

July 5, 2018  
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about war in Venezuela. As commander in chief of the worlds most powerful military many presidents have fallen into the trap of believing that military interventions (compared to the messiness of diplomacy) are good and easy to win. The most recent examples are in Iraq and Afghanistan where it has been fifteen years since President Bush announced success. Since then the entire region has become destabilized with long wars, growing terrorist networks and the worst refugee crisis of my lifetime. Unfortunately this story is similar to what happened following US interventions in Latin America between 1964 and 1973. his makes reports that you are considering military action in Venezuela terrifying. First, giving the Maduro administration more ammunition to distract from their own abuses is a strategic error but more terrible is the prospect of plunging South America into another decade of war.

*Please assure me that you will avoid war.*

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our military restraint.

Sincerely,  
Eric Babson