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THE EPOCH TIMES

CHINA INSIDER

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70 YEARS OF

NATIONAL TRAGEDY

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'National Day' Marks 70 Years of China's National Tragedy

For China and the world, hope lies in resisting the specter of communism

THE EPOCH TIMES EDITORIAL BOARD

The future of the Chinese people, and all humanity, lies in resisting and disintegrating the specter of communism.

Seventy years ago, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) seized power in mainland China, bringing hundreds of millions of people under its control. On Oct. 1, 1949, it declared the establishment of a "People's Republic," beginning a period of brutal tyranny for the world's most populous country, and a calamity of unprecedented scale for its 5,000-year civilization.

Today, China finds itself caught between two extremes. One is in Beijing, where the CCP dictatorship has put on an immense military parade to brandish its power and dominance. This vacuous show of force belies a desperate sense of insecurity: Strict security measures have been imposed across the city and beyond in the form of a "wartime" lockdown radiating from the capital out to the surrounding provinces.

The other is in Hong Kong, the financial hub that has seen the steady erosion of its autonomy and unique freedoms in the 22 years since it was turned over to the Chinese regime. However, standing up to this encroachment are millions of ordinary Hongkongers who value their liberty and way of life.

After months of protests that began with demonstrations against an extradition bill that would allow the Chinese regime to transfer individuals from Hong Kong to stand trial in Communist Party-controlled courts, the message from the people of Hong Kong is clear: resist authoritarianism and reject the CCP.

The Hongkongers' actions don't only represent themselves. Their courage and solidarity has become a voice for all Chinese suffering under the Communist Party's misuse. On "National Day," or literally the "day of national celebration," they embody the truth that this day is no time for rejoicing, but rather a reminder of a 70-year-long national tragedy.

Communism Is the Enemy of China and the World

On Oct. 1, it's a ritual for the CCP to celebrate the day that, in 1949, it rose to power and imposed its dictatorship over mainland China. For the Chinese people, the last seven decades have been a nightmare of stolen freedoms, trampled dignity, and continuous brutalization of the human spirit.

Since usurping power in China, the CCP has opposed not only the Chinese people, but the shared values of the entire human race.

A few days ago, U.S. President Donald Trump, addressing the U.N. General Assembly, warned of the "specter of socialism":

"Socialism and communism are not about justice. They are not about equality, they are not about lifting up the poor, and they are certainly not

A man uses his cellphone in front of a screen that shows a message about the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese communist regime, in Beijing on Sept. 26, 2019.



NOEL CELIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

For decades, the CCP has been able to hide its atrocities from the world, enticing foreign governments and companies with economic benefits and diplomatic overtures.

Demonstrators hold up their hands to symbolize the five demands that protesters are asking for, as they take part in a pro-democracy rally in Hong Kong's Tuen Mun district on Sept. 21, 2019.



PHILIP FONG/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

about the good of the nations. Socialism and communism are about one thing only: power for the ruling class."

Trump's words are a stern reminder to anyone who harbors romantic notions about the socialist movement. The CCP sees socialism as but the primary stage of communism and seeks nothing less than world domination under its banner.

To see these plans in action, one need look no further than the vast sums that the Chinese regime spends on global influence operations: from the Confucius Institutes that spread communist propaganda, to the "Thousand Talents Plan" that takes aim at the intellectual property of the free world; from the predatory infrastructure investments of the "One Belt, One Road" initiative, to the vision of a "shared future for mankind" dominated by the CCP.

At the heart of the trade war between the United States and China is neither a conflict between nations nor a clash of civilizations. The dispute is not a matter of disagreement between East and West, but a question of liberty versus tyranny, good versus evil.

The fight against communism is humanity's collective struggle with the devil, and surpasses the boundaries of ethnicity and race. Ever since the specter of communism manifested in Europe two centuries ago, the struggle has been waged across all fields, from politics to economy to culture.

Starting with the United States, the governments of the free world have begun to reexamine their post-Cold War policies of appeasement toward the CCP. Tempted by economic gain, proponents of these policies sacrificed the national interests of democratic states to feed the expanding might of the communist superpower.

Among Chinese, books such as the "Nine Commentaries on the Chinese Communist Party" and "The Ultimate Goal of Communism" have awak-

ened millions to the fundamental truth about communism: It is not an ideology or a social movement, but a specter bent on the destruction of humankind.

For the Whole World, Hope Lies in Rejecting the CCP

According to traditional Chinese cosmology, the number nine is associated with calamity and upheaval. This wisdom has held especially true in the course of the CCP's 70 years of rule.

The year 1949 brought the CCP to power, subjecting the Chinese people to multiple waves of brutal political campaigns. In the countryside, the CCP dispatched its cadres to slaughter landlords and those deemed to be rich peasants. In the cities, those who ran businesses or had a Western liberal education were targeted. The torture and execution of millions represented not just the liquidation of an economic class, but also the destruction of China's cultural elites.

In 1959, the CCP's collectivization policies culminated in China's Great Famine. Tens of millions starved to death in agony, while the CCP continued to report bumper harvests and export grains to its allies.

In 1969, at the height of the Cultural Revolution, relations between the CCP and the Soviet Union dropped to the point that military skirmishes were being fought across the Heilongjiang River. These incidents nearly sparked a third world war.

In 1979, the Chinese regime invaded its fellow communist country Vietnam in retaliation for the latter's toppling of the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia, which was in the CCP's camp. The war ended in disgrace for the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA).

In 1989, CCP hardliners ousted then-general secretary Zhao Ziyang and ordered the PLA to fire on pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square, murdering thousands of patriotic Chinese youth in the center of Beijing.

In 1999, then-Party boss Jiang Zemin, himself an opportunist who came to power in the wake of the Tiananmen Square Massacre, launched the persecution of Falun Gong, a peaceful spiritual discipline with tens of millions of adherents in China. The persecution continues today.

In 2009, following years of repressive policies by the CCP, violent riots erupted in northwestern region of Xinjiang, where many Uyghur Muslim minorities reside. According to eyewitnesses, thousands of people may have died in subsequent massacres by the CCP authorities.

The ongoing events in Hong Kong show that 2019 is no exception to this cosmic principle. Yet, instead of following the mandate of heaven and ruling the people with virtue, the atheist CCP defies nature and conceals its misdeeds, piling tragedy upon tragedy.

At no time has the fundamental conflict between the CCP and humanity's universal moral principles been clearer than in the last 20 years, following the persecution of Falun Gong ordered by Jiang and his political faction.

The Jiang faction declared the estimated 70 million to 100 million Falun Gong practitioners—whose guiding principles are truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance—to be enemies of the CCP and its atheist Marxism. As the CCP mobilized all state resources for its campaign of terror against Falun Gong, the Jiang faction solidified its control over the Party and state by rewarding and promoting officials who participated in the persecution. Abandoning all ethical restraints, China has become a country in moral freefall. Officials and ordinary citizens alike have been driven to worship nothing but profit and status. Having been steeped in the culture of the CCP for generations, many Chinese have sold their conscience to participate in its evil policies.

In the persecution of Falun Gong, police officers and judges have ignored the law to arrest and sentence people solely for their faith in truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance. Possessed by money-worship, doctors have betrayed their professional oaths, murdering Falun Gong practitioners on the operating table for their organs.

For decades, the CCP has been able to hide its atrocities from the world, enticing foreign governments and companies with economic benefits and diplomatic overtures.

But the world is waking up to the CCP's true nature. In the unique setting of Hong Kong, where freedom and rule of law have come to blows with the mainland Chinese dictatorship, millions of Hongkongers have made their choice: to stand on the side of freedom and resist the CCP's terror tactics.

And in mainland China, many millions more have already taken the first steps toward abandoning the CCP and choosing the future.

Since 2004, more than 340 million people in China and the overseas Chinese diaspora have registered their names with the Tuidang (Quit the Party) movement, renouncing the oaths they made to sacrifice their lives for the CCP and its two youth organizations, the Young Pioneers and the Communist Youth League.

Thirty years after the protests that swept East Germany at the end of the Cold War and brought down the Berlin Wall, this year's protest movement in Hong Kong has become the spark to light the fires of resistance against the CCP's brutal tyranny.

Oct. 1, the day marking 70 years of China's national tragedy, should serve as a call for the Chinese people—and the whole world—to remember their conscience, follow the universal moral principles taught since ancient times, and find hope for the future.



KEVIN FRAYER/GETTY IMAGES

Chinese soldiers sit atop tanks as they drive in a parade to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Communist Party's takeover of China, at Tiananmen Square in Beijing on Oct. 1, 2019.

OPINION

A Wicked Idea Came to China: Communism

As Beijing celebrates the 70th anniversary of founding of Communist China, the Party has been unimaginably tragic and cruel to its people

JAMES GORRIE

Last week marked the 70th anniversary of the Communist Party's takeover of China.

Befittingly, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) observed this milestone in ways that are bereft of humanity, reflecting only the mob coarseness of the Communist Party. The richness of Chinese culture was nowhere to be seen, only the shadows of its memory.

Self-Flattery and Delusion on Parade

The celebration was notable, however, for its well-planned military parade, coordinated by Party members and intended to flatter the CCP, especially the top leadership. Consisting of 15,000 troops, 160 or more military aircraft, and almost 600 weapon systems from 59 military units, as well as its strategic nuclear missile systems and the very dangerous DF-41 Intercontinental Ballistic Missile, the CCP's show of military hardware was actually worthy of the 20th century's most dastardly totalitarian regimes.

But is this 70th anniversary, which commemorates the imposition of "socialism with Chinese characteristics" upon its 1.4 billion subjects, really worth celebrating?

A China Stripped of Its Cultural Heritage

Despite the CCP's claim that its communist system has "Chinese characteristics," the reality is much different, and bears more similarities to the totalitarian systems of Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany than with traditional China. Even down to the personalization of the state in a cult-like political figure, China resembles European totalitarianism, or even a theocratic dictatorship, more than any sort of traditional Chinese government.

Sadly, since the Cultural Revolution, Chinese society has seen its cultural roots and heritage stripped from it, decade after decade. In his war against the nationalists and then later, against his own people, Mao Zedong chose communism as his guiding ideology, and spared no atrocity in order to destroy those who resisted him.

In fact, the drab, gray Mao jacket that Xi Jinping symbolically wore as he watched his parade pass by, was really the only "Chinese characteristic" differentiating today's China from the 20th century's tyrannical regimes. Evidently, the ancient, liber-

Throughout its existence, the CCP has leveraged the most destructive and inhumane of Western ideologies to rule with an iron fist and cut out cultural norms and traditions from Chinese society.

tarian wisdom of Chinese philosopher Lao-tzu, who wisely advised, "govern a great country as you would cook a small fish" (in other words, don't overdo it), is lost on the leaders of the CCP.

The Failed Hope of Sun Yat-sen

Recall that it was Chinese nationalist and American ally Sun Yat-sen who sought to modernize the country, not by discarding the richness of Chinese culture the way Mao and the communists ended up doing, but by reviving and restoring it. In that spirit and in his respect for his nation's ancient society, Sun wished to move all of China forward, without sacrificing its cultural soul.

Unfortunately, China saw only tragedy after tragedy and atrocity after atrocity over the next several decades, from the Cultural Revolution to the one-child policy to massive dislocation of people and the institution of slave labor. Throughout its existence, the CCP has leveraged the most destructive and inhumane of Western ideologies to rule with an iron fist and cut out cultural norms and traditions from Chinese society.

China's New Nationalism

Consider China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi's assessment of China and its position today. In the Communist Party publication People's Daily, Wang said China's relations with the world has seen historic changes over the past 70 years, with its global standing elevated to a new high and its diplomatic activism widely recognized.

Such is the language of China's new, robust nationalism. Today, China is a hyper-nationalist nation with global ambitions. And it's not because China considers itself the vanguard of the proletariat, either. The religious zeal for international communism—was once a big deal among the intellectual elites of the world—has been long dead, well before the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.

No, according to China's highest-ranking diplomat, Yang Jiechi, China's ambitions are as militaristic as they come: "Our determination and resolve are as firm as iron when it comes to defending our national interests and dignity on issues about Taiwan, maritime affairs, Xinjiang, Tibet, Hong Kong, as well as trade rifts. No one should expect China to swallow the bitter fruit that would damage our own interests."

Exactly whose interests is Yang re-

ferring to? The CCP's or China's? The two are almost mutually exclusive and always have been. In the 1950s, '60s, and '70s, 50 million or so Chinese lost their lives to Mao's "Great Leap Forward," his Cultural Revolution, and the resultant famines and violence that came of them.

The true number of lives destroyed at the hands of the CCP is probably even higher. The point, however, couldn't be clearer. That which benefits the CCP usually doesn't benefit the people of China.

In short, China is marking the 70th anniversary of its adoption of the absolute worst idea from the West and then calling it a Chinese idea. It's as if the CCP can't admit that communism is a Western idea, because it needs to condemn the West for humiliating China in the 19th century and threatening it in the 21st.

Of course, that outrageous claim is contradicted by the hundreds of billions of dollars of direct investment that the West, including the United States, has put into China over the past 40 years. It's not the West that's really hurting China today, it's the CCP.

What Western power, or combination of them, could turn China into the mass-murdering, soul-crushing totalitarian state that it has become?

What foreign enemy could succeed so completely in debasing the country's very natural existence, so that much of it has been reduced to a toxic wasteland, void of life, indeed, dangerous to life?

No, the more accurate and desperately sad reality is that October 2019 marks the 102nd anniversary of a Western-born ideological contagion that began in Russia in 1917 and has, so far, led to over 100 million deaths in China and the lifelong misery of billions more people worldwide.

In human costs and the vast destruction of its culture and the environment, the injustices of Western colonialism in China pale in comparison to what the CCP has done and continues to do.

May the end of the CCP come soon; very, very soon.

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Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

NATIONAL SECURITY

US Unprepared for Potential Space Conflict With China, Says Bill Gertz

IRENE LUO & JAN JEKIELEK

"The Chinese could cripple the United States—not just the military, but the entire U.S. society" with a surprise attack on America's satellites, according to Bill Gertz, a national security columnist for the Washington Times and Senior Editor of the Washington Free Beacon.

China has built anti-satellite missiles and other weapons that make it capable of "severely disrupting or destroying" U.S. satellites in low earth orbit by 2020, according to the Pentagon's Joint Staff intelligence directorate. America heavily relies on satellites for communications, transportation, finance, and military data collection.

Space weaponry is just one aspect of the Chinese communist regime's multifaceted doctrine of unrestricted warfare—using a series of unconventional tactics to defeat a more powerful foe, the United States, without engaging in troop-on-troop combat.

Gertz details these diverse strategies and tactics in his new book "Deceiving the Sky: Inside Communist China's Drive for Global Supremacy." The book highlights how, in Gertz' eyes, the Chinese communist regime hoodwinked U.S. leaders into adopting a policy of engagement with China. But behind the scenes, the Chinese regime stole trade secrets, infiltrated and subverted the United States, and secretly developed powerful "assassins mace" weaponry, which are used by an inferior military to gain a military advantage.

"The United States faces a major strategic vulnerability in its satellites," Gertz said in an interview with The Epoch Times for the "American Thought Leaders" program.

The US has "as few as 30 anti-satellite missiles or ground-based lasers or orbiting killer robot satellites," Gertz said. "China would conduct a surprise attack on the United States, and one of the first things they would do would be to disable the missile warning satellites that we have."

"And by using a combination of deception and laser attacks, they could take out a satellite and then successfully conduct a surprise strategic missile strike, kind of what I describe as a global Pearl Harbor."

Developing space weaponry is just one part of a much broader offensive against the United States, as the Chinese communist regime seeks to amass power globally, according to the White House National Security Strategy. Beijing is seeking to corner the market on 5G, the next generation of communications technology, and also expand its global dominance through initiatives like Belt and Road, "a Trojan horse of Chinese expansionism," Gertz said.

"They will tell these poor developing countries: 'We'd like to build a railroad for you as part of infrastructure development,'" Gertz said. "They lend the money at an exorbitant interest rate, and when the country can't pay the debt, the Chinese will then come in and say, well, that railroad is now ours."

"And in this way, they are literally buying up and taking over countries," Gertz said.

A Disastrous Gamble

Since the 1980s, Chinese communist leaders deceived American leaders, Gertz said, into believing that by engaging with communist China, China would evolve into a more benign and democratic power. But "this gamble has been an utter disaster," Gertz said. "At the very end of the Cold War in the late eighties, Ronald Reagan discovered that the Soviet Union was highly dependent on U.S. and Western technology. And so a major effort was put in place to block technology from going there. And it was very successful. It contributed materially to the collapse of the Soviet Union," Gertz said.

"The Chinese communist government studied that, and they took a completely different approach. Their deception was: 'We're not a communist power,'" Gertz said. "They pre-

Bill Gertz, a national security columnist for the Washington Times and senior editor of the Washington Free Beacon, in Washington on Sep. 23, 2019.



SAMIRA BOUADOU/THE EPOCH TIMES

sented a friendly face. But behind the scenes, they were engaged in massive theft of American technology and know-how."

Chinese theft of American IP costs between \$225 and \$600 billion annually, according to a 2018 report by the United States Trade Representative.

Nearly twenty years ago, Gertz was one of the first to sound the alarm in his book "The China Threat: How the People's Republic Targets America."

"One of the real disasters of the engagement policy has to do with the spread of nuclear weapons," Gertz said. As part of a Clinton administration initiative, Gertz said, the United States sent nuclear scientists to China, while China sent nuclear scientists to the United States.

According to the 1999 Cox Report, the Chinese regime stole through espionage classified information on seven warheads, including "every currently deployed thermonuclear warhead in the U.S. ballistic missile arsenal," as well as the neutron bomb.

"Not only that, China shared this technology with Pakistan. And then Pakistan—through the AQ Khan nuclear supplier network—spread this technology to North Korea, Iran, Syria, and Libya. And we're still dealing with the aftereffects of that," Gertz said.

"So this is the kind of unfettered engagement that has been a disaster for American national security," Gertz said.

Communist Deception

It took decades for America's leadership to recognize the communist China threat, and this is, in Gertz's view, a testament to the skill of the Chinese Communist Party to deceive Americans and infiltrate American institutions.

In 2016, Ron Montaperto, a Defense Intelligence Agency analyst, pleaded guilty to passing classified information to Chinese military intelligence officials. According to Gertz, Montaperto was also a leader among pro-China intelligence officials in the U.S. government and academic community who claimed that China was not a threat.

Through either traitors or spies, the Chinese communist regime was also able to identify as many as thirty CIA-recruited agents inside China and elsewhere, and they were successively imprisoned or even executed in some cases between 2010 and 2012, according to former intelligence officials.

A likely suspect, in Gertz' view, is a former CIA officer named Jerry Chun Shing Lee, who pleaded guilty in May to spying for China. During the FBI's multi-year investigation, the FBI found two notebooks in his luggage with handwritten notes detailing the names and identities of recruited CIA agents.

Besides spying, the Chinese communist regime has also engaged in aggressive campaigns to influence, bribe, or threaten politicians and busi-

ness leaders, Gertz said.

The regime will approach American companies doing business in China, and "they'll say, we don't like this legislation that's being drafted on Hong Kong. And we expect you as a friend of China and someone who is doing business in China—and if you want to continue to be doing business in China—you have to go to the Congress and lobby against this legislation. This is a common tactic."

For think tank researchers and academics, the Chinese regime can threaten them by restricting their access to the country. "You can't get into the country if you don't toe the friend-of-China line," Gertz said.

A variety of such forms of coercion, bribery, and espionage fall under the United Front Work Department of the Chinese Communist Party, which spearheads the regime's global influence peddling operations. "It's essentially political warfare/intelligence operations designed to promote the Communist Party of China's strategic objectives," Gertz said.

The Chinese regime has been actively working against President Trump's campaign for reelection in 2020, Gertz said.

In a speech in October 2018, Vice President Mike Pence said, "China has initiated an unprecedented effort to influence American public opinion, the 2018 elections, and the environment leading into the 2020 presidential elections."

"There can be no doubt: China is meddling in America's democracy," Pence said.

Yet despite all this, the Chinese communist regime has been able to skillfully manipulate the popular narrative about itself through deception, propaganda, and disinformation. One especially skillful piece of propaganda is equating China and the Chinese people with the Chinese communist regime, Gertz said. In doing so, the Chinese regime can thus attack critics of itself as anti-China.

"The China threat is not the Chinese people. It's the Chinese Communist Party," Gertz said, but the Chinese regime frequently conflates them as the same thing.

"High-Tech Totalitarianism"

Domestically, the Chinese communist regime has instituted a system of high-tech totalitarianism, and it wishes to also export that system abroad, Gertz said.

The Chinese communist regime's dystopian social credit system, which it first introduced in 2014, will rank every citizen based on their compliance to the regime's rules. If a person posts content on social media that the regime does not like, for instance, his credit score would suffer. And as a result, he would potentially face restrictions on his travel, purchases, and job prospects.

In Xinjiang in the northwestern part of China, the Chinese regime has put more than a million minority Uyghur

Muslims in "concentration camps."

"China is using technology, a lot of it stolen from the United States, for facial recognition to identify people," Gertz said.

In September 2017, a state-run television program said the Chinese regime had built the world's largest surveillance network, boasting more than 20 million cameras. In 2018, more than 170 million cameras were deployed as part of the Safe City program, and 400 million more cameras will be installed in the next two years all across China.

"As part of China's drive for global supremacy," Gertz said, "they want to export this high-tech totalitarian system to the entire world."

A Path Forward

"The first thing is we need to be able to tell the truth about communist China, which is something we have not been able to do for many years," Gertz said. "We've gone part of the way in identifying China as a strategic competitor or adversary, but not as a real enemy. And I think that we need to do that first. We need to be clear on the nature of the threat."

"I've been urging the Trump administration, the most important thing they could do right now would be to publish a book-length white paper on the nature of the Communist Party of China," Gertz said.

"I dedicated the book to the Chinese people because they do not want to live under that system," Gertz said. "The party has no values other than its political support for the Communist Party."

In his book, Gertz argued that the United States should begin withdrawing economically from China and establish a policy of strict reciprocity. "For example, Chinese media operate freely here in the United States. And a large percentage of those personnel involved in state-controlled media are intelligence personnel," Gertz said.

"So we should make it very clear that there has to be reciprocity, strict reciprocity, so that for every reporter that's allowed to report here freely, the same access has to be provided to American and Western reporters in China. And if they don't, then we should kick them out," Gertz said.

Gertz also recommends the creation of a democratic parliament-in-exile. "Bring together democracy activists, whether they're from Hong Kong or China or other places, and have them formulate free and open democratic policies for China. Have them meet once a year, record the proceedings, publish them, and then circulate them within China," Gertz said.

"What China needs is democratic political reform. And that will never happen as long as the Communist Party of China is in power," Gertz said.

American Thought Leaders is an Epoch Times show available on Facebook and YouTube.

TRADE WAR

Trade War Disrupts China's Liquefied Natural Gas Supply

US developers, exporters pivoting to Europe

FAN YU

News Analysis

Natural resources are commodities that are often most sensitive to global trade disruptions.

The continuing U.S.-China trade war has weighed on the global liquefied natural gas (LNG) market, since the two parties also happen to be two of the world's biggest LNG players—the United States as an exporter and China as a mass importer.

While the trade war has slowed U.S.-China LNG trade to a crawl, China recently moved to secure some much-needed supply. The San Diego-based Semptra Energy on Oct. 1 signed a deal to sell its ownership in Luz del Sur—Peru's largest utility—to China's state-owned China Yangtze Power International for \$3.6 billion. As part of the deal, Semptra also signed a multi-year agreement to sell LNG to a subsidiary of China Yangtze Power.

Tariffs

It's the first U.S.-China LNG deal in more than 12 months, as retaliatory tariffs China has placed on U.S. LNG cut U.S. shipments to China to a trickle. In September 2018, Beijing imposed a 10 percent tariff on U.S. LNG imports; the duties were subsequently raised to 25 percent in June 2019. It was one of the last product categories Beijing spared from retaliatory tariffs.

The deal—signed amid heavy tariffs—underscores China's dependency on foreign LNG and how desperate it is to secure supply.

The Chinese regime intends to curb the country's reliance on coal as a primary fossil fuel. Its latest Five-Year Plan, announced in 2016, seeks to reduce the consumption of coal. In its place, gas was identified as a key replacement in the residential, power, and industrial sectors.

Typically, natural gas is delivered via pipeline networks, which are expensive to build and maintain, and the scope of the market is limited to the physical reach of the pipelines. LNG is natural gas that's been cooled and compressed into liquid form (at minus 260 degrees Fahrenheit) so that it can be transported efficiently on ships and over land.



VCG VIA GETTY IMAGES

Chinese state-run company Sinopec's Tianjin terminal receives a liquefied natural gas cargo in Tianjin City, China, on Feb. 6, 2018.

China's demand for gas is estimated to increase to around 57 billion cubic feet/day by 2040 from 15 bcf/d in 2015, second only to the United States.

China's demand for LNG has been soaring. It's projected to be one of the world's biggest consumers of LNG going forward. The U.S. Energy Information Agency (EIA) estimates that China's demand for gas would increase to around 57 billion cubic feet/day by 2040 from 15 bcf/d in 2015, second only to the United States. A significant portion of that consumption will be in the form of LNG.

US Supply Pivot

Recent tariffs have effectively halted U.S. LNG supply to China.

Discussions held in March 2019 between Sinopec and Houston-based LNG giant Cheniere Energy were put on hold due to the uncertain trade outlook.

"While a trade deal has not yet been reached [between U.S. and China], it is unlikely that Chinese buyers would firm up agreements for spot or short-term LNG supply," an industry source told S&P Platts.

Industry sources told S&P Platts that PetroChina earlier this year diverted U.S. LNG tankers for a cargo swap to avoid paying tariffs. This year, China has taken custody of four cargo ships compared to 33 cargoes during 2018, a reflection of reduced LNG trade due to high levies.

U.S. shale gas production isn't ceasing, however. Suppliers have actively been pivoting away from China to new markets in Europe and Asia. President Donald Trump has been a key promoter of U.S. LNG supply when he's met with other heads of state this year.

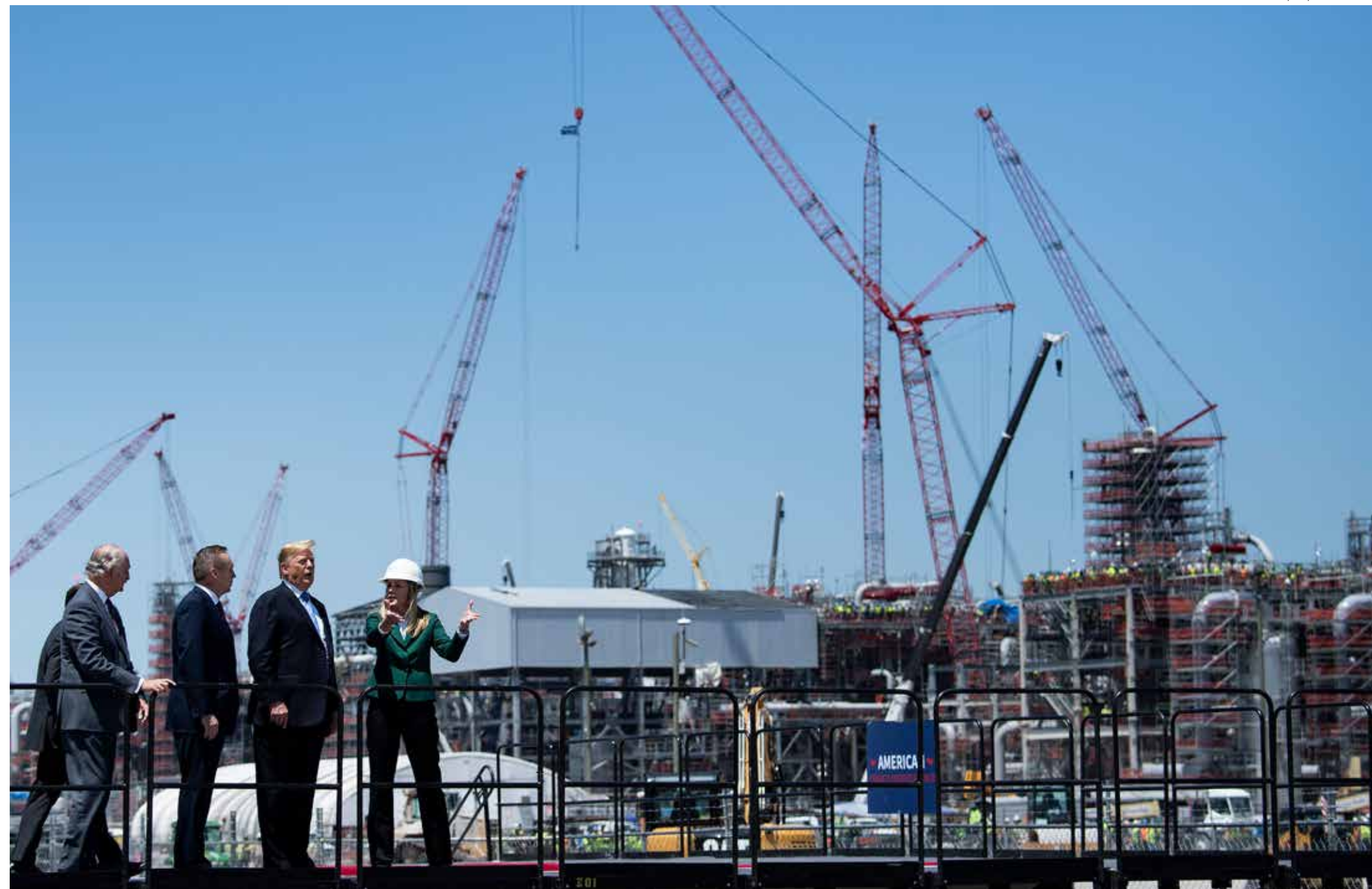
Demand from Europe is increasing, as many Western European nations are looking for ways to alleviate Russia's effective gas monopoly over Europe. While 30 LNG import terminals are already operational across Europe, more terminals are coming online in 2020 to handle LNG tankers.

But with three new LNG plants going live in 2019 in the United States and increased production from Australia, LNG prices are expected to plateau and the usual winter price spike may be muted this year, according to experts.

"However, even with a strong fourth quarter, it seems China's LNG demand growth will be considerably lower in 2019 than it was in 2017, when it jumped 48 percent on the year, and in 2018, when it increased by 41 percent," according to an Oct. 3 Reuters report, citing Refinitiv data.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



U.S. President Donald Trump and others tour the Cameron LNG export facility in Hackberry, La., on May 14, 2019.



Chinese military vehicles carrying DF-41 ballistic missiles roll during a parade to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the founding of Communist China in Beijing, on Oct. 1, 2019.

POPULATION CONTROL

Media Pretend That China Isn't Communist

DANIEL ASHMAN

Commentary

"The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world he didn't exist."

This idea has often been used in a religious or philosophical sense, but it works equally well applied to geopolitics. The greatest trick that communists ever pulled was convincing the world they didn't exist.

The devastation wrought by communists over the past century was possible because they convinced others that they weren't true communists, lulling America into following a naive and self-destructive policy. Today, regarding China, the same delusion is advanced.

On the one hand, the matter seems straightforward. China is communist. They have a Central Committee, Politburo, and a General Secretary. China is ruled by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), and the word "Communist" is right there in the name.

And yet, the mainstream media isn't so sure, regularly downplaying the ideological nature of the CCP, while advancing the idea that China isn't communist at all, but in fact, capitalist. For instance, The New York Times last year published an op-ed by a former prime minister of Australia classifying China as "authoritarian capitalism." The Washington Post followed that this year with, "No, China and the U.S. aren't locked in an ideological battle. Not even close." The article explained that the CCP is "ideologically bankrupt," and only "nominally Communist," because it has "embraced capitalism."

More recently, Forbes had an article titled, "China's Economic Success Proves the Power of Capitalism," in which the magazine explained that the CCP's control over society is just a fading ghost of the past.

There seems to be an assumption underlying these claims that because China is experiencing growth, it can't be communist. It's an interesting definition that necessarily precludes anyone from worrying about communists. Either someone is communist, poor, and helpless, or, they're rich, capitalist, and someone we can reason with.

But we know from history that that reasoning isn't valid. In the darkest days of Stalin's rule, complete with

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purges and collective farming, Russia was strong enough to conquer much of Europe and threaten the existence of the United States. A country can be both communist and strong.

It's true that China has moved away from collective ownership towards private property. However, it is a misunderstanding of communist ideology to understand this as a rejection of communism and an embrace of capitalism. Communists are flexible. Adoption of limited free markets, as long as they are under the control of the CCP, is entirely allowed inside of their ideology.

Consider these words of Lenin's hero, Sergey Nechaev, an early Russian revolutionary. He explained that "the revolutionary may and frequently must live within society while pretending to be completely different from what he really is."

The Chinese Politburo knows that it must pretend to be something it's not to fit into the international community and strengthen itself. For now.

Nechaev also wrote, "For [the revolutionary], morality is everything which contributes to the triumph of the revolution."

There is no absolute truth for the communist. There are only revolutionary truths. If China has to make use of capitalist tools to bring about their revolution, it is their moral duty. China's use of capitalism to further long-term communist goals becomes even clearer when understood within a historical context.

Look at the ultimate communist, Vladimir Lenin. He gave Russia the New Economic Policy (NEP): stopping the move toward collective farming and encouraging private enterprise.

Would the pundits of today's mainstream media have become giddy explaining that the Bolsheviks were actually crypto-capitalists? Many people, at the time, made claims along those lines. But in retrospect, it's easy to see the absurdity of such thinking.

Renowned Russian historian Edvard Radzinsky explained what was really happening. He called it "Rule Number 1" for communists: "statements by the Party's leaders were only the product of tactical considerations, whereas the real, long-term plans, the Party's strategy, had to remain hidden[.]"

The NEP was just a tactical consideration. It existed solely to serve the long-term plans of the party. Lenin's

plan worked brilliantly. The Bolshevik regime was revitalized. Investments flowed in from abroad. Anti-Bolshevik Russians, who had escaped the revolution, were duped into coming back, whereupon the Bolsheviks made use of them, or killed them, or both. The NEP lasted for years and then Stalin resumed Russia's move towards collectivization.

Stalin then introduced his own tactical considerations to pursue hidden long-term plans. He shelved the communist idea of world revolution in favor of "socialism in one country," and patiently waited many years, before achieving large territorial gains for Russia and communism.

It is only within this ideological and historical context that China's current policy can be understood.

Is China really eschewing communism to pursue capitalism, as the mainstream media often claims? Hardly. China is simply implementing Leninist tactics. The CCP allows private property, for the moment, because it furthers their long-term communist goals.

Last year, amid the implementation of China's notorious social-credit system, General Secretary Xi Jinping gave an hour-long speech extolling the life of Karl Marx. Xi explained that "the life of Marx is a life of fighting to overthrow the old world and establish a new world."

He then elaborated that Marxism was "profound and deep," a true "scientific theory," that is "always the guiding thinking for our party and the country. It helps us to know the world, manage the rules, seek the truth, and change the world." He explicitly attributed China's "unprecedented development miracle" to successful implementation of Marxism.

Perhaps Americans are losing ideologies they once held dear. But to project that same mindset onto the CCP, concluding that they are ideologically bankrupt, is dangerous indeed.

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Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

OPINION

China Collecting DNA From Males Across Country, Prompting Eugenics and Privacy Concerns

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hina is building a massive DNA database by collecting sensitive information from citizens in various regions of the country, triggering widespread alarms.

A Sept. 20 notice from police in the Guiqing district of Guilin, a city in the southern province of Guangxi, stated that authorities would be collecting blood samples from male residents in every neighborhood through Dec. 31. The move was "in accordance with a coordinated arrangement from higher departments," read a screenshot of the document circulating online.

The notice further said that the effort is part of the "public security's basic information work" to "improve the precision and controllability of population management," and the samples would be collected either by group or door-to-door.

The notice is just one of the most recent compulsory DNA collection initiatives, which critics of Chinese authorities say are a gross violation of privacy and serve to further the regime's plan to control the genetic makeup of its population.

Nationwide Campaign

A July 29 post on the official website of the Haishu district of Ningbo City, Zhejiang Province, also announced that the local police there had begun DNA collection. The police went to rural villages and schools to promote the campaign.

On April 26, Hongta County police collected blood samples from male students in local middle and primary schools, according to Qinchu, a government-controlled news website.

Blood sample collection also took place in Shapu village in Anhui Province in January, according to local media reports. Documents obtained by Bitter Winter, a magazine focused on religious and human rights in China, also found similar programs in parts of Jiangxi, Shaanxi, and Fujian provinces over the past few months.

Government tender documents published online showed that more than a dozen provincial and regional police departments spent as much as 16 million yuan (about \$2.26 million) on testing tools and other supplies for local DNA labs, DNA databases, or "Y-STR database" in the past half-year. Y-STR is DNA information passed down along the male descendants of families.

In September 2018, the Sui County government in Hubei Province an-

nounced a plan to establish a regional Y-STR DNA database to "enhance population control." The database will include information to cover at least five generations of a particular household. The DNA collection is set to complete by the end of 2019, according to authorities.

Steven Mosher, an expert in population control, president of U.S.-based think tank Population Research Institute, and a Epoch Times contributor, said the term "population control" has always had an "eugenics element."

The regime wants to ensure "quality births," Mosher told The Epoch Times, adding that one way to achieve that is by tracing "who is related to whom," so authorities can eliminate those carrying recessive genes that produce birth defects.

"With the advent of genetic testing, [this practice] is about to get a high-tech boost and become much more comprehensive," he said.

Mosher added that it makes sense for some Chinese authorities to target males, which studies have shown have a higher tendency to commit crimes.

Expansion of Xinjiang Model

Authorities rolled out its first mass DNA collection program in China's northwestern region of Xinjiang, home to the largest Muslim minorities in the country.

In 2016, authorities in Xinjiang placed orders for DNA analysis equipment, which cost 80 million yuan (\$11.23 million).

The regional government had been collecting biometric data such as blood type, fingerprints, iris scans, and voice samples, from all aged between 12 and 65, as part of the Chinese regime's suppression and surveillance of Uyghur Muslim residents, according to a 2017 Human Rights Watch report.

The Chinese government has subjected millions of Uyghur Muslims in the region to a vast surveillance system, which includes a dense network of cameras enhanced with facial recognition technology and artificial intelligence to monitor residents for any "suspicious behavior." Authorities have used the pretext of combating "extremism" to justify the surveillance.

The same surveillance methods are also being applied to dissidents and other religious minorities. On March 3, 2018, Li Wei, a Beijing-based activist, was taken from a hotel in Hangzhou to a police station, where authorities took his fingerprints and a saliva sample. A notice from the Zhejiang provincial police department said that such ac-

tion was mandatory for all non-locals "with prior criminal records" who visit the area.

An underground church member from Shaanxi Province also recounted a similar experience to Bitter Winter, wherein plainclothes police forcibly pinned him down to collect his blood.

Rights Concerns

Officials have also used threats and deception to make residents comply with the DNA collection.

"Had I refused to undergo the testing, my pension would have been revoked. It's not an option for me," a villager from Nanchang City of Jiangxi Province told Bitter Winter.

Villagers also told the magazine that when they asked about the reason for the saliva testing, the police told them that it was to ensure they don't contract any "infectious diseases."

A local government official from the Weinan district of Shaanxi told the magazine that its biometrics collection program was established to help create "a national blood database" for criminal investigations.

But critics are concerned about the broad privacy violations of such programs.

Sarah Cook, a senior China analyst at U.S. human rights advocacy group Freedom House, expressed concern that DNA collection programs were the latest example of the Chinese regime "mapping out society for the purpose of controlling it," she said.

Cook also said the sensitive data could potentially be misused, as the Chinese regime rejects the rule of law.

Due to "the various ways that crimes are solved in China," such as "confessions coerced through torture," it would be "hard to give real credence to the idea that this is what Chinese police are trying to do to be able to solve crimes," she said.

Mosher said that China's DNA collection programs are a violation of citizens' rights, as governments have no right to collect DNA samples other than in actively investigating criminal suspects or convicts.

"Individuals have a natural right to 'own' their own DNA," he said.

"The CCP's [Chinese Communist Party] massive DNA collection program treats the Chinese population as nothing more than slaves, with whom you can do exactly as you please."

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The CCP's massive DNA collection program treats the Chinese population as nothing more than slaves, with whom you can do exactly as you please.

Steven Mosher, president, Population Research Institute



A technician places an array containing DNA information in a scanner at a Chinese genetics lab in Beijing, on Aug. 22, 2018.



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