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## THE NEXT GLOBAL SUPERPOWER: HOW CHINA'S LEADERS HAVE DUPED THE US AND PLAN TO RULE THE WORLD



*By Carol Rushton*

The Chinese have an ancient folktale that took place in the Warring States period, 475 B.C to 221 B.C., when China was divided into different warring factions and tribes. Two kingdoms, Chu and Zhou, were vying for supremacy. Chu was a rising power but Zhou had already reached its zenith and was in decline.

The leader of the Chu kingdom met with a member of the Zhou kingdom to ostensibly swear an oath of loyalty to the Zhou leader, promising that the Chus had no designs of supplanting the Zhou kingdom.

As the Chu leader reviewed his troops with the Zhou diplomat, the Chu leader asked about the size and weight of the cauldrons in the Zhou royal palace. By doing so, the Chu leader made a critical blunder. The cauldrons were a sign of the gods' favor; whoever had them also had the favor of the gods, the Chu leader had revealed to the Zhou diplomat of his intention to undermine and overthrow the Zhou kingdom.

In *The Hundred-Year Marathon*, Michael Pillsbury writes, "The lesson is famous in China: 'Never ask the weight of the emperor's cauldrons.' In other words, don't let the enemy know you're a rival, until it

is too late for him to stop you” (Michael Pillsbury, *The Hundred-Year Marathon: China’s Secret Strategy to Replace America as the Global Superpower*, 2016, St. Martin’s Griffin, New York, pg. 38).

In my book, *Understanding Israel and the Middle East*, I wrote that Westerners do not understand the Arab mind. The Arabs say things that Westerners want to hear but they have a completely different meaning than we think they do.

Even though China has been a communist country since 1949 when Mao defeated Chiang Kai-Shek, much of the strategy the Communist Chinese employ comes from their ancient culture. To understand how different Communist China is from the United States in culture and society, it is imperative that Americans have at least a rudimentary grasp of not only what the Communist Chinese Leaders are doing but also why so that our country’s leaders can make wise decisions in its relations with this very powerful nation.

## China’s Ancient Culture

Although China’s history goes back almost 5,000 years, rivaling Egypt, two main concepts dominate and influence Chinese culture, society, and government today: The Warring States Period and Communism/Marxism. I will cover the Warring States Period first. Almost all the information in this section comes from Michael Pillsbury’s, *The Hundred-Year Marathon* and sources he quotes in his book.

The reason I give such weight to Pillsbury’s book is because he was a diplomat and worked in the intelligence and diplomatic branches of the U.S. government as an advisor and then diplomat specializing in China since the 1960s. Formerly a China Dove, he readily admits now that he was wrong about China all along and wrote *The Hundred-Year Marathon* to wake Americans up to the danger of China’s long-term goals.

Before covering how the Communist Chinese used strategies developed during The Warring States Period, it is important to define some of the terms used from their ancient history. You have already learned one of the stratagems from the introduction. Some are similar to those found in *The Art of War*, credited to Sun Tzu.

*Shi* - Pillsbury says “shi” is a difficult concept to describe in English. The Chinese explain “shi” as “an alignment of forces . . . propensity of things to happen” (Michael Pillsbury, *The One-Hundred Year Marathon*, 2018, St. Martin’s Griffin, New York, NY 10010). Sun Tzu refers to “shi” as being able to make your enemy move in the direction you want him to and exploiting that to your advantage. Americans would be more familiar with the term “nudge.”

*Wu Wei* - This concept is used to get others, particularly your enemies, to do your work for them. You will soon see how the Communist Chinese leaders were very adept at using this tactic with the United States.

*Wei Qi* - This is one of China’s most famous board games, called an “encirclement board.” The key to winning this game is deception. You prevent your enemy from encircling you while you are encircling

your enemy without the enemy realizing it until it is too late.

*Tao Guang Yang Hai* - Conceal your true goals, intents, and ambitions from your enemy while you are working to strengthen yourself to defeat him. This is similar to Sun Tzu's admonition: When you are weak appear strong, and when you are strong appear weak.

Michael Pillsbury cites an example from American literature to show how the Communist Chinese have used these and other Warring States stratagems against the United States. In Mark Twain's *Tom Sawyer*, Tom deceives his friends into painting a fence by portraying fence painting as art. His friends never caught on that Tom was manipulating them to do his work for him. This is what the Chinese have been doing with the U.S. for decades.

## HOW CHINESE LEADERS HAVE USED WARRING STATES STRATEGIES WITH THE U.S.

Although China and the USSR were both communist countries, there was a certain amount of rivalry between them. China was far more impoverished than the USSR, and Mao and the Soviet leadership didn't always get along. Mao's ultimate goal was to supplant the USSR and become the leading communist country in the world. In order to do that, he needed America's help.

In the 1970s, the falling out between the USSR and China was so bad, the Nixon Administration was deeply concerned about a war between the two countries, with the USSR defeating China and extending its communist empire throughout Asia. Since President Nixon, and most Americans at that time, felt that the USSR was the main communist threat to the world and to the United States, he and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger were more than willing to help prop up China to prevent the Soviet Union from adding to their territory and influence. Unwittingly, they played right into Mao's hands.

Mao portrayed China as a weak and helpless country, unable to defend itself against Soviet "aggression." This is a classic, Warring States Period strategy. Mao may have even engineered the 1969 military border clashes between China and the USSR in order to convince the U.S. that China was in grave danger of being attacked and defeated by the Soviets. If this is true, it would be a textbook case of Mao's using *shi*, which, according to Pillsbury, Mao spoke often about using.

It also worked. With Nixon's approval, a series of "gestures" to assure Mao that Americans were sincere in having some type of alliance with China were made by both Kissinger and his deputy, Alexander Haig, before Nixon went to China to meet Mao. These included:

- Giving China "detailed classified information" concerning troop movements by India on Pakistan's border (Ibid, pg. 60).
- Supporting China's growing relationship with Pakistan and opposing any possible takeover of Pakistan by India
- Promises of deterring any attack by the Soviet Union on China

These may seem somewhat tame to us today but in the 1970s this would have caused a political earthquake in the U.S. if the general populace had known. It was a dramatic shift in how the U.S. government viewed Communist China from its previous position of shunning China on the world stage in favor of our support for Taiwan.

When Nixon finally visited China in 1973, Mao underplayed China's importance and global ambitions. Mao made it plain that the U.S. and China should team up to counter and contain the USSR.

Incredibly, Kissinger provided even more specific intelligence information to the Communist Chinese about the USSR's military positions on China's border. In another trip to China in 1973, Kissinger, again with Nixon's approval, offered to provide China with military technological aid in the form of advanced radar and satellite capabilities that China's military could use in the event of an invasion by the USSR.

All the while President Nixon and his administration were bending over backward to make an ally out of China to counter the Soviet threat, they were blissfully unaware of what the Communist Chinese were actually calling the U.S. - *ba*, which means *tyrant*. Not a very flattering word to use to describe a potential ally. And while the Nixon administration might have been aboveboard and honest in its dealings with the Communist China, Mao and the Chinese Communist Party were not. They viewed any alliance with the U.S. as only temporary, something that would benefit them at that moment and in the near future. The U.S. was an obstacle to be used to get as much out of us as possible to achieve their goal of world domination.

Communist China continued to employ these Warring State Period strategies throughout the Ford, Carter, and Reagan administrations, enabling them to extract more and more concessions and military aid from the U.S. with each successive president.

The Nixon and Ford administrations gave China much of what they wanted. They ended secret assistance to the Dalai Lama, whom China hated, stopped U.S. Navy patrols through the Taiwan Strait, and recognized China as the only legitimate government of the Chinese people, abandoning America's decades-long ally Taiwan.

After Mao's death in September 1976, Deng Xiaoping eventually became Mao's successor. Pillsbury records that:

Deng was enthusiastic about a partnership with the Americans, but for a key reason not meant for public consumption . . . Internal Chinese documents, which came into the hands of U.S. intelligence officials long after the fact, showed that the Chinese leaders concluded that they had failed to extract all they could from their now-faltering Soviet alliance. Deng would not make that same mistake with the Americans. He saw that the real way for China to make progress in the Marathon was to obtain knowledge and skills from the United States. In other words, China would come from behind and win the Marathon by stealthily drawing most of its energy from the complacent American front-runner (Ibid, pg. 65).

When President Jimmy Carter sent a delegation of scientists to China in 1978, Deng continued the policy that Mao had started, portraying China as a poverty-stricken nation that was decades behind the U. S. and most of the world in science and technology. From the pictures that my father took on his visits to China in the 1980s, China really was a very backward country in science and technology compared to the U.S. But it was Deng's reason for wanting to acquire Western knowledge in these areas that is so sinister: China would use it to eventually surpass the West, including the U.S.

This was all lost on Carter and his administration. Totally clueless to China's real designs, Carter agreed to continue to cooperate with China militarily and to provide China with military intelligence which helped the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. Carter allowed thousands of Chinese students to attend American universities and colleges to major in engineering and different scientific fields of study. Carter also agreed:

- To send delegations of American scientists to China to help the Communist Chinese to advance in specific scientific fields selected by China: physics, atomic energy, and astronautics among others
- To equip China with the latest American technology and advancements in energy, agriculture, education, space, geosciences, commerce, and public health
- To upgrade China's position with the U.S. to most favored-nation status

Pillsbury calls these agreements between the Carter Administration and China as "the greatest outpouring of American scientific and technological expertise in history" (Ibid, pg. 71).

While President Ronald Reagan was skeptical of the Chinese to ever drastically change their communist regime to a free, liberated, capitalist government, he was unfortunately surrounded by the same diplomats and government officials entrenched within the federal bureaucracy, carryovers from prior administrations who viewed China with rose-colored glasses. Reagan agreed to continue the assistance to China of American military and technological aid.

The Reagan administration funneled military assistance through China to fight wars in Angola, Vietnam, and Afghanistan to support anti-Cuban and anti-Russian forces in these countries. He also expanded the science and technology aid to China in the fields of genetic engineering, automation, biotechnology, lasers, space technology, space technology, and robotics - to name a few.

However, Reagan imposed a condition to continued American assistance: China had to remain independent of the USSR and become more aggressive in expanding religious and civil liberties. Of course, China ignored these conditions, and the Reagan Administration overlooked them.

If any of this information had been revealed to the American public during the 1970s and 1980s, it would have resulted in the downfalls of these presidents and their administrations. Americans would have been outraged to discover that their hard-earned tax dollars were going to strengthen a brutal communist government who had murdered, imprisoned, and tortured millions of its citizens since 1949. Now, no one bats an eye.

In his book, Pillsbury wonders why China would help the U.S. support anti-communist fighters in other countries. He concludes that the Communist Chinese leaders were employing *wei qi* to stave off being “encircled” by the Soviet Union while also taking advantage of advanced American technology in as many areas as the U.S. would agree to give them, all the time portraying China as a destitute and indigent country who could never compete with the U.S.

### **HOW MAO’S COMMUNIST TACTICS ARE BEING USED IN THE U.S.**

The other major influence on the Chinese has been the imposing of communist tactics upon China’s one and a half billion people. What Mao unleashed on his citizens, especially during the Cultural Revolution, is now being copied within the United States.

In 1962, the country was coming out of the Great Leap Forward, which was actually the Great Leap Backward. Mao seized the private property of Chinese citizens and forced them to work in communes supposedly to create different works projects that he promised would propel China into a major world economic power. Instead, the Chinese were literally worked to death. They received meager rations for their work on failed projects. They were not allowed to keep private gardens or farm animals, which in the past had provided the Chinese with a way to survive tough years. The conditions were so horrific that many actually ate tree bark or even mud. Millions died.

Some of those most loyal to Mao blamed him for what happened during the Great Leap Forward. Mao refused to take responsibility and made sure that any statements were whitewashed. But Mao was concerned that he was weakened politically and that challengers might succeed in toppling him from power. He had to come up with something to keep challengers and the country off balance, and he did: The Cultural Revolution.

Mao was an expert at pitting different groups against one another to essentially destroy one another to make sure he was always in control. He and a small group of insiders that Mao trusted encouraged students to rebel against their teachers, parents, police, and other authority figures based on the false narrative that many in China were part of a secret bourgeoisie determined to overthrow communism and its many successes and return the country to a decadent, failed capitalist system. One of the slogans was “To Rebel Is Justified.”

A huge rally helped to kick off Mao’s latest campaign. Lin Baio, one of his most trusted confidants, incited the young Chinese to eradicate by any means necessary “all the old ideas, old culture, old customs and old habits of the exploiting classes” (Frank Dikotter, *The Cultural Revolution*, 2016, Bloomsbury Press, New York, New York, pg. 81).

Students were more than happy to oblige. Known as the Red Guard, Chinese young people physically attacked in public anyone wearing anything coming close to Western dress - this included anyone wearing high heels, Western suits and dresses or Western hairstyles. Stores were destroyed and store owners physically attacked. People were no longer safe simply walking down the street. Street names were changed and communist revolutionary slogans were plastered everywhere.

Sidney Rittenburg was an American in China at that time. Although he supported the communists, even he was shocked by what he was seeing. "Everything was smash, smash, smash. I could hardly believe what I heard. These people at the very top were planning to destroy everything they had built up over the past two decades, to smash and build something new" (Ibid, pg. 81).

Students turned their fury upon their teachers. The more fortunate ones were simply humiliated, forced to wear dunce caps or signs proclaiming their stupidity or being a member of the bourgeoisie. That didn't last. Students started to physically attack their teachers. Physical assaults resulting in serious physical injury including stabbings, knifings, and torture started to be reported across the country and celebrated by Mao and his cronies. One teacher was set on fire. The violence escalated to such a level that some teachers were actually murdered by their students.

Does this remind anyone of the Black Lives Matter and Antifa attacks upon police, government buildings, and private citizens, the destruction of private property and the pulling down of statues deemed "controversial" over the last year and a half?

Everyone's loyalty to the Communist Revolution was suspect, even those who had been with Mao from the beginning. If you did not show sufficient loyalty to Mao or you had family members who had been a part of China's capitalist past, you had to "confess" your "sins" of being a secret capitalist and undermining the glorious Communist Revolution. You had to write pages and pages of your confession and be brought before committees who would judge your guilt or innocence. The humiliation was bad enough. Some were physically tortured.

Today in the United States, Americans are told they are racist. They are told they must publicly confess their "white guilt" and "secret racism" before their colleagues and employers. American companies, and even the U.S. military, require employees to listen to lectures about how racist the United States is, and how racist they are. You are guilty of oppressing others or being oppressed simply based on the color of your skin, which no one has control over. If you make the wrong statement at the wrong time, you can lose your job. Gone is the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. You are now automatically judged to be guilty, and you must prove your innocence.

What happened to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s admonition that people should be judged by the content of their character and not by the color of their skin?

Mao essentially presided over a civil war in his own country. One moment, he would encourage the students and young people to do whatever was necessary to eradicate any vestiges of Western culture and thought; the next moment Mao would switch his support to the military and the police. You never knew which side you should be on from one day to the next. You cannot do this to a country and expect it to survive - at least not in its current form.

Does any of this ring a bell with anyone?

## CONCLUSION

During the 2008 presidential campaign, Michelle Obama made the following statement. “Barack knows that we are going to have to make sacrifices; we are going to have to change our conversation; we’re going to have to change our traditions, our history; we’re going to have to move into a different place as a nation” (Glenn Beck, “Rewriting Our History, Changing Our Traditions,” December 16, 2009, Fox News).

Michelle Obama’s statement in 2008 sounds eerily familiar to Lin Baio’s command to Chinese youth in 1966. It helps to explain what is going on in our country now.

The Communist Chinese have been very successful in helping the United States destroy itself from outside by unwittingly helping one of their enemies and from within by the current communist coup taking place inside the U.S. Although American Marxists are fueling the chaos and division within our country, the choice of Michelle and Barack Obama to have Mao ornaments hanging on their first White House Christmas tree should leave no doubt as to where the allegiance of these American Marxists lie (“White House Christmas Décor Featuring Mao Zedong Comes Under Fire,” December 24, 2009, Fox News).

China has come full circle. Russia and China recently signed a bilateral nuclear energy agreement; China now warns the U.S. not to interfere with anything it does. I don’t know if Putin realizes this is only a temporary alliance which China will ditch when they have received everything from Russia they want.

In case you think the Chinese are not serious about all of this, all you have to do is visit the Chinese National Museum in Beijing. Included among all the displays and historical items are three gargantuan cauldrons. The Chinese are very serious about eclipsing the United States and ruling the world. We need to take them seriously.

By the way, Lin Baio met a tragic end. For all Baio’s revolutionary fervor, Mao turned against one of his most loyal communist colleagues who had helped him defeat Chiang Kai Shek in the 1940s. Baio and his family were killed when their plane crashed trying to flee China in 1971. He could never be communistic enough for Mao. Neither could anyone else.

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