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Save in Gold—Spend in Fiat

Given the cruel joke that is the dollar, it makes sense to spend paper (backed by nothing), and save in gold. Think on how much propaganda has gone into degrading gold—and holding back the tide of economic reality? Begging the question: how long before gold prevails and asserts itself?

Scott Bessent practices mendacity (he's a liar), when he tells us that foreign exporters pay the lion's share of Trump's tariffs. Just go shopping and pay $100 for a bag of groceries. Americans are paying for 60% of the tariffs at the register. The remaining 40% is divvied-up by American businesses and foreign exporters. Unjust mafia tariffs are bad enough without the lies.

Consider how bad it's become? How far we've fallen—how far we've yet to fall? The United States, with its warts and boils, was for 2 and a half centuries the standard bearer for rule of law. What caused a shift to criminality?

Europe, with its *Age of Enlightenment*, Medici/Michelangelo/Reformation, rivaled Persia (Iran), as a seat of civilization. What happened to social programs that seemed to worked for a long time? Whatever Europe was, it's over—destroyed by migrants/warmongering, etcetera.

The EU is not Europe—Europe was individual, disparate, sovereign nations—always at one another's throat—but the EU and its unelected warmongers—is worse by magnitudes.

Among my favorite podcasters is Glenn Diesen, Norwegian professor, historian. Glenn has resigned his universally professorship, to move out of the EU, to an undisclosed location. Threatened by his government, he fears for the safety of his family—and for himself.

I look for songs that capture the moment. Today, I'll take *Ribbon of Darkness—over* me, written by Gordon Lightfoot, a hit for Marty Robbins. The title describes our plight quite nicely.

It's difficult to assess which is the bigger terrorist, the EU or the US? It's even more difficult to point to what turned each of them towards the dark. But darkness it is, with the US giving-up *Rule of Law* to become a mafioso gang. And, it's not just Trump. He had to fall a long way to rival Biden/Blinkin/Sullivan. But he made it. He's right there with them—maybe beyond?

That said, there was no chance Obama/Biden would opt-out of warmongering. Annihilation of Ukraine belongs to Biden. There's no likelihood that Trump will come to reason, except, unlike Biden he's capable of anything.

The Europeans are warmongers, openly preparing for a war with Russian that has nothing to do with reality. It is, in fact, as far from reality as Trump's trumped-up lies about Iran. Lies are now reality, with the little guy squeezed in the grip of madness. And there seems to be no end to it.

In Plato's Republic (on justice), Book 1 reduces to absurdity the idea that *might is right* (Socrates refers to it as *the advantage of the stronger*). In the *Republic*, a definition for justice is found: *minding one's own business*.

Our founders were all about minding our own business (and citizens retaining power). No, that's almost over with. What did Rubio say: to not cite laws to people with swords? That's *might makes right*. It used to be that the US carried a big stick. Now that stick is used openly to break heads.

How does *minding one's own business* square with values in the West?

Europeans, with no evidence, are busily getting ready for war with Russia. It doesn't matter that no cause is cited. If there is to be WW3, a principle cause will be EU drones, killing Russian civilians—indiscriminately.

Western leaders are at odds with themselves. While I support Mark Carney standing up to Trump, I'm befuddled at his justification/rationale, for sending young Canadians to fight/die for Ukraine. Anybody who asks questions knows that Ukraine is a proxy for Trump and US foreign policy. On Ukraine, Carney is doing Trump's bidding. To get a needed trade agreement with the EU, does Carney have to genuflect to EU lunacy?

The US position in the world is one of being unable to compete—instead defaulting to *might is right*. We get away with it with weak states—Venezuela and Cuba, but will we get away with it with Russia/China/Iran. That question will decide human history's fate.

What are the facts? Russia is twice the size, geographically, of the US or China, as well as the 3rd largest economy in purchasing power parity. Russia and China each rival the US as a military power—and India/Iran are each headed for (at least regional), superpower status.

China is the world's largest economy, outproducing the US by magnitudes. Do we really think not selling chips to China will sustain American hegemony? That's madness. China, especially when challenged, is capable of developing over months, what it takes the West—years.

After the death of Mao, under the leadership of Deng Xiao-ping (Chinese head of state 1978 through early 90s), China's economy grew 10% each year—for 40 years. And that growth served US interests, right up to the point where China rivaled the US.

I've almost forgotten my title here, so let's tie it together. Tactics in US foreign Policy strategy to stop China will fail. And, if Trump again attacks Iran,

and Iran responds with its full capacity, the price and unavailability of energy will prelude the death of billions. That's that 'ribbon of darkness over me', as far into humanity's future—as we can see.

Let me suggest a cause for what caused our republic to slip into the darkness. We traded *values for ideologies*. Values are what the founders gave us—simple, unalienable truths. Free speech, free press, the right to protest, and even Jefferson's suggestion that the 2nd Amendment was put in place to insure citizens—protection from tyranny.

What are ideologies? Beliefs, things not thought through, which once adopted, becomes underlying causes for our lose of values. As in, democrats propose *Medicare For All*. Could that work? Could it improve on our bloated and sick health care system? I don't know, but I understand that healthcare, admixed with ideologies to include free health care for illegals and sex change operations as well as gender-affirming care for trans individuals, are a recipe for US bankruptcy. That ideology brings on collapse.

Another ideology replacing facts: Bessent: *foreign exporters bear the brunt of tariffs.* 60% of tariffs are in fact borne by Americans at the register. American businesses/exporters, divvy-up the remaining 40%, tariff burden.

Why put most of one's discretionary money into gold/silver? During 1 week this August, the US borrowed $839B—at a higher interest rate, to be serviced by taxpayers. Not understanding, baby-boomers have 60% of wealth in equities—it used to be 35%. Zero makes more sense. Don't we get it that markets are rigged—at risk? Are the Bessents of this world going to film/flam us into starvation? Do you have any gold? Do you have silver?

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