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Bill Walker's gas line obsession would feed China's 'Steal and Scale' initiative of Chairman Xi, who emulates Mao

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Bill Walker's mistake in signing away Alaska's gas to China was no small error in judgment. It was a move so catastrophic it could have made Alaska a multi-generational economic colony of China.

While former Gov. Walker was sealing a deal in 2017 with the Communist Chinese, getting China to agree to pay for 75 percent or more of the Alaska gas line and tie up Alaska's gas exports to China for decades, China was also advancing its "Steal and Scale" economic strategy across America to abscond with U.S. companies' technologies, and bring them to scale in order to sell them back to the United States.

Since the 1940s, manufacturing has continued to move offshore from America to China, where labor and lives are cheap, and where power is centralized in a corrupt and brutal government. Now, Americans are realizing the price they've paid for all those cheap goods, made by the slaves of the government of China.

"Steal and Scale" is the unacknowledged sister of China's Belt and Road Initiative, which is investing in 150 countries around the world and exerting China-centric control over them. Belt and Road and Steal and Scale are the centerpieces of Chairman Xi Jinping's economic and foreign policy, which is to stretch China's influence through economic dominance. As of August, 2022, 149 counties were listed as having signed on the dotted line for the Belt and Road Initiative.

Essentially, that was what Walker signed on for. He was not an official signatory on Belt and Road itself, but the \$35 billion the Chinese were investing in Alaska's gas line was, in fact, the same thing, giving China economic control over construction of a \$9.2-billion gas treatment plant on the North Slope, a \$12.7 billion 800-mile gasline to Nikiski, and a \$16.8-billion liquefaction plant in Nikiski, where the gas would be condensed for transportation to China, with small amounts available for contracts to Japan, Vietnam, and South Korea.

Notably, Walker did not sign this agreement to compromise Alaska's sovereignty while on U.S. soil. The Chinese did not come to Alaska and sign the agreement, although they could have. It was Alaska that was begging them for the money, and so Walker went to China, hat in hand. In Beijing, he met with President Xi, and signed away Alaska's sovereignty on behalf of the

734,000 Alaskans who had no idea that he was compromising Alaska's gas to three companies owned by the Chinese government.

Today, if Bill Walker had remained in office, the China gas line might be half built, if all had gone according to Walker's risky plan. Walker had promised Alaskans he would have it up and running by 2025. By then, he'd be long gone from office, even if he had won reelection in 2018.

Steal and scale is a polite way of describing China's economic strategy with the United States, which started under Chairman Mao Tse Tung and now continues under Chairman Xi, who considers Mao his political role model.

Chairman Mao was a mass murderer who was responsible for far more deaths than Hitler or Stalin. Between 1958 and 1962, Mao's Great Leap Forward policy led to between 15-55 million starvation deaths, as he transformed China from an agrarian to industrial economy. It was a famine policy that reduced the need for food. There are hardly words to describe the brutality that existed in China under Chairman Mao

Across America in those years, mothers would admonish their children, "Eat your food. There are starving children in China." And that was true. It was planned starvation.

Chairman Xi is Mao's protege, amalgamating power at a rapid pace, running a country that has total surveillance on its citizens, a country where "social credit" will determine whether you eat or go hungry.

Any company that does business with China is required to have a Communist Party "minder" in the "C Suite," someone who is stealing technology from American companies and sending the plans, formularies, and blueprints back to China.

China's surveillance state is by far the most oppressive in the world. As described in a Wednesday story in the Wall Street Journal, it starts when a citizen steps out of his front door in the morning. The day starts with a mandated Covid test administered by workers in white hazmat jumpsuits. For those who don't pass, they are prevented from going to any public space, including parks.

"Surveillance cameras keep watch over the city streets. In a cab on the way to work, the driver requires you to scan a QR code for a government database tracking people's movements. Scan again when stopping by Starbucks for coffee and then again at the office," writes Brian Spegele, of the Wall Street Journal.

"If the database shows you've crossed paths with someone infected by the virus, you'll likely be forced into quarantine. It may be in a hotel room, at a converted convention center, or if lucky, at home with an alarm installed on the front door," he writes.

"The Chinese state has stretched far deeper into citizens' lives since Mr. Xi took power in 2012. Covid has pushed the controls to entirely new levels. Such measures are increasingly testing the faith of Chinese citizens in a government that is no longer delivering the supercharged economic growth that underpinned popular support for decades," the story continues.

The Journal describes the fate of a 6-year-old Chinese boy who tested positive for Covid days after landing in Shanghai on a domestic flight. The government put 400 of the boy's contacts into quarantine, and then went after secondary contacts.

“Authorities descended on an IKEA after determining that a close contact of the boy had also visited the store, then left. Verified video footage showed people attempting to escape as security officers tried to barricade shoppers inside,” the newspaper writes.

Chairman Xi's plan is to put the Chinese Communist Party in even greater control of Chinese life. The party has censored social media, and also limited private enterprise's expansion. And Xi is consolidating power.

“And he increasingly looks like the most consequential Chinese politician since Mao Zedong, the man most responsible for creating the People's Republic of China. Indeed, in Xi's campaign to strengthen his and the CCP's authority, he appears to be modeling himself after Mao,” the Cato Institute wrote in 2020. “Which should make the rest of us very nervous.”

If indeed Xi is Mao reinvented and amplified, then Alaska narrowly escaped from becoming the fuel that would power the Steal and Scale dynasty that is preparing for war with America.