

“This week’s visit to Taipei by Democrat House Leader Nancy Pelosi has been celebrated by the Taiwanese and has infuriated the Chinese, who are now conducting large-scale military drills around the island. “The current tensions in Taiwan should raise awareness that there is a lot more at stake with China than a historic territorial claim. Taiwanese companies play a big role in the global tech landscape.”³⁸⁵

While these semiconductors are vital, other manufacturing operations are required and located nearby. Apple’s phone and microchip operations connect heavily to Foxconn³⁸⁶, who in late 2022, had protests at its Zhengzhou, Henan province China plant over payment promises and terrible living conditions.³⁸⁷ Foxconn has both ROC and PRC facilities.³⁸⁸

In July 2017, Foxconn made a tax-credit laden deal to build a massive \$10 billion factory in Wisconsin. But as of April 2021, that deal was substantially reduced under \$1 billion, with *CNBC* snidely mocking the deal because Trump once lauded it.³⁸⁹ The *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* did likewise in December 2022, but placed the blame at the feet of Scott Walker, the former governor in Wisconsin.³⁹⁰ So far, around 1,000 jobs are connected to this highly expensive tax credit deal that rankled locals due to eminent domain purchases and excessive local water usage.³⁹¹

Yet, what drove the local problem regarding launch of Foxconn’s Gen 6 fabrication is more detailed than this book can delve into. *The Verge* did an interview with former Foxconn executive Alan Yeung in April 2022.^{392,393} Historically, intense controversy surrounds Foxconn as their working conditions led to installed suicide nets in 2010, reflecting further the actuality of the Chinese model to come: slaving and dying for the elite.³⁹⁴

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History is replete with agendas sought and agendas spoiled, only to be tried again with better designed technocratic tools ranging from supersonic airplanes to fiber optics to social media to spies. Mackinder’s *World Island* informed the mindsets of geopolitical masters and fools since the beginning of the 20th century. The goal of controlling the unified land mass from Eastern Europe (Heartland) to China and the North Pole to the bowels of the Middle East (Rimland) or down even to the Cape of Good Hope (World Island) seems a fascinating concept for geopolitical experts. Such a dogma keeps international policy wonks and think tankers employed in cushy positions in D.C., but rarely sees alternative designs and implementation to this century-old concept.

Mackinder’s geopolitical power dynamics lay at the heart of the 20th century wars and battles waged from London to Moscow *through* Berlin, Paris and Washington D.C. with alliances, pacts, and treaties routinely

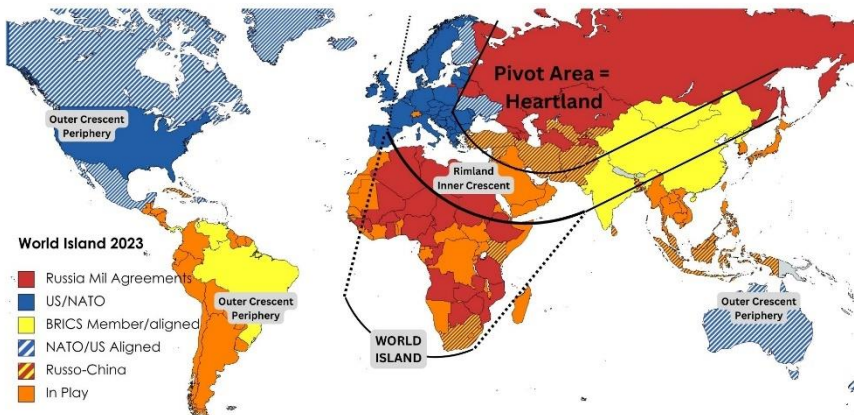
breakable as the ice that forms in the North Atlantic and as dangerous as massive ships that navigate into such ice fields to their titanic demise. *The World Island* provided an unfathomably deadly iceberg as well.

From World War I in 1914 through to the end of the Cold War in 1991, the shape of geopolitics hinged off the various fates of players, and their control of places like Ukraine, the breadbasket and resource-laden territory that incurred more blood spilt than anywhere else on the globe aside from China under Mao. The worst warfare ever conceived and conscripted launched off *Operation Barbarossa* and ended in Berlin's destruction by May 1945. Twenty million or more died trekking into and out of the real estate called *The Heartland* under Mackinder's theory.

A paper from the U.S. Army War College in 2000 by Christopher Fettweis, posits in the aftermath of WWII and love affair with Mackinder's ideas placed Geopolitics inside three prevailing, if not exclusive uses³⁹⁵:

- 1) Geopolitics of X – a survey of a particular resource (oil, information)
- 2) Kissinger's *realpolitik*, seeking “favorable equilibriums”, through less-than-clear motivations to populations at-large (Machiavellianism)
- 3) Geopolitics tied to a *Grand Strategy*, a reinstatement of Mackinder

Sino-Russia BRICS+ Plan?



Tellingly, the basic Mackinder did not escape the Nazis. Fettweis writes:

“Mackinder's theories [built into WW1 thinking] might have faded into irrelevance were it not for their apparent influence on the foreign policy of Nazi Germany. A German geopolitician and devotee of Mackinder, Karl Haushofer, spent the interwar period writing extensively about the Heartland and the need for Lebensraum (additional territory deemed essential for continued national well-being) for the German people. One

of Haushofer's pupils was Rudolph Hess, who brought his teacher into the inner intellectual circles of the Reich. Haushofer was appointed by Hitler to run the German Academy in Berlin, which was 'more a propagandic institution than a true academy in the continental European sense.'

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Wartime paranoia fed an image of a secret German science of geopolitik that was driving Nazi action, bringing Mackinder and Haushofer onto the American intellectual radar screen. In 1942 *Life* magazine ran an article titled 'Geopolitics: The Lurid Career of a Scientific System which a Briton Invented, the Germans Used, and the Americans Need to Study,' which captured the mood of the period, imagining a cabal of foreign policy 'scientists' dictating policy for the dictator. Opinions differed between those who prescribed rapid acceptance of geopolitik and those who dismissed it as pseudoscience. The latter opinion was strengthened, of course, by Germany's eventual defeat (3)."³⁹⁶

Updates, formulated during the launch of the Cold War, involved the Rimland or inner crescent, with respect to containment of the USSR. Zbigniew Brzezinski, a geopolitical peer and friend of Kissinger's, made the Rimland into his geopolitical and U.S. foreign policy addition, the arc of crisis.

"Henry Kissinger used the term geopolitics to denote any policy dependent upon power principles at the expense of ideology and 'sentimentality.' Kissinger's worldview was less dependent upon geographical realities than some of the other Cold Warriors, especially Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was President Carter's National Security Advisor and a graduate-school mentor of Madeleine Albright. Brzezinski has made Eurasia the focus for US foreign policy in all of his writing, consistently warning of the dangerous advantages that the Heartland power had over the West (4)."³⁹⁷

An exploration of the reoccurring Russia obsession by U.S. State Department journeymen hinges on this embedded programming courtesy of: the Kissingers, Brzezinskis, Albrights and Paul Wolfowitzes of the world. Their teachings populate the foreign policy of the Biden administration – Victoria Nuland and Tony Blinken – and reflect a bygone era, reinstated to serve those with nebulous agendas. This of course is not to say ignoring Russia should be done; rather, the priority has never de-escalated towards affirming a greater affinity to Russia historically than China.

At the heart of the 21st century Mackinder plan lay pillars that these geopolitical forces do realize matter. These are:

- Impenetrable – foreign invasions
- Mobility – rail, air, shipping, and internet are easily linked
- Centralized location – the World Island reflects geography
- Resources & productivity – this is obvious from geological surveys
- Land, population, resources combined equals “hegemony(5-7)”³⁹⁸

The closest ever to achieve Pivot Area & Inner Crescent domination came from the Far East (Mongols) and likely this inspires Xi Jinping duplicative attempts.³⁹⁹ Xi’s Belt and Road Initiative is disguised as infrastructure projects as *Real Defense* Francis P. Sempa wrote in October 2023:

“The remarkable thing about China’s BRI is how it replicates the World-Island on the map. In a fascinating article in *The Diplomat* entitled ‘How China’s Belt and Road Took Over the World,’ Shannon Tiezzi shows the geographical evolution of the BRI. In 10 years, the BRI has extended its reach to 154 countries. On the Eurasian-African World-Island, only India, North Korea, Jordan, and a few nations of Western Europe have escaped China’s financial and infrastructure grasp.”⁴⁰⁰

In the decade since Xi came to power, China spent over a half-trillion dollars on projects to congeal his Marco Polo or *Silk Road* march towards a less bloody World Island acquisition plan.⁴⁰¹ Though if COVID-19 was less of an accident, and more of convenient way to escalate certain beneficial actions regarding control operations by a China-led cabal – then the blood on Xi’s, Trump’s, or Biden’s hands may need further evaluation with respect to the serendipity of Xi partnering with Putin in February 2022 towards a Mackinder-style World Island completion operation.

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While the Europeans recovered from two bloody wars, China ran as a Communist backwater going into the 1970s under Mao. China, malaise was apparent to anyone – and prior conflicts (Korea and Vietnam) made for trust issues like always. But she was offered priority access to U.S. markets from Carter’s declaration of formal state recognition in December 1978 over Taiwan.^{402,403} This was but a continuation of the Nixon/Kissinger outreach plan presented to Mao just as Taiwan was formally “de-listed” by UN Resolution #2758 on October 25, 1971.^{404,405}

Future President George H.W. Bush then helmed U.S. representation at the UN. The intrigues behind the PRC’s entry with the ROC’s remaining in the UN hinged on the appetites of American capitalists access to one-quarter of the world’s population then becoming a market for General

Motors to IBM to RCA TVs: the biggest American brands in cars, computers and small electronics in 1971.⁴⁰⁶

Taiwan's diplomatic position ran at odds with Kissinger's mission to separate China from Russia's orbit even though such a position was eroding in the years prior. *Brookings* Sigrid Winkler wrote in June 2012:

“However, in the beginning of the 1970s, the United States saw the geopolitical opportunity to move closer to China in a strategic move against their by then common adversary, the Soviet Union. The United States eventually broke formal relations with the ROC only in 1979, but the strategic shift in the early 1970s, combined with a large number of newly-independent former colonies that had some ideological solidarity with Beijing, turned the tide once and for all against Taipei. Still, it was a combination of Taipei and Beijing's longstanding opposition to proposals for both PRC and ROC representation in the UN, together with the global strategic changes, that led to the end of the ROC representation in the UN, and in consequence also to the ROC's expulsion from all other major international organizations.”⁴⁰⁷ [My emphasis.]



July 1971. Kissinger (center) in Beijing

On September 12, 2001, *The Taipei Times* published a retrospective on the ROC's erasure from the UN. “The UN is an amphitheater whose

gladiators are nation states, with everybody playing realpolitik. If the dual representation proposal were passed in 1971, Communist China would definitely have refused to enter the UN. We could at most drag things out for another two years or so before being ousted from the UN,' [retired Taipei ambassador] Loh [I-cheng] wrote."⁴⁰⁸

In Kissinger's *The White House Years*, he wrote:

"On May 7 [1971] the Departments of State, Commerce, Treasury, and Transportation published regulations implementing the White House announcement of April 14 that liberalized economic relations with China. The Treasury Department removed all controls on the use of US dollars or dollar instruments (except those in blocked accounts) in transactions with Peking. As a result, Chinese-Americans were now permitted to send dollars to relatives on the Mainland. American-owned ships under foreign flags were also permitted to stop at Mainland China ports. United States flag vessels could henceforth transport goods destined for the Mainland from US to non-Chinese ports, or from one non-Communist port to another."⁴⁰⁹

Key signals of Taiwan's territorial demotion were sent two months prior to Kissinger's visit to the *Forbidden City* in July 1971. To quote Kissinger: "We were now committed; all that remained was the act."⁴¹⁰

Such acts initially called "democratization through capitalism" later were quaintly guised as "Globalization" henceforth by the Kissinger and Brzezinski foreign policy punditry crowd.⁴¹¹ Kissinger as the roving mouthpiece of a "world order" and Brzezinski more subtlety and intellectually-driven towards the complete defeat of the Russians, starting particularly in Afghanistan in 1979. The military muscle flaunted by the Neocon Bushes – that of Middle East wars to destabilize the underbelly of Russia, the "arc of crisis" – came out of the mind of Brzezinski.⁴¹² Brent Scowcroft, George H.W. Bush's National Security adviser, like Brzezinski's was President Carter's, said in 2012, "Over the decades since, China policy stands out as 'the most successful' part of U.S. foreign policy through that period."⁴¹³

The goal, then, was to pull China away from the USSR. A half century and a year later, on February 4, 2022, China pulled Russia back into its orbit without much ado or political outcry. A 12-page joint communique published by the *China Aerospace Studies Institute* provided several facets to their far-reaching compact⁴¹⁴:

"The sides note that the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights set noble goals in the area of universal human rights, set forth fundamental principles, which all the States must comply with and observe in deeds. At the same time, as