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On Gaining Perspective

Perspective is an interesting thing. Some think it's acquired by living in a red state—others, in a blue state. Neither is the case. The town in which I live, Ashland, Oregon, a bastion of the left, is as unaware about geo-politics, as former friends who live in Texas and Wyoming. Why? Because where you live has little to do with perspective—gaining perspective requires work.

If you want perspective on Russia, read Russian literature. Russians are among the great writers in history. Also, read Putin's speeches because, other than deceased Stephen Cohen and live Scott Ritter (Russia experts), the US take on Russia is nothing but propaganda—nothing but lies/drivel.

Listening to 'Useful Idiots' yesterday (Katie Halper/Arron Mate), who listen to the Sunday news shows so we won't have to, I was, as usual, amazed at the depth of mendacity—main street news has become. Over the many loud bites, not a single word of truth was spoken.

As I said, living in Texas or Wyoming doesn't give you perspective, not if you gain your geopolitical acumen from fringe sources or rely on the Bible for your up-to-date news. Perspective requires work, reading/listening to those who spend lives in an attempt to connect the dots—to gain an overview. Without that practice, Americans, unwilling to come to terms the man with the orange hair, tend to blame Palestinians/Islam for our failures.

That gets me back to my last article where I referenced the Rajneesh. Some readers, especially Europeans, thought to correct my assessment of Ashland as epicenter for the Bhagwan Shri Rajneesh movement, in Oregon. Of course it was Antelope (Rajneeshpuram—Big Muddy Ranch), but my town was an epicenter for orange and purple. Realtors, therapists, you name it, they all went nuts for it. My best comparison is with Del Rio, Texas. During my last visit there, illegals outnumbered the entire Del Rio population.

Perspective is allusive. One can be a Christian and use the *Bible* to justify the horror of Israeli foreign policy—condemning Palestinians for simply existing. You won't get that from reading the parables of Jesus, but the Bible is much more than Jesus.

On the other hand, we've somehow ended up with a *left* that abhors Christianity/Bill of Rights/Constitution. And a right, unable to call Trump out for what he is—siding with Israel/Netanyahu?

Can we maintain equilibrium? I do, hanging-on to what Ed Landing would say when he passed my cubicle each morning (1965), Navy 555, Sigonella, Sicily: 'Piss on em, Whip. They ain't shit! Ed was right—they ain't shit.

Elites are at least mildly insane. As such, their authority holds little sway over questioners. They can't have my memories of life—I say: 'piss on em.'

You want perspective? Search out the songs that formed our culture. Begin with the anthem of the Great Depression: 'Brother Can You Spare a Dime?' Read the books that matter: 'War and Peace', 'Grapes of Wrath'. Read 'Anna Karenina' and you will no longer hate Russia. Read Confucius and Mencius to better understand why China is China. Watch the films that matter: '12 Angry Men', 'There Will Be Blood'. So many more.

Get out on the backroads and talk to people. I was at the coast, in a Denny's, Sunday, waiting for a table, talking to guy my age about how Denny's

took out the counter seating. Denny's, that once represented our all-night culture in America. Now it's dying—counter-seating first.

I'm meeting with a 23 year-old woman this week, who's asking about my idea—that getting ahead financially requires you identify one trend, invest in that trend—and don't waver. I'll have more to say to her.

Being an entrepreneur is more difficult than it used to be—but still possible. Since most entrepreneurs fail a couple/3 times before they succeed, do the work to make sure about your trend—so you get it right the first time.

Trends change. Fortunes are made in tech and real estate—both of which are now sketchy. The trend that stands out now identifies a rudderless world, with an outcome of horror—likely. Where any liberty we've enjoyed is fast disappearing—under the dictates of elite morons as.

From my vantage, unstable times calls for historically, dependable wealth choices. That's precious metals. I used to say gold but now I'm thinking silver—gold is for the rich. When I hear Andy Schectman, talking about when to trade your silver for gold, I take issue. In the coming world of barter, with no fiat currency worth having, silver will be the medium of exchange and the only thing that will matter when dealing with a farmer at a market.

I first identified the gold trend and bought into it. These last few years, following my friend Bill Holter's advise, I've bought nothing but pre 65, 90% silver dimes. For barter, a silver dime is the best medium of exchange.

What can I say to others who haven't done required work, so they understand time is short, and the time to acquire silver is now—maybe only now?

I can already see the comments from those who think nothing will help for what's coming—and that includes lead/silver. To those I say: 'Keep it to yourself.' Things are tough and we do what we have to do. We choose options, as best we can, and rely on the gods for what is outside of our control.

If you want some perspective—go get some. Tune into ‘Neutrality Studies’, ‘Judge Napolitano’, ‘Dialogue Works’ and Glenn Diesen. An array of guests there will connect the dots such that you gain needed perspective.

Let’s sum up with some geo-political perspective. The future of the world will be played-out in Palestine, Lebanon, Iran, and Ukraine. Battle lines are drawn and battle lines are changing. It’s no longer in the cards for the US to take on China, and what seemed an open/shut victory for Russia in Ukraine is now complicated—shifting the board and requiring change in perspective.

Here’s what happened, what has to happen, and will likely happen—by necessity. Identifying aggressors: US/EU unconcern for the people of the Donbas forced Putin’s hand, bringing invasion of 2022. Russian invasion was not done for the sake of a land grab—but for the people of Donbas.

Rather than recognize reality, the West sacrificed a nation (Ukraine), and the slaughter of 2 million of its young. Russia's invasion was justified under UN Charter. For the sake of profit/power, the US expanded the conflict.

The US was/is the aggressor nation in 2014, 2022, and now, supporting both hardware/intelligence for massive drone strikes by Ukraine into Russia. Under UN Charter, Russia is justified in striking participating EU nations as well as the US. Putin doesn’t want to risk that—but what is he not doing?

Putin pussy-footed for 4 years, fighting an incremental war. He doesn’t have to attack EU/US, but he needs to end Ukraine as a staging area for drone attacks. For this he needs to blockade (take), Odessa and smaller ports, and he needs to rupture the service route from Poland to Ukraine.

Russia is powerful, and could easily do this, but it hasn’t been done. So, what’s up with Putin and Ukraine? That’s some perspective and questions.

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