

Mattis resigns over differences with Trump

Defense **Secretary** Jim Mattis resigned Thursday after clashing with President Donald Trump over the withdrawal of U.S. troops from **Syria** and **Afghanistan**, saying in a parting letter that the president deserves someone atop **the Pentagon** "better aligned" with his views.

secretary 部长; 秘书

the Pentagon 五角大楼

Syria 叙利亚

Afghanistan 阿富汗

The retired Marine **general**'s surprise resignation came a day after Trump shocked American allies and **overruled** his advisers, including Mattis, upon announcing a withdrawal from Syria. In the process, Trump declared victory over the Islamic State, even though the Pentagon and State Department for months have been saying the fight against the group in Syria isn't over.

general 将军

overrule 否决; 统治

The **discord**, **coupled with** an array of other disagreements, caused Trump to lose a respected **Cabinet** official who won widespread praise at home and abroad but who experienced increasing differences with a **commander** in chief known for his **skepticism** of American allies and **military** operations overseas.

discord 不和

coupled with 加上

cabinet 内阁的; 私下的

commander 指挥官

skepticism 怀疑论

military 军事的

Long seen as a **bulwark** against Trump's **isolationist** impulses and more extreme proposals, Mattis served as a calm "reassurer-in-chief" as the president sent out **startling** and **provocative** tweets.

bulwark 保障; 壁垒

isolationist 孤立主义的

startling 令人吃惊的

provocative 刺激的; 挑衅的

Mattis pointed to some of his differences with Trump in a **parting** letter he submitted to the White House on Thursday, which **prompted a chorus of** concern about the president's **temperament** and decision-making processes and injected new uncertainty into the administration's approach to global threats.

parting 分手; 分开

prompt 提示; 促使

a chorus of 一系列

temperament 性情

"We must do everything possible to advance an international order that is most **conducive to** our security, prosperity and values, and we are strengthened in this effort by the **solidarity** of our **alliances**," Mattis wrote. He did not offer any praise of Trump in the letter.

conducive to 有利于

solidarity 团结

alliance 联盟