

WEEK 11, 2021

THE EPOCH TIMES

CHINA INSIDER

Pro-democracy protesters react as police fire water cannons outside the government headquarters in Hong Kong on Sept. 15, 2019.

SILENCE FOR HONG KONG

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Then-Secretary of State nominee Antony Blinken speaks after being introduced by President-elect Joe Biden at the Queen Theatre in Wilmington, Del., on Nov. 24, 2020.

OPINION

Will the Real Biden China Policy Please Stand Up?

JOHN MILLS

The Biden Administration seems to be firmly straddling the fence when it comes to China. On one hand, Secretary of State Blinken seemed to re-affirm former

President Trump's firm stance against the Chinese Communist Party and even asserted that the CCP is conducting genocide in Xinjiang.

Having personally been part of national security reviews between administrations during my government service, I know it is not uncommon for subsequent Administrations to continue or even double down on continuing policy despite public hyperbolic political criticisms of the same policies. In that light, Secretary Blinken's comments were re-assuring statements of intellectual honesty versus ideological automatism.

But then President Biden fumbled what should have been a softball question and has created significant confusion by attributing China's Uyghur genocide to different cultural norms. Waffling like this by President Biden undermines his own staff and sends potentially ambiguous and even dangerous signals to an adventurist, totalitarian nation.

This is not a good thing in international relations and points to other historical miscalculations that provided momentum to world catastrophes in Europe in the lead up to World War II, the Korean peninsula before the Communist North Korean Invasion of 1950, and Saddam's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The CCP and their agents of influence read, listen, and meticulously interpret everything, so Biden's unguarded comment likely led to hundreds of pages of analysis that informed and influenced the senior levels of the CCP. The inconsistent viewpoints on China by the current administration are not isolated, and do not go unnoticed.

The Good
Some Biden appointees have exhibited a tendency to dispense with political ideology and endorse the work of the previous administration. Admittedly they were not always favorable to the tone or demeanor, but in substance they have signaled an intent to dispense with partisanship and continue Trump-era policies.

Secretary Blinken has shown this

wisdom to some degree and seems to be the leader of maintaining a disciplined approach to CCP misbehavior. This is positive, re-assuring, and refreshing if there is a hope of some semblance of bipartisanship on national security matters in Washington. NPR termed the Administration's approach as being a, "tougher policy on China and Taiwan than many expected."

Another key personality in building the administration's China Policy is Dr. Kurt Campbell, who is the National Security Council's Coordinator for the Indo-Pacific. He also is heralded in some quarters as being hawk-ish on China. Dr. Campbell was the architect of the "Pacific Pivot" during the Obama Administration.

The "Pacific Pivot" was a wise and timely initiative, an initiative that I was involved in. The challenge was it was introduced simultaneously with drastic DoD efficiencies (i.e., downsizing) as well as lukewarm participation by non-DoD Departments and Agencies which gave us few arrows in the quiver to actualize the policy. But in all fairness, policy assertions are themselves an important instrument of national power.

Other positive indicators include Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo praising President Trump's tariffs against China and promising to continue use of the "Entity List" against China.

One other trend is Admiral (RET) James Stavridis, a noted Trump non-admirer and Biden advocate, asserting a strong counter-China military strategy (This is Trumpism under a different name). He wisely articulates a strong military deterrent and red lines to contain China, essentially at their shoreline. His description of the CCP Islands in the South China Seas is apropos, "Juicy Targets." I concur—they've created a watery Maginot Line that consumes resources, ties them down, and greatly simplifies the problem set for allies, strategic partners, and joint targeters and planners.

The Atlantic Council just came out with, "The Longer Telegram" written by "Anonymous." The Atlantic Council is more aligned with the Biden camp, but this product articulates a very strong counter CCP strategy (they don't like targeting the CCP and they are light on the topic of CCP influence operations within the United States). I haven't done a complete cross reference but many of the tenets of the Committee on Present Danger China clearly show through in

"Longer Telegram." It's Trumpism light, and their possible borrowing of ideas is encouraging.

The Bad
There are also confusing signals beyond President Biden's potential history-altering Uyghur fumble. One issue Democrat administrations obsess over are treaties. They love treaties, which can be a useful tool if properly implemented and verified. Verified being the operative expression.

Right now, the CCP is under tremendous pressure at home. The economy is essentially fraudulent, and the CCP is out of funds to artificially continue the façade of a growing vibrant economy.

The lack of China being in few arms' limitation treaties (outside of the Biological Warfare Convention (BWC)) is likely a tact the Biden Administration will pursue. I have reviewed the BWC in detail, and it is a trust and don't verify arrangement which allows China to be boundless and adventurist in their Wuhan activities. This is not a good or model treaty.

The Biden Administration looks to reverse and end the re-introduction of low yield nuclear weapons into the American military arsenal because of interest in engaging on treaty dialogue with CCP-led China. I feel this is a very bad and irresponsible move. The re-introduction of these weapons provides a powerful deterrent effect toward expansionist China and Russia.

The ambiguity of the Biden Administration's policy on the Confucius Institute is disturbing. Right now there is parsing going on as to whether President Biden reversed President Trump's direction and intent on the Confucius Institute or whether the Trump administration failed to follow the mind numbing Federal Rulemaking Process on their Confucius issuance.

Either way, it appears the Confucius Institute has been unleashed to re-enter the campus environment. The continued enablement of Chinese access to capital markets by Wall Street firms such as BlackRock is shocking, but admittedly, this was also a problem during the

Trump administration by cabinet members such as Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.

A further point of concern is a number of Biden personnel that have exhibited communist sympathies and affiliations. Sam Faddis and Trevor Loudon have documented numerous personalities within the Biden Administration that have thinly veiled (or no veil at all) associations with the Communist Party.

Short of an amnesty for all Biden appointees to self-confess and walk away from their CCP ties, some of which may have been honest misjudgments from the era when China was looked at as a peaceful partner, the web of CCP ties of administration members is very disturbing. All of these scenarios deeply erode confidence in the Biden administration's willingness to stand up to the CCP and to reverse the pro-CCP infiltration of the Biden Team.

The Ugly

The key term in the analysis of the Biden China Policy: ambiguity. I would assert that ambiguity in the face of an assertive, expansionist state is a very bad idea. As the "Longer Telegram" cites, the CCP is "contemptuous" of weakness, which is interchangeable with ambiguity for the most part.

Right now, the CCP is under tremendous pressure at home. The economy is essentially fraudulent, and the CCP is out of funds to artificially continue the façade of a growing vibrant economy, as the Hong Kong businessman and democracy activist Elmer Yuen stated during a discussion with me while at the CPAC convention.

This is a very bad situation. A domestically pressured totalitarian predictably does only one thing, lash outward. It is better for us to sweat and labor now to deter and prepare than to pay a much higher cost later.

Retired Col. John Mills is a national security professional with service in five eras: Cold War, Peace Dividend, War on Terror, World in Chaos, and now, Great Power Competition. He is the former director of cybersecurity policy, strategy, and international affairs at the Department of Defense.

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

OPINION

Silence for Hong Kong

ALEXANDER LIAO

On Jan. 7 in the early morning, Hong Kong National Security Department dispatched more than 1,000 police to raid multiple homes and offices, and arrested 53 Hong Kong pan-democratic political activists. In March, the Hong Kong Department of Justice prosecuted 47 of them, accusing them of subverting state power, a charge based on the latest Hong Kong National Security Law.

Among those indicted are Martin Lee Chu-ming, Hong Kong's retired senior counsel, the founder of the United Democrats of Hong Kong, a former member of the Hong Kong Legislative Council (LegCo), and a member of the Hong Kong Basic Law Drafting Committee; Jimmy Lai Chee-ying, the owner of the Hong Kong liberal media Apple Daily; Lee Cheuk-yan, a famous Hong Kong trade union organizer, former Legislative Council member, and one of the Hong Kong Labour Party founders; Benny Tai Yiu-ting, former associate professor of law at the University of Hong Kong; and young political activist Joshua Wong Chi-fung who emerged from the Umbrella Movement. Joshua was already detained in prison for another case; he was arrested again in prison.

It all started before 2014, but let's start with 2014.

The Basic Law of Hong Kong stipulates that the Legislative Council and chief executive of Hong Kong will eventually be elected by universal suffrage. From 1997 to 2014, 17 years after China reclaimed Hong Kong, there was no progress in universal suffrage. Half of the 70-member Legislative Council was elected by universal suffrage, while the chief executive was elected by a so-called election committee with 1,200 people. The Hong Kong Democrats laid out a political reform timetable for Beijing to confirm when Hong Kong could implement dual universal suffrage.

In 2014, the Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Congress in Beijing (the permanent body of the highest legislative body of communist China) passed a so-called political reform plan, insisting that candidates for chief executive must be confirmed by an election committee of 1,200 before they can stand. The citizen nomination plan proposed by the Democrats is a clause in universal suffrage in all countries, or an option of "other" in the ballot for the public. However, the committee rejected all suggestions. In other words, Beijing will put forward bad guy A and bad guy B through the Hong Kong Election Commission under its control, and Hong Kong people choose one of them.

This is the reason why the 2014 Umbrella Movement broke out in Hong Kong.

In 2019, Carrie Lam, the Hong Kong chief executive, proposed amending the extradition law to allow any alleged criminals accused by China to be sent to mainland China for trial and imprisonment without going through the Hong Kong courts. This ignited the Hong Kong resistance movement in 2019.

In November that year, in the election of Hong Kong District Councils, the pan-democrats won more than 80 percent of the seats. In the past, the pro-communist groups controlled the district councils, having invested and developed in grassroots communities for years. But this time they were defeated by a landslide, and Beijing was shocked.

On June 30, 2020, the committee passed the Hong Kong National Security Law, which was incorporated into the Basic Law as a subsidiary document. The provisions of this law are completely different from the previous Anglo-American laws. The law stipulates that Beijing can establish a state security agency in Hong Kong. Cases under its jurisdiction are directly prosecuted and tried by courts in mainland China. At the same time, the law also stipulates that the Hong Kong police establishes a national security department, and cases under its jurisdiction will be tried by "designated special judges."

Hong Kong was originally scheduled to hold the seventh LegCo election in September 2020. The Democrats held a pan-democratic primary election in July, hoping that citizens would decide who will run for seats in the relevant LegCo. This kind of primary election

is somewhat similar to the inner-party primary election of American political parties and is not legally binding. On that day, the number of votes for the primary election reached 610,000.

The Hong Kong government subsequently announced that it would cancel the LegCo elections originally scheduled for September because of the "severe epidemic."

After September, Beijing appointed the original LegCo to extend its term by one year. Several Democratic members who opposed the Hong Kong government's cancellation of the LegCo election resigned in protest, but most of the pan-democratic members stayed.

By November, Beijing bypassed the Hong Kong court, and the committee directly announced the disqualification of four opposition legislators. This approach overrode the Department of Justice to file an arbitration application of the qualification of the legislator, and made the judgment on behalf of the court. This bypasses Hong Kong's Basic Law. Under the Basic Law, the Standing Committee of the People's Congress of China cannot legislate for Hong Kong, but can only interpret the Basic Law.

Subsequently, the remaining 15 pan-democratic parliamentarians expressed their protest by collective resignation. Hong Kong's LegCo is left with completely pro-Beijing members. According to the law, the remaining LegCo isn't qualified to pass any resolutions, because there are less than two-thirds of its members left out of the total number of 70 members.

Then there was a mass arrest on Jan. 6 this year.

Of course, it's not finished yet. At the March 5 meeting, the National People's Congress of China reviewed the draft decision that will change the Hong Kong electoral system. The National People's Congress is going to carry out direct legislation for Hong Kong's political system.

Wang Chen, vice chairman of the committee said at the meeting that the key is to ensure that Hong Kong is governed by "patriots," that is, Hong Kong is governed by those who love the Chinese Communist Party. Beijing wants to restructure the Hong Kong Election Commission, change its size and composition and its method of formation. Not only will the Election Commission continue to elect the chief executive, it will also entitle 1,200 members of the commission to elect a "larger percentage" of LegCo members.

In addition, the Election Commission will have the new function of directly participating in and nominating all

candidates for the LegCo, as well as their qualification review.

To put it simply, Hong Kong has been deprived of the legislative power of local elections. Fundamentally speaking, Hong Kong is now deprived of its independent legislative power, because in the future, according to the CCP, LegCo members will be generated in "a large percentage" by the 1,200 members of the Election Commission instead of in a one-person-one-vote election.

When things have reached this point, we can conclude that Hong Kong, known as the Pearl of the Orient, the largest free port in East Asia, and which topped the world in the World Economic Freedom Index for many years, has officially died. The future of Hong Kong will not be much different from Shenzhen and Shanghai.

Hong Kong is dead. I really like this city where I lived for many years, but she is dead.

During the Great Leap Forward and the Great Famine in China in the 1960s, how many lives did Hong Kong people save by mailing large quantities of food to the mainland? When China began to reform and open up in the 1980s, how much money did Hong Kong people bring in? How many companies were built? How many products from mainland China were brought to the international market? Hong Kong was the most important facilitator of economic growth in the early stage of reform and opening up in mainland China, and was once vital to the Chinese economy.

In the past, many people in Hong Kong believed Deng Xiaoping's internal instruction which claimed, "well water does not offend river water" (meaning that the two sides do not interfere with each other's internal affairs). Now they are fully awake.

For the past 20 years, Hong Kong people have been at war, but few people realize that their enemy is not the Hong Kong government, not the so-called establishment, but the CCP. On the other hand, as long as the CCP's one-party dictatorship exists, there's no peace for the surrounding regions and countries. The same goes for the United States.

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Hong Kong is dead. I really like this city where I lived for many years, but she is dead.

Pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong walks to a prison van to head to court with other activists, over a national security law charge, in Hong Kong, China, on March 4, 2021.



OPINION

Chinese Doctor's Suicide Casts Light on Forced Organ Harvesting in China



Falun Gong practitioners enact a scene of organ harvesting in China.

WANG YOUQUN

Dr. Zang Yunjin, a liver transplant specialist in China, committed suicide in the early hours of Feb. 26, a death that may have been related to his alleged involvement with the mass harvesting of organs from Falun Gong adherents.

Zang, the director of the Institute of Organ Donation and Transplantation of Qingdao University Medical School, and director of the Organ Transplantation Center of Qingdao University Hospital, jumped off a building, according to sources cited in an article published on Feb. 27 by Chinese media Medical Community. He was 57 years old.

According to a report in MedSci, a medical platform in China, Zang was "a distinguished organ transplant expert," who had "over 2,600 cases of liver transplants." He was among the top 10 (Chinese doctors) doing liver organ transplants for four consecutive years, and in 2019, he was awarded the title "The Nation's Distinguished Doctor." Zang, a member of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), was a chief physician, professor, and a returned scholar from the United States, with a long list of titles that included "Taishan Scholar" and "Distinguished Expert," the report said.

After returning to China in December 2000, Zang established the liver transplant department of Shandong Provincial Qianfoshan Hospital, and later became chief physician of the Organ Transplantation Center of Tianjin First Central Hospital and director of the Shandong Branch of the Orient Organ Transplantation Center. In January 2005, Zang was transferred to the Liver Transplantation Institute of Beijing Armed Police General Hospital, where he served as deputy director of the institute and director of the hospital's liver transplant department, as well as professor and chief physician of Beijing Youan Hospital, Capital Medical University Beijing Institute of Hepatology.

In 2014, Zang was appointed as the deputy superintendent of Qingdao University Medical Group, the director of surgery of The Affiliated Hospital of Qingdao University, the director of the university's Organ Transplant Center, and the director of the Institute of Transplant Medicine, Qingdao University.

Since Zang was one of the CCP's famous liver transplant experts, with a long list of awards, honors, and titles, why would he commit suicide?

CCP-Sanctioned Forced Organ Harvesting

I believe the main reason that Zang took his own life was because of his alleged involvement in the mass harvesting of organs

from Falun Gong adherents. Every hospital in which Zang worked appears in reports from the World Organization to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (WOIPFG). WOIPFG was established in 2003 with a mission "to investigate the criminal conduct of all institutions, organizations, and individuals involved in the persecution of Falun Gong; to bring such investigations, no matter how long it takes, no matter how far and deep we have to search, to full closure; to exercise fundamental principles of humanity; and to restore and uphold justice in society," as stated on its website.

According to investigative reports published by WOIPFG, from 2004 to 2008, Zang participated in "1,600 cases of liver extractions" at Tianjin First Central Hospital. At the Armed Police General Hospital, Zang completed at least 1,570 liver transplants, while the General Surgery (Liver Transplantation) Center at Beijing Youan Hospital, where Zang worked part-time, had completed 1,001 liver transplants as of Aug. 10, 2017.

Since Zang joined The Affiliated Hospital of Qingdao University, it has "ranked among the top organ transplant centers in China in terms of the number and quality of liver transplants performed during the same period," according to WOIPFG.

On July 20, 1999, the CCP began persecuting Falun Gong, a spiritual discipline also known as Falun Dafa. He Xiaoshun, the deputy superintendent of The First Affiliated Hospital of Sun Yat-sen University in Guangdong Province, indicated that the year 2000 was a year of explosive growth for China's organ transplants, and that "the number of liver transplants nationwide in 2000 was 10 times higher than in 1999."

A human being has only one liver; extracting one for transplantation means the "donor" will die.

What is the source of such huge numbers of organs? Numerous investigations have shown that the organs of Falun Gong practitioners were extracted on a large scale. Zang has repeatedly been on the WOIPFG tracking list. The thousands of liver transplants he performed may have involved a significant number of Falun Gong adherents being killed in the process.

More 'Suicide' Cases Among Transplant Specialists

Several other Chinese organ transplant experts are reported to have committed suicide.

On March 24, 2014, Zhang Shilin, 44, deputy director of the Department of Urology at Fudan University Shanghai Cancer Center, jumped from the window of his office on the eighth floor of the hospital.

On Oct. 13, 2013, Jiang Xusheng, 50, a professor of general surgery and the director of liver transplantation at Qilu Hospital of Shandong University, committed suicide

by cutting his neck and abdomen in his apartment on the west side of the hospital.

On March 16, 2010, Li Leishi, 84, an internationally renowned kidney specialist, jumped from the 14-story building where he lived in Nanjing. He was the former deputy superintendent of the Nanjing General Hospital of Nanjing Military Command and academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

On May 4, 2007, Li Baochun, 44, a renowned kidney transplant specialist at The Second Military Medical University in Shanghai, jumped to his death from the 12th floor of the hospital's kidney transplant building.

All four doctors have been listed in WOIPFG's investigative reports for their purported involvement in the harvesting of organs of Falun Gong practitioners.

Did the doctors actually commit suicide or were they murdered? It is difficult to ascertain.

For example, Li Leishi was categorized as "an anti-revolutionary" during the so-called Cultural Revolution and was brutally persecuted and forced to separate from his wife and children. In an interview, he was asked if he would ever commit suicide. He said, "No, I don't think I'm an anti-revolutionary. I'm not guilty."

Why, then, would he commit suicide at the age of 84, when he had achieved fame and fortune?

Evidence of Organ Harvesting

One of the first whistleblowers who exposed the harvesting of organs from Falun Gong practitioners was a former employee at Sujiatun Hospital in Shenyang city, Liaoning Province. Annie (a pseudonym) made a public statement about the atrocity in March 2006; she now lives in the United States.

Since then, human rights lawyers outside China, experts and scholars, WOIPFG, and the China Tribunal of the United Kingdom have conducted numerous independent investigations into the issue, and concluded that large-scale live organ harvesting from Falun Gong practitioners by the CCP has existed for many years and is ongoing.

On Feb. 24, 117 organizations, including the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation and the International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China, co-hosted a seminar on live organ harvesting by the CCP regime. Experts, lawmakers, officials, and representatives from 25 countries, including the United States, the UK, Canada, the European Union, and Australia participated in the event.

Sir Geoffrey Nice QC, a prosecutor at the International Criminal Tribunal for Slobodan Milosević, also chaired China Tribunal, a people's tribunal into organ harvesting in China.

He said in a speech that his team started "with a blank sheet of paper" before investigating the issue of live organ harvesting by the CCP, "putting on it nothing but evidence." He said the panel members "had no preconceptions" and that they were not activists nor had they any particular sympathy for the victims.

They just dealt with the evidence presented to them and ended the question "in the form of the judgment."

"It's very difficult for anyone to challenge that," Nice said, and for the two years since the judgment was announced, "it has not been deconstructed or challenged in detail by anyone."

The China Tribunal held open public hearings on Dec. 8-10, 2018, and April 6-7, 2019. On June 17, 2019, the seven-member panel concluded that it was "beyond doubt" that forced organ harvesting from prisoners had taken place "on a substantial scale by state-supported or approved organizations and individuals," constituting "crimes against humanity."

The tribunal has also ruled that adherents of Falun Gong have been targets of persecution by the CCP since July 1999.

Canadian human rights lawyer David Matas said the large-scale live organ harvesting of Falun Gong adherents is one of the world's worst crimes against humanity and that it is more bloody, more atrocious, and more brutal than the Nazi-era Holocaust.

Human rights activists, experts, and lawmakers have called on the international community to unite and take action to hold the CCP regime accountable for its state-sanctioned practice of harvesting organs from living Falun Gong practitioners.

This year marks 22 years since the CCP began persecuting Falun Gong, and 15 years since the revelation of organ harvesting of its adherents. The time has come to settle the score for this atrocity.

Wang Youqun graduated with a Ph.D. in law from the Renmin University of China. He once worked as a copywriter for Wei Jianxing (1931-2015), a member of the CCP Politburo Standing Committee from 1997 to 2002.

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

CHINESE REGIME

China Moves to Ban After-School Programs in Effort to Monopolize Communist Brainwashing: Expert

RITA LI

The after-school education market in China was shaken after Chinese Communist Party (CCP) head Xi Jinping, criticized profit-making after-school programs in mainland China during the "Two Sessions."

The "Two Sessions" are annual plenary sessions of China's National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), which make national-level political decisions.

A high-quality and balanced basic public education service system is needed, Xi said at the fourth session of the 13th National Committee of the CPPCC in Beijing on March 6, 2021, according to Xinhua News.

On March 8, Ni Minjing, deputy director of the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission, joined a discussion on "a complete ban on after-school training institutions," during a live program of the "Two Sessions."

Soon after, official documents circulated online, issued by Beijing authorities of Chaoyang district, Changping district, and Haidian district, indicating scrutiny and reopening suspension, targeting after-school institutes teaching foreign languages, primary school subjects, and university entrance examination courses.

It was not only limited to Beijing.

Ms. Zhang, who runs a private school in Shanghai, told RFA that almost all after-school institutes in Beijing, Shanghai, and even across the country had recently been called off.

"This has not happened before," she said.

By the closure of NYSE equity markets at 4 p.m. EST on March 10, stocks of after-school training institutions such as TAL Education Group, GSX Techedu, and New Oriental Education & Techno were down 11.64 percent, 8.59 percent, and 14.08 percent, respectively.

The Beijing Municipal Education Commission denied the complete ban on after-school institutes on March 12 through a public post on its WeChat platform, ascrib-

Demonstrators display a banner reading "withdraw brainwashing education" during a protest against the government's efforts to implement national education in Hong Kong on July 29, 2012.



The CCP regards ideology and education as a strategic 'ideological battleground.'

Xue Chi, China expert

ing the shutdown to bad pandemic control, false advertising, and low-quality teaching.

After-School Programs Pose Weakness to Communist Brainwashing

A China expert suggests the CCP's move is paving the way for the complete brainwashing of students with communist ideology.

China expert Xue Chi told The Epoch Times that although there's a lot of turnover in China's after-school education industry, such a sweeping shutdown was rare and may indicate some hidden political motive. He said he suspects what he calls "complete brainwashing."

"The CCP regards ideology and education as a strategic 'ideological battleground.' ... After-school training has something special: students' desire for knowledge and to uphold a sense of justice. The CCP is particularly wary of these things," Xue said.

He mentioned the term "seven speakers" in the CCP's education system. "No one is allowed to talk about universal val-

ues, freedom of the press, civil society, citizen rights, past mistakes of the Communist Party, the privileged capitalist class, and judiciary independence."

In 2019, the CCP's Ministry of Education moved to suspend advanced placement tests in four subjects in mainland China by 2020, including U.S. history, world history, European history, and human geography. These courses were designed to help secondary school students ease the academic workload and better adapt to U.S. universities.

In 2018, the Ministry of Education requested local departments to scrutinize textbooks of primary and secondary schools and to ban school-based curricula textbooks (curricula determined by the school itself), and overseas textbooks.

Xue said the fundamental motive has its roots in vigilance over and the rejection of Western values, especially those of the United States. He described those unmonitored after-school operators as undermining the CCP's ideological firewall.

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Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Anthony Fauci speaks during the daily briefing in the Brady Briefing Room of the White House in Washington on Jan. 21, 2021.

CHINESE PROPAGANDA

Beijing Seizes Upon Fauci's Calls for Solidarity to Push COVID-19 Propaganda

EVA FU

Chinese state media has raved about Dr. Anthony Fauci's recent calls for solidarity to combat the pandemic, using his comments to bolster the Beijing regime's virus narratives.

As a top U.S. infectious disease expert and chief medical adviser to President Joe Biden, Fauci appeared with Chinese epidemiologist Zhong Nanshan in early March during an online forum hosted by the University of Edinburgh—their first public event together over the issue.

In a nearly hour-long video panel discussion themed around “the future of health,” the two repeatedly highlighted the need for collaboration, a message that Chinese authorities have frequently adopted to fend off criticism of its initial cover-up of the outbreak.

Zhong, whom one Chinese official has described as “China’s Fauci,” earned international prominence for helping the regime manage the SARS outbreak that originated from the country in late 2002. Zhong has championed state narratives about its handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, including by stating that the regime was “completely transparent” compared to SARS, and lending credibility to Beijing’s claims that the virus could be spread via imported foods—a theory dismissed by Western scientists.

Zhong, during the event, credited the regime’s heavy-handed lockdown policies for China having “the least” number of COVID-19 infections and deaths compared to most other countries. Critics and leaked internal documents, however, have disputed the regime’s official COVID-19 figures as being vast undercounts of the real number. Snap lockdowns across the country, meanwhile, have led to complaints of starvation and harsh treatment at quarantine centers.

“The virus, Zhong said, is ‘a common enemy of the human being.’”

“Just like dealing with the climate, just like dealing with the air pollution, we were on the same goal to deal with that,” he said.

Zhong praised Biden for rejoining the World Health Organization. The Trump administration withdrew from the body last year over its role in enabling Beijing’s cover-up of the outbreak by repeating its talking points downplaying the severity of the virus in the early stages. Zhong added that the “politicization” of public health measures was his “greatest fear.”

Meanwhile, Fauci described vaccines from China as “highly efficacious,” and cast “solidarity and cooperation” as a “moral obligation” to bring the virus under control.

Later in the event, Fauci said, “I would underscore everything that Professor Zhong said.”

“We are all in it together, every single country,” Fauci said during the conversation. “To emphasize some-

thing that both of us said, if we do not completely suppress this, we will continue to be challenged by variants, which have a way of coming back to bite us.”

At no time during the panel discussion did the two mention the Chinese regime’s efforts to cover up the outbreak and its ongoing efforts to deflect blame and fend off genuine independent investigations into the virus origins.

“Dr. Fauci is bought and paid for by the Chinese Communist Party,” Peter Navarro, former director of the National Trade Council under the Trump administration, told The Epoch Times in an email.

Fauci described vaccines from China as ‘highly efficacious,’ and cast ‘solidarity and cooperation’ as a ‘moral obligation’ to bring the virus under control.

Propaganda Coup

Chinese officials and state media quickly seized upon Fauci’s remarks as an endorsement of Beijing’s narratives.

Hua Chunying, a foreign ministry spokesperson, said in a same-day tweet: “When Dr. Zhong Nanshan meets Dr. Fauci. Their consensus: solidarity and cooperation against COVID19.”

Chinese headlines stressing cooperation also proliferated on the internet and were reposted on a number of government sites, including the Chinese embassy in Spain.

State-controlled media Xinhua carried a commentary on March 4 touting what it saw as “an encouraging sign for bilateral cooperation.”

“Scientists and medical workers of the two countries have been working together since the beginning of the pandemic. However, their cooperation was disrupted by Washington’s politically-motivated acts,” the article stated.

“The good news is that the United States is now taking a more rational attitude and adopting more scientific measures, which are welcomed by the international community.”

The newspaper ran an article the next day saying that such calls have “struck a chord with international scholars.”

The Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, China’s top disciplinary body, took the opportunity to extol the Party for enforcing “most rigorous virus control procedures.”

The exchange “demonstrated yet again China’s firm resolve to participate in the global pandemic fight” and its sense of responsibility, it said.

Fauci, the White House, and the National Security Council didn’t immediately return requests for comment.

OPINION

US Needs a Strong Counterattack as the CCP Regime Poses the Biggest Threat

YANG WEI

Since President Joe Biden took office, his administration has repeatedly emphasized that “America is back.” The Biden administration’s foreign policies have attempted to be all-encompassing by demonstrating leadership in all areas, but so far, the new administration still does not have an effective approach to deal with the Chinese communist regime. Leading the world will be just an empty phrase if the United States cannot muster enough strength for a powerful pushback against the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

The CCP is now openly challenging the power of the United States, and it has been preparing for this for 71 years.

The CCP sent troops to the Korean peninsula, invaded South Korea, and entered a war with the United States in 1950. Since then, the CCP has never stopped its anti-U.S. propaganda. The CCP has regarded the United States as an enemy since the beginning.

Deng Xiaoping’s approach of “hiding one’s capabilities and biding one’s time” was a means to blindfold and deceive the United States and the West. And, it did fool many people. It was only after Xi Jinping came to power and publicly stated, “The vast Pacific Ocean has ample space to accommodate both China and the United States” that the United States really woke up.

On Feb. 10, when Biden spoke with Xi on the phone, Xi still claimed that the issue of Taiwan and issues relating to Hong Kong and Xinjiang are China’s internal affairs and that the United States should respect and act with caution. Later, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Ambassador to the U.S. Cui Tiankai drew a direct “red line” in this regard. Xi also said during the call that China and the United States, as permanent members of the UN Security Council, have special international responsibilities and obligations. Both sides should follow the world trend and work together to maintain peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

Faced with direct and open challenges from the CCP, the United States needs to launch a strong counterattack in order to demonstrate its ability to lead the world. Being defensive alone or avoiding the CCP, without taking counterattacking actions, will not only fail to contain the CCP’s provocations, but will instead encourage the CCP to intensify its efforts. I am concerned that U.S. leadership in the world will be continuously eroded. It will even be difficult to preserve its own security and interests.

The CCP’s direct challenge to the United States may be less than a decade long, but its infiltration of the United States and its covert global struggle has been going on for decades.

The Chinese Regime is the Greatest Threat to the United States

In recent years, the CCP’s military expansion has been in full swing in the South China Sea, the Taiwan Strait, and the East China Sea. In addition, the CCP has attempted to start a global military framework as soon as possible through its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The CCP claimed its intermediate-range ballistic missile DF-26, also known as “Guam Killer,” has a range of 3,400 miles which means it could potentially target the U.S. Andersen Air Force Base in Guam. If the United States is not able to fight back with strength, but on the contrary allows the CCP to expand and establish its global framework, the security of the United States itself will be in question. So, how can we talk about leadership then?

By using massive subsidies and export dumping on the one hand, and erecting trade barriers on the other, the CCP has successfully crushed a significant portion of the U.S. manufacturing industries. To many people’s surprise, the United States has relied heavily on imports from China for many essential goods, including masks, vaccine syringes, a large number of medicines, and various industrial products.

Behind the huge trade deficit numbers, there is a direct threat to the basic livelihood of the United States, and it has led to a high unemployment rate. The CCP continues to acquire U.S. dollars to expand its armaments, expand the “Belt and Road” Initiative, and exert influence in the international arena.



Then-Vice President Joe Biden and then-Vice Chair Xi Jinping talk during an expanded bilateral meeting with other U.S. and Chinese officials in the Roosevelt Room at the White House in Washington on Feb. 14, 2021.

The CCP has been challenging the United States not only for world leadership, but it has also been encroaching on U.S. soil. Technology theft like the “Thousand Talents Plan” has left the United States off guard, with the direct and large-scale involvement of the CCP’s embassies and consulates. Had the Chinese Consulate in Houston not burned the materials, the outside world would have had little idea how serious it was.

China’s Thousand Talents Plan is one of the most prominent Chinese talent recruitment plans designed to attract, recruit, and cultivate high-level scientific talent in furtherance of China’s scientific development, economic prosperity, and national security.

It seeks to lure Chinese overseas talent and foreign experts to bring their knowledge and experience to China, and they often reward individuals for stealing proprietary information, the Department of Justice said.

How can the United States truly stop the CCP’s theft by only blocking it without bringing the bandits to justice and putting them behind bars?

The United States can’t defend itself from the CCP’s cyberattacks. And if it doesn’t fight back, it’s a sitting duck.

The Confucius Institute is on the rise in the United States. Its extensive infiltration of both America’s political and business world and the capture of Congressmen by beautiful “honey trap” spies are just the tip of the iceberg.

The world will be stunned if it is revealed how many Americans have been acting as the CCP’s agents and lobbying the White House, the U.S. Capitol, and all levels of the U.S. government. The CCP has been “exporting revolution” to the United States, and more and more socialist and communist slogans and agendas are being brought to the forefront.

More Americans are waking up, but the dark forces of evil have also been building up their strength over the decades.

The CCP’s mouthpiece is directly engaged in its propaganda campaigns in the United States. All types of social media have become propaganda channels for the CCP, and ads glorifying the CCP are played at will in New York’s Times Square.

If the Trump administration had not vigorously banned and blocked Huawei, the 5G network in the United States could have fallen into the hands of the CCP, and Europe could have fallen as well. Would the United States still have a leadership position then? The blocking of Huawei exemplifies a successful counterattack against the CCP’s challenge. Only by continuously implementing such counterattacks can the United States truly defuse the CCP’s provocations and destroy its ambitions.

Counterattack Is the Way to Win

The United States cannot stop the provocations and attacks of the CCP by being defensive alone. Evasion is self-destructive. The United States needs to counter the evil Communist regime in all aspects, to make the CCP lose its ability to provoke, in order to truly uphold justice and universal values and to convince the world to side with the United States. This is the way for the United States to

maintain its leadership in the world.

The CCP openly provokes the western values of democracy and freedom and openly provokes universal values in Hong Kong. The United States needs to “galvanize” the West to stop the CCP from undermining Hong Kong’s freedom and democracy. If Hong Kong is lost, how can Burma and Taiwan hold on?

If the United States fails to be at the forefront of the fight against the CCP, its global leadership position will be in jeopardy.

Likewise, the United States should take the lead in going after the CCP for concealing the epidemic. The CCP’s attempt to use the pandemic for hegemony was aimed most notably at the United States, and it has partially achieved its goal, with the United States suffering enormous losses of life and property as a result. If the U.S. government shies away from holding the CCP accountable for the pandemic, it will lose its leading influence in the world and will be subject to more insidious tricks by the CCP.

As long as the Chinese Communist regime continues to exist, it will not give up being an enemy of the United States. This is not the idea of Xi Jinping alone, but the essence of the Chinese Communist regime.

The CCP dictatorship, facing the free world, will always have a sense of crisis and inferiority. It is the CCP regime’s innate need to bring down the United States and the free world. World domination is the CCP regime’s unchanging goal. While the United States has completely failed in its past attempts to change the CCP’s policies, the CCP has been trying to change the United States.

If the United States is to remain a world leader, countering the Chinese Communist regime should be the most critical thread in its foreign relations. If the United States continues to ignore the CCP’s infiltration and challenges, even if it tries to advance more and different diplomatic agendas, it is putting the cart before the horse.

The United States should not be passive and defensive against the Chinese regime’s provocations, but should also be proactive and take both offensive and defensive measures to win. There is no race in the world that can be won by being defensive alone, and avoidance and dodging will lead to defeat. It is not that difficult to set up policies to serve this purpose.

The international situation may seem complex, but it becomes simple when one examines the core issues. When focusing on political maneuvering it is certainly easy to get lost, but standing on the height of conformity to history, it will soon become clear.

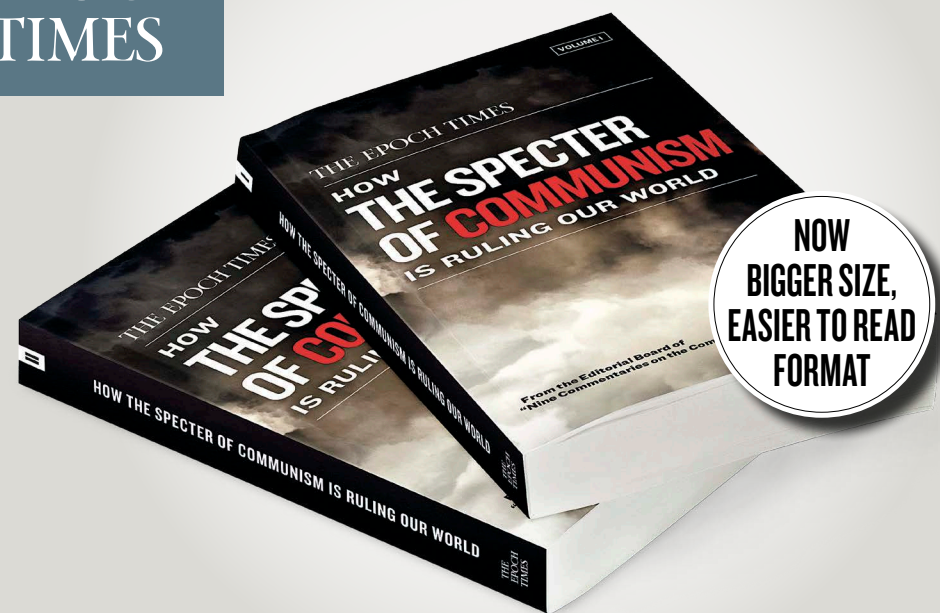
The Biden administration should formulate a strategy to counter the CCP as soon as possible so that the United States can naturally continue to be embraced as a world leader.

Yang Wei has been closely following China affairs for many years. He has been contributing political commentary on China for the Chinese language Epoch Times since 2019.

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