

NBC's *Today*
09/23/25
7:06:40 a.m.
14 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Secretary of State Marco Rubio on *Today*]

CRAIG MELVIN: As President Trump has said, he aims to finish this war soon. Mr. Secretary, what — what does victory look like? Is it the total eradication of Hamas, or do you still see a pathway to a political compromise there?

(....)

7:07:55 a.m.
17 seconds

MELVIN: Mr. Secretary, as you know, France, Canada, the U.K., about 145 other nations now recognize the Palestinian state. Are you at all concerned that — that the United States of America is becoming more isolated on that particular issue?

(....)

7:08:58 a.m.
25 seconds

MELVIN: Let's talk about Ukraine now, another big topic at the U.N. this week, of course. We are roughly a month out from that summit in Alaska between the President and President Putin. Since then, a roughly 50 percent increase in drone attacks. 50 percent increase in missile attacks as well. Is it possible that we misread President Putin's intentions in Alaska?

(....)

7:10:49 a.m.
1 minute and 8 seconds

MELVIN: To be fair, you're right. I think we're three years into the war. The President repeatedly did say he would end the war in Ukraine on day one, and we are some 250 days into the administration. Let's — let's talk U.S. and China, Mr. Secretary. As you know, you are appearing —

RUBIO: But that's not — that's not up to us to end the war. The Russians have to stop the war —

MELVIN: — well yes, but —

RUBIO: — and the Ukrainians have to agree to a peace deal. The President expresses it would be a priority of his and it has been. I don't think anyone could argue it hasn't been a priority.

MELVIN: — yes. But, again, repeatedly on the campaign trail, he said he would end it on day one. We're 246 days into the administration.

RUBIO?: Which is an indication that he repeatedly said that he would make it a priority. He certainly has done more than Biden ever did to end the war. Biden didn't even have a plan to end the war.

MELVIN: Let's — let's talk about U.S. and China and the TikTok deal, that's important to a lot of folks, especially young people. It looks like there is the framework of a deal. We've been repeatedly told the reason this is happening is because there's concern that the Chinese are using the algorithm to manipulate folks in this country and also steal data from folks in this country. What can you tell us about how this deal is going to address those concerns?

(....)

7:12:41 a.m.
26 seconds

MELVIN: Really quickly, Mr. Secretary, as you probably know, Jimmy Kimmel returning to late night tonight. The Vice President at one point suggested that you should be hosting late night. Amid all of the political violence we've seen in this country over the last few months, are you at all concerned that it may be impacting America's reputation abroad? There was a Republican senator who said we're starting to look like a third world country.