [attacked](#) Saudi oil facilities, [struck](#) a U.S. base killing one American contractor, and [organized](#) an attack on U.S. soil by attacking the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.
- The removal of Suleimani was long overdue. The primarily Shia Iraqi government has allowed Suleimani to come and go as he wished. According to U.S. troops, Suleimani has trained fighters who made roadside bombs that shot molten copper slugs through tanks and vehicles, killing hundreds and maiming dozens of U.S. troops.
- Iraqis are [celebrating](#) the death of Suleimani. Suleimani had been overseeing operations to suppress protests, and militia under him killed an estimated 460 Iraqi protestors.

How to Pray:

- Pray for the safety of American troops, operatives, and civilians in the Middle East.
- Pray for the safety of Israel.
- Pray for the wisdom of our leaders, including President Trump, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, and Defense Secretary Mark Esper.
- Pray for the hearts and minds of the Iranian people. Pray they will know true freedom in their country and will not support terrorist organizations or leaders.