

**To: Sydney Morning Herald <[letters@smh.com.au](mailto:letters@smh.com.au)>**

**Sent: Sunday, January 4, 2020**

**Subject: The assassination of General Qassem Soleimani**

Dear Editor

The assassination of General Qassem Soleimani, on the orders of President Trump, was a significant act of international bastardry. If it was not that, it was one of unbelievable stupidity – akin to playing with fire in the Australian bush under current conditions.

A smouldering antagonism between the USA and Iran is now in imminent danger of escalating into an uncontrollable conflagration. Why should Iran, which has for many years co-operated with the international community on the matter of developing nuclear technology, show any further restraint?

Trump's action will only achieve a severe worsening of an already volatile situation. Is this what he wanted? It will not bring the peace that all leaders pretend to espouse. Australia should condemn the action. I wonder what our PM will have to say on the matter.

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