

EXCERPTED from DRAFT of

## **THE NEW CONFESSIONS OF AN ECONOMIC HIT MAN, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition: CHINA'S STRATEGY**

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THE *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER—UPDATED AND AMPLIFIED  
12 EXPLOSIVE NEW CHAPTERS WITH NEW REVELATIONS ON:

- How a Third Economic Hit Man Wave Is Sweeping the World
- Ways China Has Optimized US EHM Models to Make Them Even More Dominating
- What Can Be Done to Stop the New EHM Strategy and Its Takeover of the World

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EXCERPTS from the *INTRODUCTION*

As we step ever closer to the precipice of ecological, economic, and social destruction, it is essential that we recognize that we have been living under a false and dangerous perception. Maximization of short-term profits and the economic hit man (EHM) strategy are killing us – whether implemented by the US or China. Even the rich and powerful will fall off the precipice.

Many philosophers emphasize the need to reframe the concept of “growth.” They point out that current economic growth – as measured by GDP, stock prices, and other monetized metrics – has resulted in a world where 1% of the richest people own twice as much as 90%. (2) Instead, growth needs to occur in activities that end poverty, promote quality of life, and protect and rejuvenate nature. When enough of us embrace this new perception of growth, the degenerative Death Economy will yield to a regenerative Life Economy. . .

### **Alien Invasion**

During the Cold War, President Ronald Reagan referred to the Soviet Union as an “enemy,”

notoriously labeling it as an “evil empire.” China, today, is more often described as a “competitor.” It’s an important distinction.

The Soviets had a nuclear arsenal that posed a military threat, but they never came close to competing with the US economically. China, on the other hand, is taking America head-on economically. As this book will illustrate, it is beating us in trade and investments in countries on every continent. Although its economy is second to that of the US, it threatens to overtake us soon. Like the US, but unlike the Soviet Union, China is both an economic and military power. Fortunately, it appears to have chosen to compete more as a commercial empire than a military one, with a few important exceptions as noted below. The difference is instrumental in shaping international relations. An enemy poses extreme danger while a competitor can inspire and even become an ally.

I learned to understand the importance of competition when I played tennis in high school. My main rival was a classmate who vied with me for the number one position on the team. Fiercely competitive, we both improved. As partners in doubles tournaments, we turned what we had gained by playing against each other to our mutual advantage.

It has been said that if we were invaded by aliens, we would all join forces to fight them. As long as we humans see ourselves as apart from – rather than as a part of – nature, we alienate ourselves from the rest of life on this planet. We are the invading aliens.

Today, the United States and China – and every other country – share a common enemy: the perceptions that have alienated us from each other and the world and convinced us to spread a degenerative economic system – a Death Economy. Our way of life and our definitions of success cause climate change, income inequality, resource depletion, species extinctions, ecological collapse, pandemics, and just about all our other crises. We threaten ourselves every bit as much as would an actual invasion of aliens from another solar system.

The hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, and other once-in-one-hundred-year events that now happen every year or so have taught us that we are all vulnerable to this common enemy. COVID-19 has taught us that we can change. Although we do not have to agree on all our national policies, we can agree to join forces and end the Death Economy. . .

## **A Request for Help**

News about the appalling conditions in China's detention camps and the crimes against the Uighurs and other minorities have alerted the world to the darker aspects of today's China – as have imperialistic actions in the South China Sea, Hong Kong, Tibet, and elsewhere. At the same time, events in the US, ranging from White supremacist violence and the Black Lives Matter movement to attempts to undermine democracy and the horrible conditions in prisons and immigrant holding camps have exposed a darker side of America. Despite the truth behind such revelations, prejudices that result from focusing on the negative aspects of others too often block the path to the cooperation that is so urgently needed in this crisis-riddled world.

I realize that as a white, male American, I grew up prejudiced by a belief that I was entitled to opportunities unavailable to people of different skin pigmentation, gender, or citizenship. Beyond that, I and many of my baby-boomer contemporaries were influenced at an early age by films, TV shows, and cartoons that prejudiced us against people of African, Asian, and Middle Eastern heritage. I've traveled enough to know that men and women everywhere hold prejudices against others.

I hear them when people accuse me as pro-Chinese because I write that China's model might seem attractive to other countries, as anti-Asian because I also criticize China, and as anti-American because I expose the mistakes made by American EHMs.

Because of such prejudices, I've found this book to be the most challenging I've ever written.

So, I request your help.

As you read the following pages, please be aware that we humans are subjected to perceptions that impact us. I ask that you simply acknowledge your own. Please know that my goal is not to defend China's model. Or America's model. It is rather to permanently relegate the EHM strategy to the trash bin of history. Once and for all. And to transform the Death Economy into a Life Economy that focuses on cleaning up pollution, regenerating destroyed environments, recycling, and creating technologies that enhance all life rather than ravaging the earth.