Twitter Thread by Lawrence Glickman



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The claim that “the way [Trump] handled himself in the last 60 days" marks some sort of dramatic change in his actions and rhetoric is not credible. He has employed violent language & explicitly called his supporters to violence since his 2016 campaign./1

In 2019 he said, "I have the support of the police, the support of the military, the support of the Bikers for Trump – I have the tough people, but they don’t play it tough — until they go to a certain point, and then it would be very bad, very bad/" /2
https://t.co/9rQh5AMALY

Here's an article from _March 2016_, well before he got the nomination, about "all the times Trump has called for violence at his rallies."/3
https://t.co/nySXFnmivi

In August 2016, he hinted at the possibility that his "Second Amendment" supporters might shoot Hillary Clinton: “If she gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do, folks. Although the Second Amendment people — maybe there is, I don’t know.”/4
https://t.co/m2fx4xpZs2

As the protests responding to the murder of George Floyd began, Trump said "when the looting starts, the shooting starts," echoing a phrase used by segregationists./5
https://t.co/awVgvybbzF

His tweet, "LIBERATE MICHIGAN!; LIBERATE MINNESOTA!; LIBERATE VIRGINIA, and save your great 2nd Amendment. It is under siege!," preceded the violent breaching of the MI state capitol by white supremacists./6

Speaking to law enforcement officials in 2017, Trump encouraged police officers to be "rough" with the people they arrest./7
https://t.co/xo72fPf4WR

In 2017, he tweeted a video of him body-slamming CNN. /8
https://t.co/wTZl3JYDm0

Well before last week, Trump's violent language repeatedly abetted acts of violence./9
https://t.co/q6TPazabq8

An undercurrent of violence, which not infrequently became explicit, has been a consistent through-line of the Trump campaign and presidency. Nobody should be able to claim to be shocked by his incitement to violence last week./10