

China - Agrarian to the World's Factory

In just 40 years! - 5 pivotal decisions that pave the way

- China's global dominance was interrupted by a very bad decision - ignore the Industrial Revolution
- What were the consequences of China's Hubris during its last dynasty?
- Why did China opt to turn its back to the West?
- Why is Mao Zedong considered one of the greatest military commanders ... and one of the worst of all heads of state?
- What was the impact of the Great Leap Forward and the Great Proletariat Cultural Revolution?
- What decisions were made by Deng Xiaoping and how was he influenced by Prime Minister Lee Kwan Yew of Singapore?
- What lessons should the West learn from China's meteoric rise to a global economic powerhouse in just 40 years?

China - Pulling the Curtain Back

An economy/ ideology famous for being opaque - the secrets are...?

- When Deng made his first visit to the United States in 1979, what three crucial commitments did he receive from President Jimmy Carter?
- The Tiananmen Square Rebellion in 1989 is hardly mentioned in China, how close was the Chinese Communist Party to being toppled?
- What are the five most significant internal threats to the continued legitimacy of the Party?
- How and why is the Party effectively using nationalism to support and ensure the continued dominance of China?
- Xi Jinping is an avowed Maoist. How has his tenure as General Secretary changed from a five-year term to a lifetime dictatorship?
- Why does China send 350,000 of its brightest students to the great universities in the United States? What are the weaknesses of the Chinese education system?

China's Belt and Road Initiative

A path to global dominance or a path to China's eventual undoing?

- Why China has opted to re-open the Old Silk Road with the launching of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
- After a modest launch attracting only seven developing and undeveloped nations, how were one hundred thirty-nine countries enticed to become "partners" in the BRI?
- What does it mean to be a partner country in the BRI? Why "partner" does not mean "equal." What does China expect in return for investing in partner countries?
- Is the BRI a global effort, like the former Marshall Plan, intending to help developing countries join the global economy, or is the BRI a form of neo-colonialism, with predatory lending?
- How should the United States respond to the BRI? Should the United States join other non-member countries to counter the BRI?
- Will the economic BRI ultimately become a military threat to the United States?

China's Dream - 2049

Global dominance! But, 11 Invisible Barriers Stand in the Way

- How did China evolve from a third world, mostly agrarian country to become the "world's factory" with an economy predicted to displace the United States as the economic Hegeman?
- China is a country still unable to feed itself and is also lacking in the most essential natural resources.
- The "one-child" policy has created a gender differential, but that pales compared to China's future problems because of its aging population. Will China get old before it gets rich?
- The very opaque Chinese economy is beset by a debt problem, which is much worse than being reported. Why seismic changes must be adopted.
- The "Middle Income Trap" and the "Lewis Turning Point" are exposing China as no longer being the primary source of cheap labor.
- The People's Liberation Army is impressive, yet untested. What must the United States do to maintain its dominance in the Indo-Pacific Area?
- Why internal unrest could spell the downfall of the Chinese Communist Party?

Taiwan - Considering All Outcomes

Pivotal Decisions Loom for U.S. Presidents

- How and why did Taiwan become such a pivotal issue?
- Taiwan, officially the Republic of China (ROC), is a liberal democracy in contrast to the People's Republic of China (PRC) which is a one-party, top-down authoritarian form of government.
- Why does the PRC persist in declaring that ROC is nothing less than a renegade province that will eventually reunite with the PRC - one way or the other?
- If the PRC opted for a military attack on Taiwan, how would/ should the United States respond? Does the United States have a mutual defense treaty?
- What countries in the Indo-Pacific area does the United States have mutual defense treaties with?
- What are the five most likely military attacks by the PRC against Taiwan?
- If Taiwan is attacked, and the United States does not offer military assistance, what would be the impact of relations with other allies in the area?
- How could an incident in the South China Sea escalate into a nuclear holocaust? What is the most effective way to avoid war over Taiwan?

20 Years in the Middle East - A Reckoning

- General Colin Powell once said, "if you break it, you own it." After not learning our lesson in Vietnam, the U.S. made the same mistakes in Afghanistan and Iraq. Why?
- President Bush repeatedly contended that "we will not be involved in nation-building" in both engagements. The U.S. did just that in both Afghanistan and Iraq. Why?
- The U.S. became one of thirteen proxies involved in the Syrian Civil War - and yet again in another proxy civil war in Yemen. The U.S. also launched drone strikes in several other Middle Eastern countries. Why?
- What should have been our "lessons learned" once weapons of mass destruction were not found in Iraq?
- Was Ambassador Paul Bremer the right person to become the Administrator of the Coalition Provision Authority - if not, who should have been appointed?
- Why did the U.S. support the Kurds in Iraq and Syria? Is there any chance that Kurdistan will ever become a recognized sovereign country?
- What was the measure of success when considering our 20 years in the Middle East?

Afghanistan Evacuation - Lessons Learned

- If neither the Taliban nor any other terrorist organization from Afghanistan had any direct involvement in the 9/11 attacks, why did the U.S. invade and remain there for 20 years?
- Why did the Afghan Army collapse so quickly, even though with 300,000 soldiers its force was much larger and better equipped than the Taliban?
- What mistakes were made by both the Trump and Biden administrations in negotiating and executing the withdrawal agreement with the Taliban?
- How should the evacuation of American citizens and Afghanistan people who worked with the U.S. over the past 20 years have been conducted?
- Over \$80 billion in military hardware was left behind after the evacuation. How could this equipment be put to good use during the evacuation?
- Should Bagram and the U.S. Embassy have been abandoned before the evacuation? What special operation forces were available and not used to secure these facilities?
- What planning and intelligence failures occurred during the evacuation, and what should the U.S. have learned from this operation?

American Caesar - Douglas MacArthur

- MacArthur had no equal on the battlefield, as evidenced by his 83 victories, his record surpasses all previous American generals combined.
- His academic achievements at West Point were second only to Robert E. Lee, a record that still stands.
- Before becoming the highest decorated American soldier in World War I, MacArthur had already been recommended for the Medal of Honor. His father, General Arthur MacArthur, won the same award in the Civil War.
- Appointed Superintendent of West Point, MacArthur overhauled the antiquated curriculum and abandoned all forms of hazing.
- Named the head of the 1928 U.S.A. Olympic Team, MacArthur encouraged his athletes to win more gold medals than any other country and they did so, setting numerous world records.
- Blamed for opening fire on the Bonus Marchers in Washington, MacArthur blamed Communist interlopers.
- During World War II, MacArthur was blamed for evacuating the Philippines but went on to achieve enormous success during the entire war.
- While masterminding the rejuvenation of post-war Japan, MacArthur was called into action when North Korea invaded South Korea. This war proved to be his undoing.

Comments from lecture attendees:

"Good job, Mike. It is an enormously complex subject, with geopolitical and financing overlays that most of us are not familiar with. Thanks for the effort. I still cannot get my head around the whole unlimited, debit financing that the Chinese are employing. Sooner or later that bubble has to burst."

"Excellent presentation on an enormously complex subject - clearing the air and making sense of geopolitical and financial overlays that most of us do not understand"

"Great job on your China brief this morning. Organized, well documented and your presentation of the volume of information was outstanding. Thanks. . .my regret is that I was unable to record it on my pad."

"Thanks for another great presentation in your "China" series. Very informative to be sure, and very well presented to boot (as usual). Keep up the great work ... and please keep inviting us!!"

"We thought you did an excellent job presenting the entire picture of the formation, priorities, and results of China's Belt and Road Initiative. It is a complex endeavor with wide-ranging implications and you were able to present it logically and concisely. Thanks very much for your contributions to our program."

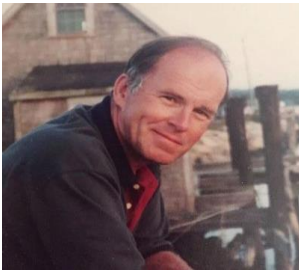
"I thought it was very brave of you to suggest that we (USA) do need to be at the foreign relations table contrary to what the MAGA people think. Brave indeed."

"Fabulous job today Mike. Thank you for taking the time to prepare such a thorough presentation."

"Great presentation today most informing, thank you."

"Mike, you always do a great job. Thank you for this presentation. I learned a great deal."

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Founded in 1984, EDM Publishers reports on a wide range of topics, including first responder legal matters, land use, construction permits, and human resource conflicts in public workplaces.

Mr. Quinlan, an attorney, has over 40 years of legal publishing experience and served as president of Quinlan Publishing Group which was sold to West Thomson (now Reuters). At Quinlan Publishing, Mr. Quinlan launched over 40 legal bulletins, references, and other publications, both print and digital. The topics ranged from public funding for education and local government projects to several human resources publications, and legal bulletins related to law enforcement, workers' compensation, and land use.

Mr. Quinlan was a board member of the Newsletter Publishers of America.

In recent years, Mr. Quinlan has been lecturing on critical and timely subjects that have a profound impact on world affairs, such as

- China - the past, present, and future - mission to acclaim global dominance
- Indo-Pacific area - why it is important to maintain a strong presence
- Middle East - Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Isis, Al Qaeda, et al.
- European Union - BREXIT, NATO
- Immigration - great migration from Africa to Europe

A graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Mr. Quinlan served as a naval aviator for 20 years while on active duty and in the Naval Reserve. In 1969, Mr. Quinlan was assigned to Light Attack Squadron FOUR in Vietnam, where he flew 251 combat missions. He also served for several years

on U.S.S. Intrepid (CV 11), where he was the landing signal officer in his squadron, VS-24.

Mr. Quinlan is a strong supporter of the United States Naval Academy and has served as a member of the Editorial Advisory Board. More recently, he was named as a Trustee of the Naval Academy Foundation.

Active in local town government in his home of Duxbury, MA, Mr. Quinlan served on both the Finance Committee and the Fiscal Advisory Committee, which he chaired.

The father of five daughters, Mr. Quinlan has been married to Jeanne (Wright) Quinlan for over 50 years. For more information click below or contact us [here](#) if you have any questions!