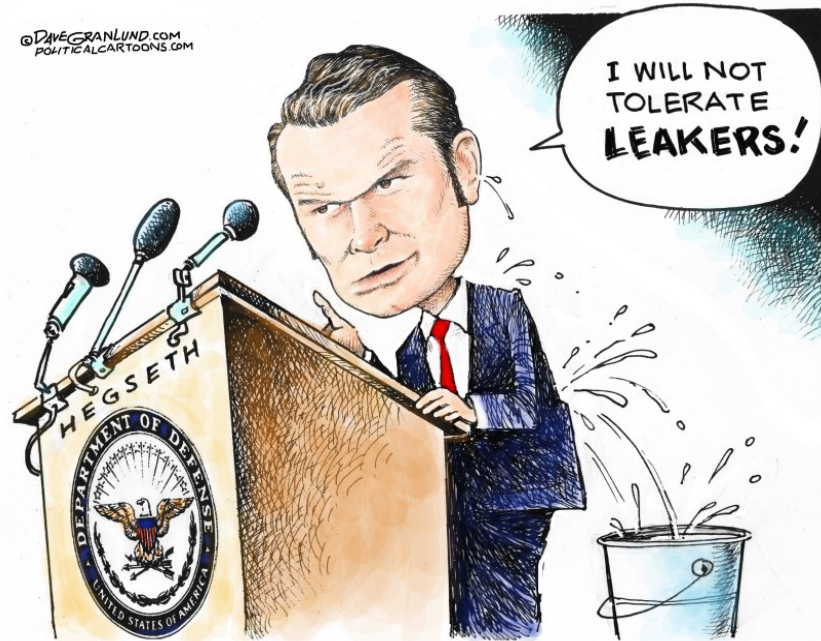


Cartoons for the Classroom

Presented by NIEonline.com and the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)



Are defense chief's texts dangerous?



Dave Granlund / Courtesy of Cagle.com

1. What do these cartoons say about Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth texting highly sensitive information about an active military operation to his wife, brother, personal lawyer, a journalist, and top administration officials?
2. Hegseth used the encrypted but unsecured Signal app for texting about the weapons and timing of strikes in Yemen. Could spies hack into one of the Signal users' cell phones to see US military plans?
3. President Donald Trump backed Hegseth. What would happen if a US military service member who leaked the same information?
4. Was Hegseth careless about security? Should he be fired?

Between the lines

"These kinds of leaks, anticipating troop movements, anticipating attacks – those can put our adversaries in position to intercept pilots or convoys or ships." – Kristopher Goldsmith, threat intelligence expert.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/apr/23/pete-hegseth-pentagon-espionage>

Additional resources

■ [More by Dave Granlund](https://cagle.com/granlund)

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Pat Byrnes / Courtesy of Cagle.com