LLOYD TEVIS
INVESTMENTS, LLC

Securing your future through Precision Investing™

The Market Commentary

July 2026

1 Executive Summary

2 Geopolitics

2.1 Iran War

The US and Iran have signed a memorandum of understanding establishing a ceasefire of at least 60 days during which time they will attempt to negotiate a comprehensive peace treaty. This agreement is widely be declared a US surrender and as, in effect, marking the day the US ceased to be a superpower. Before joining that chorus let us recap what was learned during the war

Iran Iran learned that its Russian supplied air defenses were useless, that it could not protect its nuclear program, and that its ballistic missiles, if armed with just conventional warheads, were incapable of strategic effects. On the other hand it learned that its drone fleet could mount sufficient harassment of shipping in the Straits of Hormuz to block the world oil trade. Offsetting this it learned that the US Navy could shut off Iran's oil trade and that Israel meant to destroy Iran's ally Hezbollah and probably would succeed.

US The US learned that it had badly under-invested in anti-drone warfare and munition factories. It also learned that failure to lay the political groundwork for the war depleted it of about half its strength.

the Gulf States The Gulf states learned they were over-invested in high end air defenses at the expense of mid-level and low level defenses. They also learned that they were badly under-invested in pipelines. Finally they learned that the US was a feckless ally.

Israel Israel learned that its anti-drone defenses needed improvements. It learned that its principal ally is unreliable.

Hezbollah It learned that Iran still cared about it. On the other hand it was reminded that the IDF was a good deal closer.

At the commencement of the negotiations the Iranian government found itself divided into several factions with nominal authority misaligned to actual authority. Its principal fear was being massacred by a popular uprising sparked by ongoing free fall of the economy. On the other side Trump's fear is devastating losses in the midterms leading to to massive reduction in his practical power. Here rage in his base generated by elevated gasoline prices was the major concern. In short, both governments could discover a common interest in pausing their ongoing conflict so that each might consolidate its home front.

Now we come to what the agreement provides. First, it provides for a 60 day ceasefire extensible by mutual consent. Within one month of the signing of the agreement the Straits of Hormuz are to be demined and free passage for shipping is allowed until the end of the sixty day period. The US Navy is to lift its blockade and permit proportionate ship traffic to Iran's ports. Three sources of funds are allowed to the Iranians

oil revenue Revenues earned from sale of oil which will not be restricted, about $10 billion

frozen assets Return of frozen assets, about $25 billion

ransom A payment of about $300 billion to be paid by the Gulf states, effectively as a ransom for not being attacked, but labeled as a Investment and Reconstruction fund.

Release of funds will be progressive against progress elsewhere in the program. During the sixty day period the US and Iran will negotiate a peace treaty. In the treaty Iran will agree to a plan for disposing of its highly enriched uranium by down blending on site under international inspections. The US will agree to lifting all economic sanctions. Unspecified terms will forestall Iran from resuming a high grade enrichment program. Vague and internally contradictory language pertains to the Straits of Hormuz. Iran and Oman are to agree on its management consistent with the rights of the Persian gulf littoral states and international law. Even vaguer language declares lasting peace between each side and its unnamed allies and the other side including in Lebanon. This might mean a cessation of hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah, but since neither has been named in let alone signed on to the agreement it probably does not.

So far implementation has been uneven. Iran has continued harassing shipping in the Straits on the grounds that the ceasefire has not been extended to Lebanon. Of course Iran has military advisers embedded with Hezbollah and is perfectly aware that Hezbollah continues to attack Israel (and conversely.) Further, Oman has not agreed with Iran's scheme for how to manage the Straits and Iran continues trying to block the shipping channel along Oman's coast. Trump continues telling everyone that Iran was desperate for a ceasefire and that if he had not agreed to a ceasefire then the blocking of the Straits would have triggered a world depression similar to the 1930s. The two thoughts seem incompatible and simply demonstrate Trump's eagerness to say whatever he thinks will make him look good in that moment. Some of the shipping trapped in the Persian Gulf by the war has made it out. Probably less than 30%. Several large pipeline projects have been launched with first use about 18 months out. Actions of the Iranian government suggest they have no intention on following through on the nuclear commitments.

Now let us come to assessing winners and losers.

1. The two principal combatants each get the opportunity to consolidate their home positions.

2. The Obama era deal of Iran ending high grade enrichment in return for sanction relief is returned to in new clothes and with weaker protections.

3. The Gulf states get shook down for Iran's benefit, but they likely calculate that the damage they would absorb from continuing hostilities is comparable, so the terms - while distasteful- are not irrational.

4. Israel benefits from the ending of Iran's nuclear program, if such occurs, but otherwise its interests are ignored.

5. The UN Law of the Seas has lost an as yet undefined amount of authority.

6. The old Ayatollah is a clear loser. He was killed and his regime of clerical control is probably giving way to a more conventional military junta. His program of building up proxy forces in the Mideast neither defended Iran nor achieved anything against Israel. Finally his nuclear program set Iran's economics development back by a generation but achieved no commensurable benefits.

7. Trump personally is a massive loser. He tore up the Obama deal but effectively achieved no more than its restoration. His proclamation that he was ending Iran's political program in the Middle East looks hollow and Iran's asserted but not yet consolidated power over Hormuz looks like a real loss. As a war leader he appeared irresolute. As a peacemaker he appeared to have been played. Certainly that is the view of the European governments. In short, he has suffered a massive loss of credibility.

8. Netanyahu is a modest winner. The Assad regime in Syria is gone and the new Syrian regime is not allied with Iran and Hezbollah as Assad was. Hezbollah and Iran are each soundly damaged and will likely need years to rebuild before once again threatening Israel. The Iranian nuclear program is probably ended. Its physical destruction provides a better guarantee of that than did Obama's text.

9. The IRGC junta in Tehran, assuming they consolidate their position, looks like a big winner. They will be free to loot the Iranian state without needing to share with the clerical establishment and sanctions relief should much expand the looting opportunities. They also will have plenty of money for weapon programs and to funnel to proxies throughout the Mideast if they choose to continue that, so far, unsuccessful strategy.

10. The Iranian people look like losers. Their oppressors survived the war and look set to consolidate their position.

11. The US and Israeli militaries emerged with substantial battle honors but a clear check on their ability to deliver strategic results and a definite "fix-it" list with respect to drone warfare and munitions pipelines. The Gulf militaries achieved substantial defensive successes but also have a clear agenda for self improvement in terms of layered air defenses and troop training.

12. China is a likely winner as it will replace Russia as Iran's principal arms supplier and foreign patron. Its main gain, however, is the perceived humbling of the United States.

Three follow ons seem possible.

1. A real peace settlement emerges. So far there is no evidence of that.

2. The ceasefire ends and hostilities are renewed.

3. No peace deal emerges but it suits Washington and Tehran to extend the ceasefire.

Each of the combatants emerged from the war with a clear to do list. How quickly they progress on those lists will strongly influence what comes next. At present the third outcome seems more likely than the other two.

Finally we come to assessing what this means for the United States. It demonstrated significant military power through the air campaign and naval blockade. That power destroyed much of Iran's military force in one of the most lopsided campaigns in history. But the US was unable to translate those successes into commensurable strategic results and it failed to fully protect its Arab allies or to deny Iran control of the Straits of Hormuz. Indeed, it did not even try to any notable degree. Its leadership was displayed as feckless and as incompetent negotiators. Careful observers will note that it was Presidential policy that was being tested here and not national policy. But most observers will not be careful and will embrace instead the story of

US defeat. China, in particular, will continue its propaganda about the fading "US empire" and will be encouraged to press on its own agenda of installing a Chinese led world order. Certainly the US foreign policy bureaucracy assesses this as a significant defeat - they are busy telling everyone who cares to listen that they were not consulted, their advice was not heeded and their personnel were not involved. That is all true but the saying of it merely highlights how weakly this war has been conducted.

Specific problems with the negotiations have been identified. They were led by the Vice President, JD Vance, by Trump's friend Witkoff and his son-in-law Kushner. The inclusion of Vance was necessary as the Iranians objected to Witkoff and Kushner as perfidious insomuch as the the US armed assault which killed the Iranian Head of State, the Ayatollah Khamenei, commenced while the Iranians were in active dialog with Witkoff and Kirchner. For his part, Vance saw a rapid shut down of the war as essential to preserving his presidential aspirations and he was motivated to exclude the Secretary of State, Mark Rubio, who is his main rival for the Republican presidential nomination. Responsibility for putting together such a weak negotiating team and for permitting such divisive rivalries in his core team belongs, of course, to Trump. Trump has also alluded to the need to reach an agreement before reserve stocks of oil ran out. But Trump should certainly have understood that the clock favored the Iranians during negotiations. It was his decision not to introduce rationing to extend the lifetime of reserve stocks and to have halted the air campaign against Iran before a diplomatic settlement was arrived at.

Most commentary has focused on the lopsided nature of the agreement. The US makes a number of commitments whereas Iran's commitments are fewer. But what the US got out of the war was facts on the ground - destruction of Iran's military capabilities. These are more substantive gains than the balanced set of steps the two sides commit to in the memorandum of understanding and which may break down at any point due to the vague language employed. Accordingly, we think one cannot score the war simply on the basis of what is written in this memorandum. If Iran makes a swing towards a more peaceful coexistence with its regional neighbors, the war will have been a larger success than it now appears. On the other hand, if Iran continues to reach for regional power the release of such substantial economic resources to it will greatly assist that effort. At this point Iran probably has not really figured out much beyond the one or two month horizon.

With Iran's control of the Straits not having been effectively contested on the battlefield and barely circumscribed by the memorandum there is legitimate concern that Iran will continue to exploit this power point. However, there are limits. The more unreliable oil supply from the Gulf becomes, the faster the nations of the world will move on the green energy program to the permanent diminution of the economic resources of the oil states. Indeed electric vehicle sales have risen dramatically in Europe. Also the war is likely to lead to heavy pipeline construction to provide alternate means of exporting oil. It will take a few years for all of these new pipelines to come on line, but when they do the advantage to be gained from disrupting the Straits will be much reduced. Finally the US can fairly easily reimpose a naval blockade. So, while we see the Straits as a power point, we think the Straits are a limited power point. A nuclear weapon would have been a much more deadly power. The Iranian government appears to be talking up the power of closing the Straits as a way of reconciling its hard liners to the loss of the nuclear weapon program.

To summarize. We doubt the war is over. At a minimum peace remains to be won. We are concerned that Trump's failure to adequately mobilize national resources is leading to a poor outcome for the US. Our capital market assumptions remain under review for potential negative action.

2.2 Israel and its Enemies

The Israeli right wing is bitter that Trump did not press for regime change in Tehran. In their assessment the current Iranian government will not abandon its hegemonic ambitions and a follow on war is inevitable. Their commentary has been acerbic and the Administration's response minatory. Iran is delighted at the tensions it is creating between the two allies. It will turn that screw to the maximum - holding peace talks hostage to the US imposing restraint on the Israel's battle with Hezbollah while failing to control Hezbollah itself.

Iran says the US has committed to getting Israel to halt its attack on Hezbollah. In fact, Israeli pressure on Hezbollah emerged as the primary counter-pressure to that exerted by Iran in closing the Straits. So it is unsurprising that stopping and rolling back the IDF offensive is seen by the Iranians as a prime US undertaking in the memorandum. However, Israel will not let Hezbollah's provocations go unanswered and will not rollback its occupation of southern Lebanon until the borderlands are at peace. How much control Hezbollah's central leadership actually possesses over its field commanders is always a question. Neither Iran nor the US is likely to deploy full suasion against its ally. We think the border may quiet down but we do not expect it to become peaceful. Israel has turned two of its forward positions over to the Lebanese Army to test their willingness and capacity to exclude Hezbollah from returning. If the test is successful, Israel might gradually disengage from Southern Lebanon while leaving the Lebanese Army in control.

Settler aggression against Palestinians in the West Bank is continuing and little checked by the government. Gaza is nominally at peace but actually fatal incidents involving Palestinian victims are continuing. Popular support and sympathy for Israel in the United States has waned dramatically as a consequence of these Israeli policies. Interestingly former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton gave a speech supporting the Administration's peace plan. In her view it is a flawed plan, but even a flawed plan is much better than no plan and continued deadlock.

2.3 Russo-Ukrainian War

The Russians launched a massed drone attack on Kiev which succeeded in setting on fire the oldest monastery in the city - an important cultural landmark. Ukraine returned the compliment with a mass attack on the Moscow oil refinery. A number of fires and explosions were triggered at the plant and production is halted for the moment. The attack is notable for penetrating Moscow's air defenses - the best in the country. Apparently the Russians also are running short of interceptor missiles. Hopefully the US military is studying these operations in depth. China is known to have put considerable effort into developing swarm attack capability. On the other hand, South Korea has demonstrated destruction of a drone swarm by a battery of electric Gatling guns. Closer to the front Ukraine has been cutting bridges and establishing control over important highways in the occupied territory. The Russians have had to pull their elite drone pilots out of the frontal battle and devote them to anti-drone defense of logistical lines. Crimea is particularly vulnerable as there are few ways of supplying it. Ukraine has sufficiently degraded Russian logistics that the Russians have had to pull troops from Crimea. On the front line itself there is little motion. The Russians are pushing on the outlying defenses of the fortress belt, but so far have not achieved any notable successes.

The Russians increasingly dominate the government of Belarus. Belarus may be inching towards becoming an active combatant in the war. This would be a major strategic development as Russian forces operating from Belarus could much more effectively threaten the Western Ukraine than is possible from the Russian's current positions. A threat to Western Ukraine would heat up the conflicts in Moldavia and potentially in Romania also. Russia may be considering a false flag operation against Poland to stir up nationalist sentiment at home.

Russia rejected the latest peace proposals from Europe and restated its maximalist goals. The Russian program is to involve Trump in the peace process, probably because they judge him a naive "useful idiot."

2.4 China

Do not disturb your enemy while he is making a fool of himself is timeless wisdom. China is going about its usual business of bullying and destabilizing its neighbors, but it sees to it that the headlines are about how it wants to support peace and harmony in the world. Ray Dali has written a piece to the effect that US prestige is crashing in Asia as a consequence of the Straits of Hormuz situation. He expects China to be a major beneficiary in terms of picking up and deepening client-patron relationships with the many small countries on the boundary between the US and Chinese spheres of influence. Concern about this possibility is one reason our capital market assumptions are under review. The US will need to make a more serious and expensive effort in balancing China as a result of this loss of prestige than if the Iran war had been successfully pushed to a better conclusion. China's support for Iran has been critical for its ability to resist, so this train of events is engineered - not just lucky. The Administration has done a poor job at exposing the hypocrisy of China's pretense of being a peace loving stabilizing influence in the world however.

2.5 Cuba

Cuba is basically Marco Rubio's project and its not moving quickly as Trump's eyes are trained instead on the Middle East.

3 Domestic Politics

3.1 The Supreme Court

The Court ruled against Trump 6-3 on his attempt to end birth right citizenship. As the Chief Justice pointed out citizenship is a social contract in which the government extends protection and the citizen accepts the burdens of allegiance. Currently birthright citizenship means all persons born in the United States owe it their allegiance. Revoking this rule would permit emergence of a resident self reproducing alien population not owing allegiance to the United States. Oddly three of the conservative Justices favored this outcome and Kavanaugh temporized - saying the President did not have the power to revoke birthright citizenship but Congress might. The dominant idea in the minds of the revokers appears to be that citizenship is a reward not a obligation and aliens are stealing it. Certainly that was the view expressed by House Speaker Johnson.

So the Court closed its term having denied Trump his two core objectives on tariffs and citizenship. But it gave him almost everything else he sought. In particular the long standing precedent of Humphrey's Executor was overturned. The effect is to give the President greater control over regulatory agencies. A more volatile national policy is likely to result. In our view this is a structural negative for the economy.

Our annual research note on the Supreme court's decision will be forthcoming next month.

3.2 The Nation's Health

A CNN analysis has uncovered stark differences in health outcomes between Congressional districts coded by party affiliation. Of the fifteen districts with the highest life expectancy, all are Democratic. Of the hundred districts with highest life expectancy, eighty five are Democratic. Seventy percent of Democratic congressmen represent districts with above average life expectancy. The gap in longevity between the longest and shortest lived districts is fifteen years - comparable to the gap between Sweden and Senegal.

Indicia of chronic illness: diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease and breast cancer are all higher in Republican districts and medical insurance coverage is lower.

Some of these results are an example of correlates. Republicans run strong in the South, and Southern cooking, while delicious, is not especially healthy. In particular it accounts for some of the chronic disease load. Republicans also run strong in rural districts were the lower density of medical centers leads to a higher fatality rates from traumatic accidents, heart attacks and stroke.

Several Republican policy choices also directly contribute to poor health outcomes. Republicans favor widespread gun ownership. Republican support fossil fuel industries whose workers face above average occupational hazard. Finally Republican districts supply less Medicaid support.

Generally speaking, we see that the Republican Party is increasingly based in districts which have fallen behind the mainstream in education, health and economic development. Their voters are unhappy and rebellious in their outlook rather than holding the optimistic views on progress which once were quintessentially American.

3.3 The Nation's Biomedical Research

Biomedical research has long been one of the US's stand out strengths. In 2016 the United States accounted for 86% of new drugs worldwide. Essentially all of these drugs sprang from research initially conducted at the NIH. In 2026 50% of new drugs are coming from China and the US contributed only about 40% of discoveries. The US drug industry still takes 70% of new drugs to commercial launch, however. We caution against too much hand wringing. The figures are poorly defined and do not bring the total picture into full focus. However, there can be no doubt that the United State's dominant position in biomedical research is slipping away. The Administration's hostility towards the NIH is certainly a most unhelpful factor. Historically the drug industry has been one of the most rewarding for investors and the loss of leadership in this key economic growth sector is troubling.

3.4 The President's Cabinet

Todd Blanche is seeking confirmation as Attorney General. Widespread dismay at the 1776 Fund he set up is not helping his cause. Nor is his handling of the Epstein matter popular with those who wish to get to the bottom of the matter and who see Blanche as stonewalling. Absent serious horse trading, he is unlikely to be confirmed.

Trump has nominated the head of the housing administration, Pulte, as successor to Gabbard as Director of National Intelligence. Pulte not only has no background in intelligence, but also no security clearance. Slavish loyalty to Trump is the necessary and sufficient condition for his nomination, but inadequate for confirmation. Trump, however, makes this piece of nonsense into a bargaining chip with Congress. In effect he is challenging them to pay him to not be an idiot. We do not understand disrupting the intelligence function at a time of open war.

3.5 The Endless Scandal

Over the years the girls and women pulled into Epstein's sex operation have claimed that he put them at the disposal of friends and associates he was courting or otherwise wished to reward. In many cases specific persons, dates and events are named. The Department of Justice has claimed that everything was thoroughly investigated and no prosecutable offenses were discovered. But the corroborating evidence of actual investigations taking place is looking thin in many cases. Probably indifference to prosecuting vice charges, normally a state responsibility, and active collusion in a cover up were both present at different times. Guilt by association looks to be a consequence of this complex situation.

3.6 Push Back

A number of Trump's pet projects are receiving scrutiny and push back. His attempt to attach his name to the Kennedy Art Center in Washington DC has been rolled back. His attempt to divert tax funds to his more criminal supporters has the popularity of a long dead fish. The attempt to shut-down ocean bed climate monitoring systems has been reversed. The no-bid contract to a near neighbor to refurbish the reflecting pool in Washington has resulted in a prominent algae bloom and much joking about growing the swamp. Trump's plan for a triumphal arch to obscure the view of the Arlington cemetery is proving unpopular with veterans. His White House ballroom had its business case well made by a recent assassination attempt, but the project remains mired in controversy.

4 The Midterms

The Democrats have done relatively little to improve their party's attractiveness. It remains unfocused and all over the political map. The Democrats appear convinced that Trump will elect them with landslide levels of political swing. The Republicans also are making little effort to improve themselves. They are counting on the judges to put them back in power rather than the electorate. Accordingly, not attracting the ire of their leader is their main focus. The electorate is happy to not yet be bothered by its politicians.

5 The Economy

The overall inflation rate is at 4.2%. Shipping prices on fresh food and dairy product cause food prices to rise in tandem with fuel prices. Stripping fuel and food from the index indicates a core inflation rate of 2.9%. This core rate will likely rise as the impact of higher oil prices works its way through the production system. Interest rates have held steady. GDP rose 2% in the first quarter and probably contributed something similar in the second quarter. The unemployment rate is 4.2%. Workforce shrinkage from ongoing baby boomer retirements is offsetting weakness in hiring. Startup firms are reporting difficulty in raising seed and expansion capital as the country's limited stock of venture money has been powerfully diverted to some high cap commitments in AI. Weakness in business startups may account for some of the reported hiring softness.

6 The Capital Markets

SpaceX went public at 135 - a price which most analysts saw as containing a very generous premium for the company's CEO Elon Musk. It soared to 200 on public enthusiasm but fell back to the 150 range. As a result a nearly $2 trillion dollar valuation is attached to the stock, or about 100x 2026 revenues. This pricing is well above stratospheric. For comparison, Palantir Technologies is priced at just 60x revenue. OpenAI and Anthropic are reportedly mulling over whether to proceed with their IPOs given the "rocky start" at SpaceX. Indeed their private market valuations are at the 20x-30x revenue range with rapidly expanding revenues and genuinely novel technologies. Concern about being undervalued in the current market is a touch surprising, but their C-suites are apparently worried about that.

Outside the celebrity asset class, things were a bit more mundane. Equities trimmed across the board as they closed out a strong quarter. Fixed income bobbled around as they have been doing for quite a while. Oil plummeted on premature news of an end to fighting. Gold corrected after a big run-up and the Euro sagged as war worry came off the dollar.

Table 1: Market Performance to June 30, 2026

Asset Group	Asset Class	6-month trend	3-month return	1-month return
Equity	US Large Cap	rising	14.65%	-1.47%
	...Large Cap Growth	rising	21.59%	-2.02%
	...Large Cap Value	rising	7.53%	-0.38%
	...Growth – Value	falling	14.05%	-1.64%
	US Mid/Small Cap	rising	16.00%	2.98%
	Intl Developed	rising	6.95%	-0.88%
	Intl Emerging	rising	20.46%	-0.28%
Fixed Income	Treasury 3-7 year	flat	-0.96%	-0.24%
	Treasury 7-10 year	flat	-0.91%	0.97%
	TIPS	flat	-0.84%	-1.60%
	Municipal	flat	1.38%	0.42%
	Investment Grade	flat	0.07%	-0.27%
	Medium Grade	flat	0.52%	-0.42%
	Preferred	flat	0.56%	-3.39%
	REIT	rising	9.27%	-1.76%
Commodity	Euro	rising	-1.53%	-2.38%
	Gold	correcting	-14.03%	-11.79%
	Crude Oil	volatile	-30.77%	-13.38%

7 Advice

As it celebrates its 250th birthday the US is invited to look past the troubles of the moment to its enduring success in the wide world. In our judgment the country's leaders have done many foolish things and the country faces real competition in every domain. But we do not yet see the wellsprings of the United State's success to have broken. With time the consequences of foolishness will manifest and corrective measures will be taken. Although our capital market assumptions remain under review, we expect any adjustments would be incremental.

8 About Our Cover

The cover highlights an incident from the war of 1812 - the bombardment of Fort McHenry on Sepember 12, 1814. A British fleet of some 17 ships was attempting to force the defenses of Baltimore Harbor to support the siege of the city being conducted from the landside. To this end the fort was brought under mortar and rocket fire for 25 hours. The shells were mostly timed to explode in midair to scatter shrapnel upon the soldiers in the fort who has relatively little protecton aginst such fire. Neverthess the fort held out and the British fleet eventually abandoned the attempt to enter the harbor. The incident is very well known from having inspired the national anthem "The Star Spangled Banner."

The song is famous for the stanza "The rocket's red glare the bombs bursting in air gave proof through the night that our flag was still there." The rocket's in question were the drone weapons of their day. The sultan of Mysore had developped a rocket artillery corps and this inspired William Congreve to undertake his own research. He developed a gunpowder fueled rocket with a sheet metal exterior which extended the range of the weapon from 600 yards to 3,000. Accuracy remained a problem and warheads were of limited mass. The weapon was most effective when used to start fires in wooden shipping and towns. It was ineffective against fortified structures. Its range was comparable to smooth bore cannons, but crews could sustain higher rates of fire and the logistic demands were lighter. Overall the Congreve rocket gave a good account of itself in European wars of the same date.

It is interesting to note what has changed and not changed in the intervening 200 years. The SpaceX heavy lift rocket is more than 10,000x the mass of Congreve's largest model. However both rocket's were developed by private enterprise rather than public initiatives. Naval bombardment also has massively increased in power, but remains limited in its ability to project power ashore. Airburst anti-personnel weaponry remains in use but continues largely ineffective. The war of 1812 was deeply unpopular with parts of the citizenry in its day - being known as “Mr Madison’s War.” Historians currently assess it as a misconcevied war of aggression on the part of the United States - basically an attempt to snatch Canada while Britain was preoccupied with the Napoleonic wars. Seemingly the United States remains capable of misconceived military adventures.

9 About Lloyd Tevis Investments, LLC

Lloyd Tevis Investments LLC is a registered investment adviser offering its services over the internet to US individual investors and their families. Our Precision Investing ™ service provides clients with highly personalized investment solutions tuned to the client’s specific circumstances and objectives. We believe the strategic asset allocation decision is the key decision faced by our investors. Accordingly, our monthly commentary focuses on matters which can shape the longer term performance of asset classes. We do not time market swings or pick individual stocks. Discussion at this level of detail is made for the light which it throws on relative valuations and such discussion should not be read as an investment recommendation. Indeed, our investment focus is on maximizing diversification, careful risk budgeting and maximizing implementation efficiency. These are the proven builders of long term investment success.

In evaluating political and social developments our perspective is that of long term investors. We believe the investor’s interest is best served by a stable environment in which change occurs incrementally as broadly supported policies rather than by an environment of abrupt changes and frequent U-turns driven by transient partisan advantages. Finally, our assessments should always be read as what we consider likely to occur and not as expressions of what we would like to see come about. To learn more about our firm visit us at lloydtevis.com.