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October 14, 2020

U.S. Fails To Find Allies For Waging War On China

The U.S. wants to counter China's growing economic and political standing in the world.

The Obama administration had attempted a 'pivot to Asia' by building a low tariff economic zone via the [Trans Pacific Partnership](#) (TPP). It would have excluded China. The Trump administration rejected the TPP and withdrew from it. It launched an economic war against China by increasing tariffs on Chinese products, prohibiting high tech supplies to Chinese manufacturers, and by denying Chinese companies access to its market.

It has also tried to build a military coalition that would help it to threaten China. It revived the 2007-2008 Quadrilateral Security Dialogue and rebranded it as the U.S.-Australia-India-Japan Consultations Quad. The aim was to turn it into an [Asian NATO](#) under U.S. command:

The U.S. State Department's No. 2 diplomat said Monday that Washington was aiming to "formalize" growing strategic ties with India, Japan and Australia in a forum known as "the Quad" — a move experts say is implicitly designed to counter China in the Indo-Pacific region.

"It is a reality that the Indo-Pacific region is actually lacking in strong multilateral structures. They don't have anything of the fortitude of NATO, or the European Union," U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Stephen Biegun said in an online seminar on the sidelines of the annual U.S.-India Strategic Partnership Forum.

"There is certainly an invitation there at some point to formalize a structure like this," he added.

But it turns out that neither Australia nor Japan nor India have any interest in a hard stand towards China. All look to China as an important trade partner. They know that any conflict with it would cost them dearly.

On October 6 Secretary of State Mike Pompeo flew to Tokyo for a meeting with the other foreign ministers of the Quad. He soon found that no one would join him in his militant talk:

In a meeting with foreign ministers from Japan, India and Australia in Tokyo, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo urged on Tuesday that they strengthen their quartet of democracies to resist an increasingly assertive China.

...

If, as it appeared, Pompeo was pushing other members of the Quad to take the U.S. side in a confrontation with China, he did not score any ringing public endorsements, and his remarks clashed with those of his host.

Pompeo aimed straight at the Chinese Communist Party in remarks before the four nations' top diplomats sat down to talk.

"As partners in this Quad, it is more critical now than ever that we collaborate to protect our people and partners from the CCP's exploitation, corruption and coercion," he said.

But Japan's chief government spokesman, Katsunobu Kato, insisted at a press briefing Tuesday: "This Quad meeting is not being held with any particular country in mind."

Australia and India were similarly reluctant to say anything that would potentially offend China.

Pompeo's initiative has failed. The former Indian ambassador M. K. Bhadrakumar explains why the Quad won't fly:

China cannot be beaten since, unlike the USSR, it is part of the same global society as the US. Look at the sheer spread of the US-China battlefields — global governance, geoeconomics, trade, investment, finance, currency usage, supply chain management, technology standards and systems, scientific collaboration and so on. It speaks of China's vast global reach. This wasn't the case with USSR.

Above all, China has no messianic ideology to export and prefers to set a model by virtue of its performance. It is not in the business of instigating regime change in other countries, and actually gets along rather well with democracies.

...

The US created the ASEAN but today no Asian security partner wants to choose between America and China. The ASEAN cannot be repurposed to form a coalition to counter

China. Thus, no claimant against China in the South China Sea is prepared to join the US in its naval fracas with China.

China has resources, including money, to offer its partners, whereas, the US budget is in chronic deficit and even routine government operations must now be funded with debt. It needs to find resources needed to keep its human and physical infrastructure at levels competitive with those of China and other great economic powers.

Why on earth should India get entangled in this messy affair whose climax is a foregone conclusion?

...

China has no need to fight wars when it is already winning.

The U.S. also tried to incite its European NATO allies to take a stand against China:

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg warned Saturday that China's increasing influence had created a "fundamental shift in the global balance of power" that should not be overlooked.

In an interview with Germany's *Welt am Sonntag* newspaper, that was released in advance, the Norwegian official said that Beijing had the second-largest defense budget in the world after the United States, and was investing heavily in nuclear weapons and long-range missiles that could reach Europe.

"One thing is clear: China is coming ever closer to Europe's doorstep," he said. "NATO allies must face this challenge together."

That initiative will sink in Europe just as fast as the Quad initiative has sunk in Asia and for the very same reasons. China is not an ideological or military danger to Europe. It is an economic behemoth and relation with it need to be carefully handled. They require respect and talks and not saber rattling.

China has overtaken the U.S. as the EU's biggest trading partner:

In the first seven months of 2020, China surpassed the United States to become the biggest trading partner of the European Union (EU), said Eurostat, the EU's statistics organisation.

...

The EU's imports from China increased by 4.9 per cent year-on-year in the January-July period, noted Eurostat.

According to the Federal Statistical Office of Germany, the largest economy in the EU, China, Germany's biggest trading partner since 2016, surpassed the United States for the first time in the second quarter of this year to become Germany's largest export market, and Germany's exports to China in July have rebounded almost to last year's level.

It is time for the U.S. to look into a mirror and to awake to reality. It is highly indebted country with a way too expensive but ineffective military. Over the last decades its economic role in the world has continuously declined. The constant militant positions and 'do as we say' attitude has alienated its allies. Without allies the U.S. has no chance to defeat China in any potential conflict.

What the U.S. still could do is to honestly compete with China. But that would require humility, a strong industrial policy and a well paid and competitive work force.

Neither of that is in sight.

Posted by b on October 14, 2020 at 17:07 UTC | [Permalink](#)

Instead of competing honestly, the US engages in massive propaganda, subversion and destabilization in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang, sanctions, extortion and mafioso thuggery (ex. waylaying and threatening a very long US incarceration of Huawei's founder's daughter, Tik Tok), making up rules, etc.

Or put in the words of "We lied, we cheated, we stole" Pompeo's Orwellian projections, the US engages in "exploitation, corruption and coercion."

A psychopath/sociopath often seeks to turn others against their target. Such is the behaviour of the US as well-personified by Pompeo.

Posted by: Canadian Cents | Oct 14 2020 17:39 utc | [1](#)

U.S. compete honestly against China? Ho, ho, ho, the U.S. is not in any position to do so, because so much of their "work force" is incompetant for lack of education, or on drugs.

Posted by: Robert | Oct 14 2020 17:56 utc | [3](#)

In order to maintain the US Dollar as a world reserve currency, we need to run trade deficits. Offshoring to China does this and solves other problems as well such as increasing corporate profits, suppressing wage growth and masking inflation with cheap imports. It even stimulates military spending due to obsolescence from industrial espionage and to counter PRC investments in their military from profits made from US businesses that relocated to China.

It's a win-win! Just not to the average US citizen.

Posted by: Kevin | Oct 14 2020 17:59 utc | [4](#)

the problem is the ussa is losing the means to 'reach out and touch', other than its vast military machine ...and it is becoming increasingly difficult to fund. Iff we can get past the next 5 to 10 years, the ussa will be past any real ability to sc,rew with the world as they have, since 1945.

Posted by: James j | Oct 14 2020 18:03 utc | [5](#)

Oh, the sweet delusions of a dying empire!

Posted by: Nathan Mulcahy | Oct 14 2020 18:03 utc | [6](#)

Australia has actually been an eager accomplice (rather pathetically so along with the rest of the Five Eyes countries) of the US in the economic war on China, and India's desire to not participate in OBOR while offering their own (not very good) counterpart also makes them an ally of the US. However, there's a difference between having the courage to join the US in sanctions and propaganda to actually be ready to field forces...

Posted by: worldblee | Oct 14 2020 18:04 utc | [7](#)

thanks b.... so true everything you say...

@ 2 john gilberts... canada is quickly becoming irrelevant... i guess it is doing what the usa is presently doing - becoming irrelevant... remember we are swamped with msm bs 24-7 in canada coming from the usa.. it is no surprise some of this shit sticks in small people's minds... the fiasco with hauwei is a good example of how wrong canada has got all of this...

Posted by: james | Oct 14 2020 18:07 utc | [8](#)

"What the U.S. still could do is to honestly compete with China. But that would require humility, a strong industrial policy and a well paid and competitive work force."

Totally agree with the US needing some serious soul searching and finally ending this "if i dont get laid, then no one else gets laid" cockblocking attitude to international affairs... but as far that 'well paid workforce'.. i'm afraid that is precisely why it has been losing out to China: even US companies have outsourced their labour there to save costs.

It could compete like Germany does, in quality products and high end manufacturing, but time is fast running out there too. Just look at how Japan's car manufacturing has gone from cheap tin can crappy cars, to winning LeMans and Formula 1 titles in just a few decades Toyota is now the world's largest car manufacturer and a leader in electric mobility going forward. How long before China joins them?

Posted by: Et Tu | Oct 14 2020 18:15 utc | [10](#)

Shit hits the fan when dollar hegemony ends.

The Empire's power-elite would rather have war than see that happen.

Western elites/Deep State crossed the Rubicon when they chose to enrich themselves and trample on human rights as they helped their main future strategic rival to rise. Who will fight - and die - for these corrupt asshats and their pampered progeny?

We will look back and marvel at the legendary hubris and greed. And the disastrous aftermath.

!!

Posted by: [Jackrabbit](#) | Oct 14 2020 18:31 utc | [12](#)

SEATO - 1954 - 1977 did not work either.

Posted by: Dorian | Oct 14 2020 18:36 utc | [13](#)

So that people can understand the depth of Pompeo's thinking, he has created his personal group ; "*Pompeo's Own Private-Corporate Organizing-Regimes Nexus*". It may be a bit of a mouthful to swallow, but whenever there is some doubt about his meaning you can always reach out for the POPCORN which will bring much needed clarity.

Seriously, I am wondering why some of the wonkier Politicians and military industrial types are not subject to obligatory tests for their mental abilities. At the same time that the US navy was sailing ever closer to fully armed Chinese troops in the Pacific and the Chinese mainland, the US airforce has been parading 48 nuclear warheads in B-52's at 100 kms from Murmansk, and even closer to the enclave of Kalingrad.

Obviously the "Thinking heads" are safely hidden in Bunkers in New Zealand or false ski-resorts in South America. But we in Europe are where all the fallout will happen. They are calmly considering about 750 million deaths in the EU as "collateral damage", plus the millions (billions?) in China, Russia and other places on maps in front of them.

MAD was mad because "they" (incuding scientists) would have overkilled the entire human population many, many times. (100x ?) This time, the same type of people are only planning to kill the entire populations of a couple of continents.

Posted by: Stonebird | Oct 14 2020 18:36 utc | [14](#)

Above all, China has no **messianic ideology** to export and prefers to set a model by virtue of its performance. It is not in the business of instigating regime change in other countries, and actually gets along rather well with democracies.

My, oh my, it seems the Indian educational system is not very good - even for a high-caste individual like Mr. Bhadrakumar.

On Liberalism's inherent messianic character, I recommend you all to read *Liberalism: a Counter-History*, by Domenic Losurdo.

And Bhadrakumar's claim is even more absurd for the fact that, from all ideologies he could pick up in human history, he chose precisely the only non-messianic one: the Russian Revolution (October, not the February one) of 1917 was the first revolution in History to be scientifically planned, the first one to be generated from a scientific theory, according to a clear-cut plan by a clear-cut organization of revolutionaries. The same was true for the Chinese Communist Revolution of 1949, which is a direct descendant from October 1917.

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What the U.S. still could do is to honestly compete with China. But that would require humility, a strong industrial policy and a well paid and competitive work force.

Neither of that is in sight.

Kevin @ #4 is right. The USA doesn't do it for the simple fact it can't.

In order for the USD Standard system to survive, you have to give up industrialization. Otherwise the USA would suffer from chronic and incurable episodes of hyperinflation, collapsing quickly. This is a mathematical certainty, and is independent of the party, POTUS, or Deep State bureaucrats in charge: the USA will continue to deindustrialize as long as it keeps the title of financial superpower.

Posted by: [vk](#) | Oct 14 2020 18:54 utc | [15](#)

The immediate and most solid market of any important nation is their neighboring countries.

And the immediate defense ring of anyone is exactly the same.

That's what Beijing been doing the last 25 years. And both market and defense can be shaped up by diplomacy all around the nearby horizons.

It turns out that the US is no border to the Pacific and it turns out the US has no diplomacy any longer. At least since the loud fall of Berlin wall the State dept diplomacy has been replaced simply pressure, threats, arm twisting -as Obama himself candidly confessed- false flags and blackmail. Or some proxy war pure and simple.

Any surprise on the Asian countries reaction to the obscene foggy bottomish crap?

Posted by: [augusto](#) | Oct 14 2020 19:10 utc | [16](#)

What the U.S. still could do is to honestly compete with China. But that would require humility, a strong industrial policy and a well paid and competitive work force.

Yes, that's actually rather obvious. The problem is those pulling the strings have zero interest in crafting such a policy, and they control the political Duopoly. The Outlaw US Empire has followed the same basic policy direction for 120-140 years. As I wrote on the Week in Review thread, it's addicted to its policy course, and the patient refuses to get treatment.

The only hope I see is for the Better Examples to eclipse the Empire and downgrade the status of its currency while also reforming the global financial system such that it finally loses those hegemonic levers. I wrote that I expect such a process to consume this next decade. For those living within the Empire, the quality of life will further erode until social unrest reaches a Critical Mass and explodes with unpredictable results. I wish my prediction was different, but I don't see how.

Posted by: [karlof1](#) | Oct 14 2020 19:24 utc | [17](#)

Since the US stock market, and its major share traders are the only people making money during the pandemic, and with the Tik Toc and Huawei fiascos in mind, maybe China could use its idle stash of US Dollars to jump into the market as predatory short sellers and thereby disrupt the gravy train? It's a very whimsical and panic-prone market.

Posted by: Hoarsewhisperer | Oct 14 2020 19:29 utc | [18](#)

I have thought since when I first noticed it (1970s) that the offshoring of our production capacity and (even more important) productive knowhow, the stuff that is not written down anywhere, the degradation of our workforce, and the debasement of our educational, health care, and other social service institutions, in the name of profit, in the name of "the market", was the STUPIDEST geo-political decision I've ever heard of.

After hundreds of years of conflict among nations for who can be on top, all focussed on maximizing technological and economic development, the "genius" Kissinger decides to give it all away, because politics.

And that is what our so-called "elites" cannot face. When they sold us out, they sold themselves out too. Now they have no recourse but lying and shamelessness.

Posted by: Bemildred | Oct 14 2020 19:34 utc | [19](#)

The reputation of australia in the south pacific is rather poor as it deserted the many island nations through its meanness in aid, rapaciousness in resource extraction, and idiocy in diplomacy. These days it whines about China's unfair influence on these same island nations and flaps about kissing uncle sam's arse.

The bunya nut republic is an unpleasant and expensive neighbour to many and lacks the

diplomatic and economic subtlety to prosper together with its neighbors. Just like the usa it prefers dominance abroad and destruction of its education at home.

Its diplomacy is based on colonial thinking and theft and doing whatever the usa moron demands. Not a good look and certainly the subject of disdain in many of the island nations that China is trading with.

Posted by: uncle tungsten | Oct 14 2020 19:52 utc | [21](#)

The problem is the USA is the only one feeling threatened and everyone knows the USA is not actually threatened; Only its previously unassailable position as King of the playground is threatened and its military/foreign affairs establishment is squirming and desires to reassert its top dog position. Problem is: the USA is a day late and a dollar short. Hegelian historical dialectic has been at work for decades now and, as Konrad Adenauer said of Britain back in the fifties. "A former rich man who has lost all his money, but doesn't realize it". It is an historical baked in destiny that the USA will be just one among nations, not necessarily insignificant, but no longer the boss. The sooner we accept that and give up our delusions, the better off. Pompeo's jetting around trying to recruit "allies" just makes him look foolish.

Posted by: A. Pols | Oct 14 2020 20:03 utc | [22](#)

Several issues with this rather anodyne, ho-hum entry which sort of says nothing not already chewed over endlessly in the MSM.

First, the headline should say "Trump Administration Fails to Find Allies"....as this is purely forced attempted provocation for domestic political gain by our desperate CoC. Something similar to his rushed attempt to sign a START agreement with Russia, which is also an embarrassing joke in its own right and a more timely and entertaining subject for a b missive imo.

No one I have spoken with ever in the US across a wide ideological spectrum desires hot war with China, or Russia for that matter. No one. It is never even a topic of thought much less discussion on the streets.

This prospect of war makes no sense to anyone, and most especially to the globalists who control the vast majority of wealth, or to the military who would be forced to actually prosecute war over nothing.

Second, industrial policy alone will never resurrect US trade. The dollar hegemony is not something any nation can unilaterally overturn. Until the dollar is no longer the world reserve currency the US is doomed to run trade deficits and deindustrialize as a consequence. This is a law of economics and no amount of politicking or industrial policy making can overturn this fact.

The US and its globalist trading partners, including China, are locked into a structural position relative to each other that rewards investors to the relative detriment of workers everywhere in a growing, dizzying separation between financial haves and have nots.

Until this structure is addressed by either tearing it down completely or modifying its terms to better benefit the have nots under the threat of tearing it down, nothing changes. And reading the commenters here who claim to be opposed to the structure, there is no threat. Lol.

No hot war. No cold war between major economic powers. Too much wealth is at risk on all sides of such a scenario. The stakeholders in the US and everywhere else including Russia and China simply have much more to lose than can ever be gained through world war among the powers.

Including the US and China most assuredly. You read it here first.

Posted by: donkeytale | Oct 14 2020 20:14 utc | [23](#)

Ships from the Royal Australian Navy were reported as recently as 23 July to have encountered Chinese navy vessels near the Spratly Islands. If there is some ambivalence in leadership circles about doing whatever US wants then someone should probably tell the navy to pull their heads in.

Posted by: Deltaeus | Oct 14 2020 20:18 utc | [24](#)

Dorian@13

CENTO (1955-1979) suffered the same fate.

All these NATO clones have been tried and found wanting before.

And NATO itself only limps along because the 'nation states', of which it is comprised, long ago gave up any pretence of sovereignty as their rulers transformed themselves into subordinate agents of the United States, wannabe Americans, traitors to their own people and the world as a whole: Syngman Rhee, Ngo Dien Diem, Tony Blair, Stoltenberg,

Rasmussen, Reza Pahlavi.. etc

Posted by: bevin | Oct 14 2020 20:21 utc | [25](#)

Pretty good article.

I hope the Americans wake up, and find a way to correct their government's irrational and destabilizing behavior. Those in positions within the political establishment seem unwilling or unable to do so on their own.

The elections are contrived to keep the rich in power (and rich). But there must be more realistic ways of influencing the situation, peacefully, but still effectively.

Posted by: [Josh](#) | Oct 14 2020 20:22 utc | [26](#)

Nathan Mulcahy | Oct 14 2020 18:31 utc | 11

re "...Pomp-ass by himself, supposedly the first in his class?"

Vital to note here the discrepancy between college/university and Military Academy. The latter strictly spreads course-content that is exclusively chosen to implant 18 year-olds with viewpoints that are deliberately created to ensure compliance with current and undisclosed U S military planning for operations that require recruiting entry-level personnel.

Before arrival at a .gov military academy, said 18 year-olds have only followed others' orders. To wit, from kindergarten thru high school, they have been located in space and time by a band of military "adults". I.e., be at such-and-such location at such-and-such time...and do/learn what you are told to do/learn by school staff/teachers/coaches...or you will not be passed thru.

No doubt Pompeo had great capacity to absorb all the military-selected information and viewpoints that made-up his military-edited course content...and graduated with said edited content brick-by-brick composing his mental faculties...mistakenly defined as "intelligence".

Beware the limitations of a "military education". I discovered, long after my university graduation, what "education" originally meant:

education = from Latin "e-", out; and Latin "ducere", to lead. Thus, "to lead out". It is up to

the recipient to decide what s/he wants to be led out of.

Posted by: [chu teh](#) | Oct 14 2020 20:25 utc | [27](#)

Bemildred @19--

I have zero sympathy for the criminal Dr. K, but in fairness the policy was set prior to his rise within the Establishment. Since 1913, it's always been about corralling the most dollars no matter the outcome for the nation at large. There was one opportunity to alter that course, but FDR bungled it by agreeing to the ousting of Wallace in favor of Truman.

Posted by: [karlofl](#) | Oct 14 2020 20:34 utc | [28](#)

If you look at the corruption in the current US government as if it were, say for instance, a foreign object, like its own separate organism...

Ask what this organism needs.

Does it need air? Heat? Fuel? Finance? Supply? Connectivity? Conductivity?

Posted by: [Josh](#) | Oct 14 2020 20:35 utc | [29](#)

ARIES | Oct 14 2020 19:39 utc | 20

My gut reaction to this video is that it is the usual yellow peril propaganda. Whatever else happens in this field, of editing/improving the human genome, I think one can be sure that the Chinese will think very long and hard about it before they do anything. PC will, I guess, not have much to do with their decisions.

Posted by: [foolisholdman](#) | Oct 14 2020 20:35 utc | [30](#)

Just honestly following most international and national basic laws would deprive the organism of quite a bit. Beyond that don't feed it. Don't pet it. Don't support it. Don't play with it, etc.

Posted by: [Josh](#) | Oct 14 2020 20:37 utc | [31](#)

The creature is not a puppy, and it is not yours. Don't own it, since you actually don't.

Posted by: [Josh](#) | Oct 14 2020 20:40 utc | [32](#)

Posted by: karlofl | Oct 14 2020 20:34 utc | 28

Posted by: Bemildred | Oct 14 2020 20:40 utc | [33](#)

Pompeo is stupid and an ass hole does nor know much about the world affairs especially the Chinese, their time is out very soon , they are in Syria illegally, and in Iraq after destroying the country infrastructure and killing more than million citizen .

One day they will pay heavy price for their criminal acts along with their European partners in crime .

Their crimes in the Arabic Muslims countries are dispecable criminals .

Iran along with their resistance outfits will get them out of there .

Posted by: Bobb | Oct 14 2020 20:42 utc | [34](#)

Posted by: karlofl | Oct 14 2020 20:34 utc | 28

I don't feel any great need to be fair to Kissinger. (Although you are correct about the way they fetishize money.)

I think our present problem (the Duopoly) arose in the post-Reconstruction period, and that would also be the first failed reform here (Reconstruction). Some rather good reforms were implemented before WWI, but Wilson managed to gut then again. Some of those still exist at the state level, i.e. initiative and recall. Wouldn't it be great is we could get up petitions to remove any public servant?

So anyway, it looks like a back and forth struggle, on-going as we speak.

I quite agree that the problem is the money power, the big piles of cash, they are a weapon. That is one reason the banks must be too big to fail, we use them as weapons.

Posted by: Bemildred | Oct 14 2020 20:51 utc | [35](#)

Another loss to the US -- China is currently leading the way on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) free trade agreement which has been scheduled for finalizing on November 14 in Vietnam. The agreement will be between the ten member

states of ASEAN, namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, and five of their FTA partners—Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand, and South Korea. The 15 negotiating countries account for 30% of the world's population and just under 30% of the global GDP.

Recall that while TPP was a massive trade deal that excluded China and included the United States, RCEP does the opposite. So what does the creation of this massive bloc of free trade (or relatively free trade, at least) mean for China and the United States?

Brookings: The Chinese Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) will reinforce these relationships. For all its bad press, over time the BRI will offer \$1.4 trillion in investments for transport, energy, and communications infrastructure to neighboring economies. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's offer of \$113 million in U.S. investments only highlights the gulf between Chinese and American priorities. The United States used to counter aid with good access to its sophisticated markets, but no more — it is retreating unapologetically into mercantilism.

Brookings Institution suggests that RCEP has the potential to grow the global real incomes by \$285 billion annually if put into place before 2030, which in absolute gains is twice that of the successor to the TTP, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). The deal makes significant strides on rules of origin, intellectual property, and tariff reduction, while falling short in other areas like e-commerce. Nonetheless, RCEP represents a significant achievement for free trade in the Asia-Pacific.

from Pepe-- China FM Wang is in Bangkok today and tomorrow - part of his Southeast Asia tour. China and Thailand are strengthening their own comprehensive strategic partnership. China is on charm offensive ahead of the completion of the RCEP trade deal, which unites China and all of Southeast Asia with partners Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. India is out.

Posted by: Don Bacon | Oct 14 2020 20:51 utc | [36](#)

there is an economic-political-historical theory of human development which I personally call THE NEXUS OF POWER. It is easy to explain and formulate: The economical-political center of current economic power isn't static; in fact, it moves around the Earth in Westward direction. It has been circling the Earth for the last 8-9 thousand years; it started in South East Asia, traveled all around the world and it now back in Asia and is currently in China. it is easy to trace that circle when one takes a good size map of the Earth and maps

all the civilizations and Empires, where they developed and at what time in Human history. There is a sub theory of NEXUS OF POWER that postulate that NEXUS OF POWER also travels slightly north while traveling Westward. It isn't well known in the West; nobody talks about it much of any; the only traces I could find it was in Robert Anthon Wilson book Prometheus Rising. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prometheus_Rising. If anybody wants to read it, it is freely available on the biggest library of free books at: <https://libgen.lc/foreignfiction/item/index.php?md5=548d08d021311294cc6b20abe17fb4eb> Robert Anthon Wilson says that Timothy Leary taught him the theory; in fact, Wilson doesn't even call it THE NEXUS OF POWER, it is my personal name that I came up with. Viewed through the prism of NEXUS OF POWER, it is easy to see WHY the so called "democratic freedom loving" West is terrified of China; they can see some part of the NEXUS OF POWER and are scared shitless that their 500+ years of pure reign of terror they unleashed upon the world is coming to an end and with it, their power and their ability to live well off the spoils of war and exploitation.

There is much more to the NEXUS OF POWER theory but I will keep it short:

1. each civilization has a shorter time span that the previous one. Thus, China will only be in power for about 30-40 years.
2. Changes happen faster and faster; for example an event to occur and influence other events took about a decade during the 1970s. Today it takes less than a few hours.
3. Russia may be the next super power after China
4. Singularity might occur once THE NEXUS OF POWER has made a full circle around the Earth. After that, nobody knows what will happen. Personally, I predict that with luck (and without the West starting a nuclear war) the Singularity to happen around 2060-2070.

Posted by: Hoyeru | Oct 14 2020 21:04 utc | [37](#)

Jackrabbit@12:

Shit hits the fan when dollar hegemony ends.

The Empire's power-elite would rather have war than see that happen.

Yeah but can the Empire's power-elite win wars these days? Other than button-pressing type of pandemonium launching nukes, the hegemon hasn't shown much forte in winning in-your-face dragged-out wars in the past quarter century; and those were fracas against lowly regarded ragheads who were given no chances of ever prevailing *a priori*, and they did time and again. So, are these power-elites nutty enough to resort to nukes as the

iron-clad monopoly to dollar hegemony? And even nukes may not win them the day, as other players in this world has shown some degree of superiority in the launching the same stuff.

The Western elites/Deep State crossed the Rubicon of losing their edge over rivals when they grew fat at the waists and lazy in the heads some 70 years ago. The Korean War was the testament to this reality and later the Vietnam shenanigan, although most folks in the west chose to stick their heads in the sand rather than facing the facts and search their souls for remedies. Their waists continued to grow and their heads continue to slow, but they made use of the one weapon they alone have in possession, the MSM, to puff make-up over their faces and hid their shortfalls. Oh, MAGA; oh, USA! USA!

You pinned the right question: Who will fight - and die - for these corrupt asshats and their pampered progeny?

Posted by: Oriental Voice | Oct 14 2020 21:04 utc | [38](#)

"It's the economy, stupid!" -B. Clinton

The US became world hegemon last century because it was the only major industrial power still standing after WWII. That is it. There was no magical "*exceptionalism*", or superior culture, or magnificent military involved.

Forget the empire's posturing and loud braying noises from its figureheads, the spokespersons of the empire's vassals earnest pledges of loyalty, and the empire's military getting in everyone's faces. The only thing that matters is that China is the world's industrial superpower with no other country even close. At this point China can become the world's unrivaled military superpower overnight if it wanted to, and there is absolutely nothing that NATO, or POTATO (Pacific Ocean Total Asshat Terrorist Organization?) can do about it.

The only way to reverse the empire's demise is to restore America's globally overwhelming industrial productive capacity, but as VK implies above @15 this is impossible. The empire cannot be salvaged so long as it holds to capitalism, but capitalism is the entire *raison d'être* of the empire. That contradiction is impossible to resolve.

... except for one way: World war can buy the empire a several more decades. America could once again have globally overwhelming industrial productive capacity if China's

industry were to somehow be neutralized. America cannot win a conventional war with China due to China's vastly superior industrial capacity, and the effort to use unconventional biological warfare backfired horribly. There is, however, one weapon that America has not used yet, though. The only question is if the empire's senile dementia is severe enough for America to decide to use that weapon.

Posted by: William Gruff | Oct 14 2020 21:30 utc | [39](#)

@ Posted by: karlof1 | Oct 14 2020 20:34 utc | 28

It was not that simple: FDR's last reelection he won by just 2 million votes. The electoral college made it look like it was a landslide, but it wasn't: conservatism was already growing from Roosevelt's belly.

Posted by: [vk](#) | Oct 14 2020 21:48 utc | [40](#)

Gruff @39--

And even the use of that weapon is no guarantee of success and could easily be the direct opposite.

Hoyeru @37--

That's a modification of Vico and Spengler's theories of historic circularity which seems plausible. I blended them into a hybrid wherein the circularity traverses a linear temporal path. I see a future point when the two will become one and humanity will progress as one entity instead of mixed temporal entities at differing stages of development, provided Earth as its domicile doesn't have that capability destroyed beforehand.

Bemildred @35--

Actually, there was quite a lot of political fighting between R & D that almost allowed the People's Party to gain control. That close call caused the Rs to become more Bismarckian, but the fight between Roosevelt and Taft allowed Wilson to win and throw it all to the Bankers, an Act quickly forgotten with WW1, Russian Revolution, Red Scare, and the War on Alcohol. The initial inklings of what would later be called Neoliberalism can be seen in the refusal to cancel war loans, aggressive Dollar Diplomacy, and the Ponzi Schemes that

led to the 1929 Crash and Debt Deflation of the Great Depression. There are many lessons to be learned from history, but as Lavrov ruefully intoned at the Valdai Club yesterday, History isn't the teacher.

Posted by: [karlof1](#) | Oct 14 2020 22:07 utc | [41](#)

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The US has not had capitalism in a long time,soft fascism (neoliberalism) would best describe the current state of affairs,only the trappings remain hiding the truth from the public,

Posted by: [winston2](#) | Oct 14 2020 22:09 utc | [42](#)