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## Warner knocks Trump, Hegseth: 'Wimps'

by [Ashleigh Fields](#) - 12/03/25 1:27 PM ET

Sen. [Mark Warner](#) (D-Va.) on Tuesday slammed [President Trump](#) and Defense Secretary [Pete Hegseth](#) following their latest remarks regarding a strike on survivors clinging to the wreckage of an alleged drug boat in the Caribbean.

"This is the biggest crowd of wimps you've ever seen," Warner, who serves as vice chair of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, said during a Tuesday appearance on MS NOW's "The Briefing" when asked about the "double tap" attack.

Hegseth during a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday cited the "fog of war" in defending a [follow-up strike on the boat](#) in early September.

Hegseth said that he did not see any survivors in the water after the first strike, adding that the vessel "exploded in fire, smoke, you can't see anything."

"This is called the fog of war."

Hegseth also said he "didn't stick around" for the remainder of the mission and that Adm. Frank Bradley "made the right call" in ordering the second hit, which he "had complete authority to do."

Legal analysts and former military officials have said the second strike may constitute a war crime. But the Trump administration has defended the strike amid lawmakers' consternation.

"All of these decisive strikes have been against designated narcoterrorists bringing deadly poison to our shores, and the President will continue to use every element of American power to stop drugs from flooding into our country," White House spokeswoman Anna Kelly said in a statement to The Hill.

Warner said on MS NOW that Hegseth is "trying to throw the admiral, who is in charge of Socom, under the bus," the Virginia senator told host [Jen Psaki](#), referring to U.S. Special Operations Command.

"This is the worst kind of action," he said.

"I've never met Adm. Bradley. Everything I've known about him is that this has been an American hero. He's done the right things. He has supervised special operations for a long time," Warner added.

"My fear is this guy is getting thrown under the bus, the same way this administration fired the general head of the NSA, the general that was head of the Defense Intelligence Agency — not for legitimate reasons, but for political purposes. This has never happened in America, this undermining of our intelligence community, undermining of our uniformed military. This is beyond outrageous."

Democrats, Republicans and international leaders have [questioned the](#) series of attacks on alleged drug boats in the Caribbean and eastern Pacific.

**"The major suppliers of cocaine to the U.S. are Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, and Mexico. The major supplier of fentanyl and methamphetamine and their chemicals is China via Burma/Myanmar," Robert Weiner, former spokesperson for the White House Office of National Drug Policy during the [Clinton](#) administration, told The Hill in an email on Wednesday.**

“When you consider that Trump just pardoned from a 45-year prison term the ex-president of Honduras who said he wanted to ‘shove the cocaine up the noses of the gringos’ and was convicted of a conspiracy supplying 400 tons of cocaine to the U.S., you know Trump doesn’t really care about the drugs, just about getting [Venezuelan President Nicolás] Maduro out,” he added, referring to former Honduran President [Juan Orlando Hernández](#), who was [released from prison Monday](#) after Trump pardoned him of [charges related to assisting drug traffickers](#).

The Hill has requested comment from the Pentagon regarding Warner’s remarks.

*The Associated Press contributed to this report.*

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