
III. Economic Science and the Looming Crash

President Trump in China: Picking Up John F. Kennedy's Torch

by Dennis Speed

Oct. 31—The Oct. 26 release by President Trump of large sections of the still-classified files on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy has usefully forced into view not only the matter of the “Kennedy cover-up,” but more important, the significance of the aborted Kennedy Presidency. “Who shot JFK?” remains an important question, but “what is the significance of what has happened to the United States since the death of JFK?” is a far more important one.

The month of November will feature both the trip of President Trump to Asia, and the 54th anniversary of the JFK assassination. This is also the centennial of John Kennedy's birth (on May 29, 1917). It might have been expected, especially given the identification of Baby-Boomers with JFK, that the last six months would have featured extensive commemorations of the martyred President; instead, there have been few. This may be because, in the face of the challenges that JFK posed to Americans—including the elimination of poverty in the United States by the end of the century, seventeen years ago—most would prefer not to evaluate honestly “how we've done.”

Now, the prospect proposed by China's President Xi Jinping—and implicitly by the great opportunity that is being presented to President Trump—is that of the United States working closely with the 1.4 billion-person nation of China, a nation that has lifted 700 million of its citizens out of poverty, and vows to lift everyone in that nation (and even, with other nations' help, much of the world) out of poverty within the next ten years, through the “win-win” Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). This return to physical productivity, using FDR's crash program methods, and JFK's “Apollo Project” model as well, can allow the United States to return to the quality of world leadership that JFK aspired to.

In his 2004 essay, “[The Coming Eurasian World](#),” Lyndon LaRouche states: “In an existential crisis, such as

the present world situation, which has those or similar attributes of a threatened general breakdown of the system, the danger comes chiefly from the leadership which fails to break with the pre-established policy-shaping trends, the failure to break in the way President Franklin Roosevelt did in his 1932 election-campaign, and in the turn-about in U.S. policy which he introduced beginning the first hours in the Administration.” Such a seismic shift in American foreign and domestic policy could, and should occur in the month of November. That, rather than nostalgia or tearful remembrance of what might have been, is the proper context for this brief consideration of America's potential next decade, from JFK's standpoint.

A New Frontier for All of Humanity

Once, during his Administration's first year, President John Kennedy asked the Joint Chiefs of Staff to brief him on the battle plan for thermonuclear war. After initially refusing, the generals briefed Kennedy on the Joint Strategic Capabilities Plan to drop 170 such weapons on the city of Moscow alone. Kennedy turned to another person present, and remarked: “And we call ourselves the human race.” Despite the anti-human Bertrand Russell and others' attempts to disorient him, Kennedy, acting as a sovereign President, stood fast against “the doomsday faction” and avoided thermonuclear holocaust in October 1962.

Having successfully reversed the world's near-destruction, through the efforts of his brother Robert and representatives of the Soviet administration that negotiated with him through a “back channel” on behalf of Nikita Khrushchov, Kennedy later proposed at the United Nations General Assembly on Sept. 20, 1963, a different vision for the two nations and for mankind.

If the Soviet Union and the United States, with all of their global interests and clashing commit-

ments of ideology, and with nuclear weapons still aimed at each other today, can find areas of common interest and agreement, then surely other nations can do the same... in a field where the United States and the Soviet Union have a special capacity—in the field of space—there is room for new cooperation, for further joint efforts in the regulation and exploration of space. I include among these possibilities a joint expedition to the Moon. Space offers no problems of sovereignty; by resolution of this Assembly, the members of the United Nations have foresworn any claim to territorial rights in outer space or on celestial bodies, and declared that international law and the United Nations Charter will apply. Why, therefore, should man's first flight to the Moon be a matter of national competition? Why should the United States and the Soviet Union, in preparing for such expeditions, become involved in immense duplications of research, construction, and expenditure? Surely we should explore whether the scientists and astronauts of our two countries—indeed of all the world—cannot work together in the conquest of space, sending some day in this decade to the Moon not the representatives of a single nation, but the representatives of all of our countries.

President Trump's proposal to return America to a manned space program is one of the central planks of his "Make America Great Again" platform. This is not about space, but about the future of humanity, which includes the future of the United States. Most Americans are still unaware of Trump's statements on space exploration, but these are important, in that they indicate an impulse tendency on his part to "break with the previous policy trends" of the "double Bush" Administrations of 2001-2017. In contrast, Barack Obama's infamous shut-down of the American space program's Moon initiative, saying "we've already been there," and his British imperial approach to relations with China, came from the same "no-future outlook" which was the antithesis of the 200-plus years of American scientific and technological progress.

In remarks at his signing of an Executive Order on the National Space Council, President Trump stated on June 30 this year:

We're a nation of pioneers, and the next great



John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum
President John F. Kennedy with Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Maxwell D. Taylor.

American frontier is space. And we never completed—we started, but we never completed. We stopped. But now we start again... Every launch into the skies is another step forward toward a future where our differences seem small against the vast expanse of our common humanity. Sometimes you have to view things from a distance in order to see the real truth. It is America's destiny to be at the forefront of humanity's eternal quest for knowledge, and to be the leader amongst nations on our adventure into the great unknown. And I could say the great and very beautiful unknown. Nothing more beautiful.

Those that have followed closely the intention of the Chinese to return the human race to the Moon, know why this may be another area in which President Trump and President Xi may seek common ground. Perhaps President Trump will discuss with China the prospect for joint American-Chinese—or even American-Chinese-Russian—projects to return to the Moon and to begin the process of mining helium-3 there. This would certainly recall JFK's 1963 United Nations initiative toward the then Soviet Union, designed to end war. At that time, Kennedy remarked, "I would say to the leaders of the Soviet Union, and to their people, that if either of our countries is to be fully secure, we need a much better weapon than the H-bomb—a weapon better than ballistic missiles or nuclear submarines—and that better weapon is peaceful cooperation."

While there are those that seek to compare Trump's trip to China, to that of Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger in 1972, they fail to note that then China was in the

throes of the Cultural Revolution, and was industrially backward; today, China is the world's leading industrial economy in fact, both from all physical-economic terms of measurement, and from the impulse-tendency for future economic growth through investment in new technologies and a skilled workforce. And beyond mere peaceful cooperation to prevent war—the best that JFK could hope for with the Soviet Union—the Chinese have made it abundantly clear that they wish to work with the United States as a full partner in the Belt and Road Initiative. To that end, economist Lyndon LaRouche and his associates wrote and released in 2014 the *EIR* Special Report, [The New Silk Road Becomes the World Land-Bridge](#), thus making available to the American Presidency an advanced response to the September 2013 proposal by Xi Jinping that the United States join the Belt and Road Initiative and the BRICS alliance. The Obama Administration, however, was “unconstitutionally” incapable of responding to this, as they were incapable of responding to China. Now, as recently stated in the title of an editorial in China’s *Global Times*, “China, America Can Be Great Together”:

Managing the relationship of competitive coex-

istence between China and the U.S.A. could be becoming more difficult, but bilateral relations have been more stable since Trump took office. Xi and Trump have maintained effective communications. The leaders hope to avoid a trade war and prevent tensions on the Korean Peninsula from spiraling out of control. . . . The two countries also have a prospective future in energy cooperation, including liquefied natural gas, clean coal, and nuclear power. The Belt and Road initiative can boost Sino-U.S. relations, and better Asia-Pacific infrastructure will generate more space for trade. Asia will need up to \$26 trillion for infrastructure in the next 15 years—a lucrative market for U.S. companies.

Let us hope that, with the combination of the Asia trip of President Trump, and the release of large portions of the Kennedy files, the New Frontier of which John F. Kennedy spoke, and into which mankind ventured, will be renewed as the “New Western Frontier”—China, and the prospect of a new world of American positive leadership for the benefit of all humanity, devoted to the discovery of “the great and beautiful unknown.”

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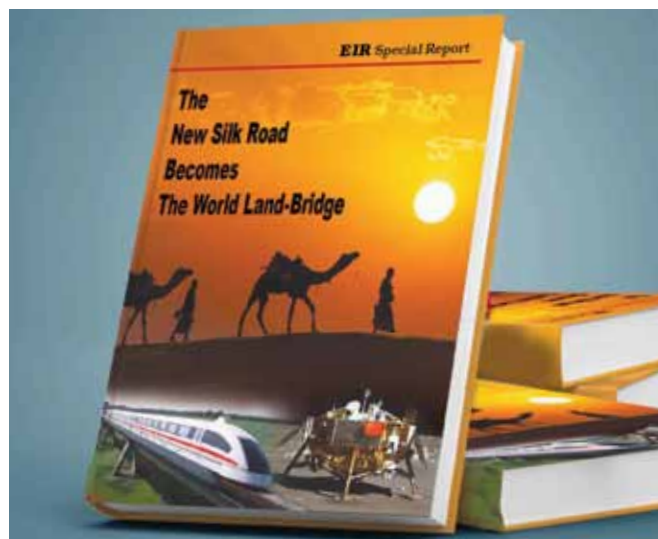
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