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We Owe a Debt of Gratitude

We owe a debt of gratitude to Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin as the perpetrators of world peace. Putin for being willing to win the Ukraine War in small increments so as not to trigger precipitous action on the part of NATO fools—especially the US under Biden—now under Trump.

Trump's visit to China had no plan. For a visit to be a summit requires an advance diplomatic team to negotiate what is hoped to be accomplished. Without preparation—nothing got resolved. Instead, Xi treated it as a trade mission, not requiring that he be on the tarmac to greet Air Force One.

Xi's slight of Trump was intended—but masked in Chinese pageantry. Xi sees Trump for the reckless fool he is, but just the fact Trump came to China (1st US presidential visit in a decade), was a positive—without question,

But slights there were. When Trump approached where Xi awaited, Xi didn't walk to meet him. He let Trump do the walk, only then did he offer his hand. And right-off Xi offered criticism for Trump's Taiwan policy—reminding Trump the '1 China Policy' the US had agreed to, included not selling arms to Taiwan, along with not interfering in the domestic affairs of Taiwan.

That the '1 China Policy' is the long-adopted policy of the US at the UN, though the actual role of the US in practice is quite different. At present, the US is involved in the biggest arms sale in Taiwan's history. Trump, when

asked about that arms sale, hedged. Is Trump, for now, re-considering?

Nothing got discussed, but at least they were civil with each other. And, this first trip to China for Trump's team, is likely to be an eye opener. Surely, dozens of US captains of industry can plainly see the difference in productivity and safety in the streets, compared to the US?

It's a complicated web we weave, with China/Russia not immune from the weaving. China is a strong proponent of sovereign respect, such that they neither accept Russia taking-back Crimea, nor the assimilation into Russia of Russian-speaking provinces of Ukraine. If the Ukraine war ends in a peace settlement between Ukraine/Russia, China will accept those terms.

China provides (by law), no offensive weapons to Iran—but they do provide defense. Russia, on the other hand, provides both to Iran. This is not to say that China is not there for Iran, but China moves deliberately—and is slow to anger. But anger it will if the arms sale to Taiwan goes through, or the US Navy interferes with China/Iranian oil tanker shipments.

Trump went on about Iran blocking Hormuz but that's not a fact. It is reported that more than 30 ships transited the Hormuz Strait during day 1 of Trump's China visit. So long as a nation is not hostile to Iran and willing to pay the toll to reconstruct Iran, the Strait of Hormuz is open.

There is, however, a blockade of all tankers leaving Hormuz, by the US Navy—a last ditch ploy for Bessent/Trump objectives—regime change and control of Iranian energy. When Trump says the Chinese need the Strait open more than we do—that's not true. Most US farmers will have few or no crops this year because more than 30% of fertilizer comes from Saudi Arabia, Qatar. And Trump's bet to control the world's energy supply hangs in the balance of the Strait opening. Next month, in the US, auto dealers, will begin to cut back/curtail oil changes because of lack of supply.

Ramifications of attacks on Iran aren't just at the pump—it's across the board. Air fares, trucking, the grocery store—more things for already beleaguered Americans to look forward to. And nowhere will there be greater blame than on Trump and his policies. Americans can't afford gas and groceries now. Will that get better when there is no gas or groceries?

I heard from an indignant reader last night—2nd demand to unsubscribe. He went on to accuse me of having Trump Derangement Syndrome. That was too much. I gave back to him that Trump has TDS—not me. Trump lied to us about everything/continues to lie at will. Americans don't matter to him.

Anyone who continues to support the Donald (after the lies, unconcern for other nations and struggling Americans), has a forensic problem—for which they might be chargeable. If not that, deep psychological issues that have divorced them from empathy, basic humanity, and any sense of justice.

Trump's personality is why we owe Putin/Xi debts of gratitude. Lesser leaders would meet Trump head on, not paying tribute to grandiose hubris—triggering an angry military repose. Instead we are left with Trump's slow-moving decent into senility that hopefully doesn't bring on WW3. Instead, a situation where it suffices that Trump functions on par with the big guys?

Promises were made by China, it has no intention of keeping. China doesn't wasn't 200 Boeing aircraft (the world knows it). When it was announced, Boeing stock dropped precipitously because China is developing its own fleet of civilian aircraft so as to not be dependent on the US/Europe.

Nothing was agreed and there was no joint statement from Trump's visit. Instead, China will continue decoupling while making symbolic gestures to Trump, and will continue to do this until Trump takes things one step too far.

China is well aware of Trump's treachery and knows better than to trust him in any way. When Trump spoke of Iran—Xi said nothing. Why is that?

Xi knows Trump is caught in his own trap, an historical trap, the Thucydides Trap, which Trump does not understand. Something that's been on the table for years, where a failing hegemony has an opportunity to allow for rising powers, but blinded by its own power, denies reality—bringing on war.

As it's turned out, both political parties in the US (right and left), are geopolitically bereft, which does not bode well for our future as a republic. Just as the left, in relation to mRNA, Ukraine, etcetera, will never admit they were wrong, many on the right, when it comes clear that Iran pushed the US doom clock to midnight, will, like their leftist compatriots—deny their fictions.

There will not be discussions about murderous intent of the US/Israel on Iranian civilians, just as there were no discussions about Russians limiting civilian casualties until Ukraine forced Putin to rain fire on all of Ukraine. No admission that 3500 Iranians were killed in US/Israeli attacks—only 20 killed in Iranian responses on Israel, the Gulf Monarchies, and US military bases.

I realize the impossibility for many to accept the thesis of this article, but that doesn't take away from the facts. Even Robert Kagan, arch neocon husband to Victoria Nuland (who I see as the architect for the slaughter of Ukraine), has come out about Trump's blunder in Iran as the point of no return for the US Empire. If Bob says it's over—take it as a given—it's over.

And now, post Trump's China visit, silver made its biggest 24 hour correction in memory. And there's theories floating around as to why. Its hedge funds—everything except for what it is—an insane world inhabited by inept people who will be devastated when silver and gold reprice. So what do we do? If we have none, buy some. If we already have some—sit on it and wait.

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