

## THE MEANING OF DONALD TRUMP: THE COMING CLASH

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President Trump is known as a can-do guy who brings projects in under time and budget. The Washington government establishment is correctly known as cannot-do – in that most projects take far longer than scheduled and end up being far over budget. The president is used to being in control, and is well-known for firing people who fall behind expectations.

Much of the federal work force performs at an unacceptable level as compared to their private sector counterparts. In addition to poor work habits found throughout the government establishment, most of them are politically hostile to the new Trump administration. Voters in the District of Columbia and the surrounding suburbs voted overwhelming for Hillary and against Trump. So, the new president is going to find himself with a bloated, sullen, angry workforce a large number of which are incompetents that are almost impossible to fire.

What the president can do, if the new Republican Congress cooperates, is shut down entire departments of government and then shift whatever pieces that need to be kept to some other agency, or privatize, or contract out the function. However, this process takes time and will be met with fierce resistance. Every activity in the government and all of the personnel and money used to support that activity are the results of lobbying by some interest group, including the government workers, and it will not be easy to overcome all of these political forces who are well-experienced in protecting their turf, no matter how unwarranted.

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