

CBS Mornings

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7:00:52 a.m. [TEASE]

10 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Fiery Midterm Debates]

VLADIMIR DUTHIERS: The midterm elections are heating up with three fiery debates last night in three hotly contested races.

SENATOR JON OSSOFF (D-GA): You've hired half the Third Reich to staff your congressional office.

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7:13:10 a.m.

2 minutes and 19 seconds

GAYLE KING: With the midterm elections fast approaching, candidates in three Senate races – that's Maine, Georgia, and Michigan – squared off in very fiery debates last night. Democrats need to win all three states – all three seats, rather, to control Congress. Caitlin Huey-Burns has more on the showdown in Michigan, where the candidates had heated exchanges that quickly got very personal.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Fiery Midterm Debates in Three Key Senate Races]

FORMER CONGRESSMAN MIKE ROGERS (R-MI): I'll tell you what my mother did. She was a – a – small –

EL-SAYED: You going after my mom?

ROGERS: I'm not going after your mom.

CAITLIN HUEY-BURNS: Democrat Abdul el-Sayed and Republican Mike Rogers faced off in a fiery first debate of the cycle in Michigan where tariffs loom large.

ROGERS: We didn't change. What we said is things move. We're trying to get it wrapped up. We want a deal on those tariff deals.

EL-SAYED: Weak. Cowardly. Won't stand up until his poll numbers drop.

HUEY-BURNS: And a similar theme in Maine where Republican Senator Susan Collins is fending off a challenge from Democrat state lawmaker Troy Jackson.

FORMER MAINE SENATE PRESIDENT TROY JACKSON (D): We are in a crisis here because she would not stand up and her Republican colleagues would not stand up to Donald Trump. They let him go to war in Iran.

SENATOR SUSAN COLLINS (R-ME): I have voted nine times to bring the war in Iran to an end.

HUEY-BURNS: Collins is vying for a sixth term in a state that Donald Trump lost three times, and she's trying to distance herself from the President's policies. But in Georgia –

OSSOFF: It's not just that you've hired half the Third Reich to staff your congressional office –

COLLINS: And I have never heard him say a word about his DSA pickup there, Abdul el-Sayed, Hasan Piker. How about Reid Hoffman?

HUEY-BURNS: – Republican congressman Mike Collins aligned himself with the President as polls show he faces an uphill battle against Democratic Senator Jon Ossoff.

COLLINS: My opponent is a radical, and has left our state less safe, more expensive, and worse off. He is an extremist who has voted for men to go in girls' sports.

OSSOFF: If John Lewis were marching today from Selma to Montgomery, Mike Collins would be grabbing a billy club.

HUEY-BURNS: Now, Democrats are going to have to hold on to those seats in Georgia and Michigan if they even stand a chance of taking over the Senate, and former President Obama is stepping in to help. He endorsed Jon Ossoff in Georgia yesterday and plans to hit the campaign trail for el-Sayed in Michigan later this month, Nate.

NATE BURLESON: Caitlin, thank you.