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updates on the insane world of money and power  
*The Left is Scattering—But Keep Your Powder Dry*

Our society has become polite. What that means, unfortunately, is things that need discussed, politics, economics, medicine, are often taboo at the dinner table, on the networks, or in the papers of record. Polite has come to mean that anything that is not sanctioned by elite propaganda is not given the benefit of free speech/open discussion.

We hear that the nation is at odds with itself, and there can't be open discussion because the division is unresolvable. That begs the question of how we got to this place. Our divisiveness is a result of money/power interests purposely dividing Americans.

Donald Trump has a portrait of Andrew Jackson on the wall behind him, but what does he share with Jackson? Jackson, during his term, wiped-out all public debt, moved the US back towards constitutionality, opposed tariffs, and entangling alliances.

Regarding entangling alliances, Trump will possibly earn an A and an F. Regarding NATO/involvement in Ukraine, he could be instrumental in quieting the drums of war. But concerning Israel, with whom we have no formal alliance/treaty, he may cause war.

Trump has said that he wants Netanyahu *to finish up*. What does that mean? Concerning the genocide, does that mean to speed it up and get it over with? What is Trump's view on Palestine? He nominated Huckabee as US ambassador to Israel—Huckabee who is completely on board with Israel annexing the occupied West Bank.

While I see benefit in conservatives taking back the House/Senate, Bernie Sanders has finally introduced a bill to curtail arms shipments to Israel—enlisting 17 democrats—no republicans. Do Dems murder UKRs while republicans prefer murdering Arabs?

On the networks, there is no discussion about ICC (world court), indictments on Netanyahu for crimes against humanity—murder, persecution, and using starvation as a means of warfare. With massive global support, except in the US, Israel (and minions), Trump's, Israeli subservient team, will be shown to be on the wrong side of history.

Always hopeful, I didn't expect some of Trump's appointments. A woman who is all in on booster shots for kids? A Treasury Secretary who ran the Soros Fund? With a sprinkling of rationality, Putin is called a thug. But Trump got rid of the left—praise be!

Some of Trump's appointments are unnecessarily bellicose. In a world where China, Russia, and Iran express interest in coming to peaceful terms with the US, does it make any sense, in *art of the deal*, to come at our adversaries—shrouded in hostility?

Trump's, N/Security Advisor, nominee, Waltz (we got rid of 1 Walz), meets with Jake

Sullivan where the 2 agree they are 'hand in glove' on national security issues. Is this a Trump negotiating tactic—or something else? Will Trump take on a military deep state?

The other thing that I come back to is tariffs. Andrew Jackson was against them. For the most part, any nation capable of productive competition stays away from tariffs. It makes me queasy when Trump advocates eliminating income tax through tariff profits.

Does anyone on the Trump team read history? At the beginning of the Great Depression, Hoover signed Smoot-Hawley into law (to protect American jobs/farmers). The rest of the world retaliated, tariffing our exports. Over 4 years, US exports/imports fell by 50%—that's half. GDP fell by 15%. Over 2 years/unemployment rose to 25%. Sure, there was more than 1 cause for the Depression, but it came down to 2: huge debt amassed by WW1, continued through *Roaring 20's* adventurism. But the 2nd cause was slowdown in global trade because of tariffs. Will Trump's tariffs be a replay?

Trump doesn't have to bully—the art of *the deal* is brinksmanship/bullshit when dealing with nuclear war—when it is your nation that pushes for conflict. And Trump has little leverage, as Putin has inserted a new step between conventional and nuclear war.

Trump did away with the INF (intermediate) treaty. Now, Russia has unstoppable, hypersonic (mach 11) weapons capable of annihilating any site in Europe—in minutes.

With diplomats, willing to negotiate, China (if the US would keep to its 1 China policy), would agree to take back Taiwan, economically—which was their intention. Iran would abandon nuclear weapons aspirations for peace, and Russia would settle for Donbas, and a neutral, de-Nazified Ukraine. The only roadblock is the United States.

It was obvious under the Obama/Biden horror that Americans had to adopt what boxers practice: *protect yourself at all times*—necessitating that we make ourselves debt free, while stocking up on food, lead—and precious metals. Younger persons see their safety in bitcoin, which explodes to nearly \$100K while gold makes slower gains. Of the two, gold is the more fundamentally sound, a fact the future will likely bear out.

Until we get more of a feel where the Trump presidency takes us, *protect yourself and keep your powder dry*. I was listening to Judy Sheldon (gold advocate supported by Trump), who is calling for a gold-backed bond using our gold stock as collateral. But, over near an hour, she made no mention whether or not US gold stock exists—she assumed it. Beyond her proposal, we need a gold standard—if we have any gold?

Anything Trump does to take us towards gold (dual metal, silver/gold), as settlement, would serve the economy and citizens. Without metal as a measure (outside of 3rd party control), government retains power to appropriate (steal) the wealth of citizens. A gold standard makes it difficult, if not impossible, for government to steal our assets.

Consider gold as an honest measure, medium of exchange. Without gold, elites control the *scales of settlement*. Without a shared/accepted measure (gold), arbitrary means (think of a finger on the scale), result in a heavier weight employed for what you supposedly owe the powers that be, and lighter weight for what they actually owe you.

This is not a time for reasonable Americans to abandon preparedness. This is a time to continue to protect ourselves, because, *overall*, Trump's team are not clear thinkers. They are not aligned with those who task themselves with attaining a global overview.

Trump could do good, remembering that: Making America Great Again is re-aligning with Constitution/Bill of Rights. Nothing more—nothing less. Mr. President, to find your enemies, look to your morning briefing—the CIA exists to *provide info, not direction*.

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