



Trilateral Commission Member Seeks To Replace Germany's Angela Merkel

As in America, Trilateral Commission members and policies have dominated both sides of the political spectrum in Europe for 45 years. They are apolitical except for promoting the Commission's New International Economic Order, aka Technocracy and Sustainable Development. □ TN Editor

Longtime Merkel critic Friedrich Merz launches political comeback

The conservative politician left politics in 2009 after a protracted battle with the German chancellor. Now he will vie to replace her at the top of the CDU. Although they share a party, he and Merkel are poles apart.

It was the surprise after the surprise: First, Angela Merkel announced she [would not stand for re-election](#) as the Christian Democratic Union's (CDU) party leader — a position she has held since 2000 — after the CDU suffered yet [another embarrassing defeat in state elections](#) on Sunday. Then, of all people, one of her most ardent critics, Friedrich

Merz, announced on Tuesday that he would stand for the position.

The party leadership election will take place at the CDU's annual convention in Hamburg this December. Should Merz be successful in his bid it would be a moment of personal satisfaction as well as political revenge, for he was one of those who most clearly lost out as Merkel's political star rose.

During her ascent to party leadership, Merkel successfully dislodged Merz from the party's top echelons after a series of inner-party disputes. When the CDU and its Bavarian sister party — the Christian Social Union (CSU) — lost Germany's 2002 federal election Merkel also insisted on taking over parliamentary group leadership in the opposition, a position Merz had held for two years.

The dramatic break between the two would continue to deepen over the coming years. Merz's constant criticism of the Merkel-led grand coalition between CDU/CSU and the Social Democratic Party (SPD) that governed Germany between 2005 and 2009 was seen by many as sour grapes from a political loser.

Consequently, a frustrated and disappointed Merz withdrew from politics in 2009. When he announced his retirement he said he had made the decision in reaction to "the grand coalition's current policies."

Prior to that point, Friedrich Merz had been a powerful political player within the CDU. Trained as an attorney, he had served as the party's parliamentary leader from 2000 until 2002, as well as serving as deputy parliamentary leader from 2002 to 2004. A financial expert, he was considered to be one of the party's most-talented members and in many ways Merkel's political antipode: More business-friendly and conservative but also more provocative and entertaining.

Merz gained attention in parliament for his pointed and sharp-tongued floor speeches, something that further differentiated him from Merkel, who has a reputation for delivering analytical, sleep-inducing lectures.

Merz was well known for seeking to reduce complex issues into the simplest of terms. In 2004, he demanded a tax system where a family

could calculate what they owed on the back of a beer coaster. The plan amounted to a 12 percent flat-rate tax on income, with a fixed rate of deduction per member of the household.

Perhaps his most contentious political appeal concerned immigration and what Merz called a “[Leitkultur](#).” The term roughly translates as leading, guiding, or even prominent culture. Merz never defined the term himself, but urged the government to incorporate it into migration policy, and to apply more strict rules on immigration and integration. The comments unleashed a wave of public debate and became a battle cry for those opposed to multicultural society. At the time, Merz said that anyone who wanted to live in Germany “must conform to liberal German leading culture.”

Merz was vehemently attacked by politicians from the liberal Free Democratic Party (FDP) and the Left Party for the concept. Green Party politicians accused him of racism. Only the conservatives thanked him for his contribution to sociopolitical discourse — and they continue to do so to this day. Although Chancellor Merkel did not agree with Merz’s vision, she nevertheless stood by him. The refugee issues that dominate German political debate today were not on the horizon at the time he made the contentious statement, though migration to Germany from the Balkans following the wars in the region in the 1990s was high.

Since leaving parliament, the conservative Christian Democrat has taken on a number of different jobs. In 2010, he managed the privatization of the beleaguered German state bank WestLB. He is also a board member at a number of German businesses, such as the Cologne/Bonn Airport. He has served as chairman of the non-profit Atlantik Brücke (Atlantic Bridge) association, which promotes German-American Atlanticism, since 2009. **He is also a member of the Trilateral Commission, which seeks to foster cooperation between Europe, Japan and the US.**

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Author Of Brexit Article 50 Revealed As Member Of Trilateral Commission

Baron John Kerr is a member of the Executive Committee of the European branch of the Trilateral Commission. He regrets having authored Article 50 that made Brexit possible. Kerr has served on many boards of several giant companies like Shell and Rio Tinto. □ TN Editor
As Brexit unfolds, come along and hear from the man who wrote Article 50.

John Kerr, Baron Kerr of Kinlochard is to be the keynote speaker at the Insider and Scotland Is Now Top 500 Business Breakfast early in the New Year.

Kerr, as a crossbench or independent peer is right at the heart of the parliamentary debate on Brexit as it goes through the machinery of

government.

He has said: “I don’t feel guilty about inventing the mechanism. I feel very sad about the UK using it. I didn’t think that the United Kingdom would use it.”

Former diplomat Kerr has been key to the development of the EU over many years first as British Representative to the EU at the time of John Major’s Government.

As Secretary-General of the European Convention he drafted Article 50, the procedure under which the UK is leaving the EU.

He was Permanent Under Secretary to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the time of Tony Blair’s Government before becoming an independent peer in the House of Lords in 2004.

His business career has been as a director of Shell and then chairing the group of directors who brought about the creation of Royal Dutch Shell plc in 2005. He was deputy chairman and senior independent director of the company until 2012.

He was a director of Rio Tinto Zinc from 2003 to 2015.

He has been a director of the Scottish American Investment Trust since 2002 and of ScottishPower since 2009. He became deputy chairman of ScottishPower in 2012.

He is chairman of the Centre for European Reform and a member of the Executive Committee of the Trilateral Commission

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UN Ambassador Nikki Haley Was Mentored Every Two Months By Trilateral Commissioner Henry Kissinger

According to Harper's Magazine, UN Ambassador Nikki Haley recently delivered a speech to the elite and secretive Council for National Policy (CNP). On October 4, Haley had previously resigned her UN assignment as of the end of 2018.

[Harper's Magazine reported](#) on the CNP speech as more or less recapping her 19 months of service in the Trump Administration. The article first states,

*In a way, Haley had deployed a version of **Henry Kissinger** and Richard Nixon's "**madman theory**," holding up Trump as an unstable actor who might do anything. It seemed that she herself also genuinely had no idea what Trump would do. [emphasis added]*

This suggests that President Trump was used as a prop to her UN agenda. But, who were the puppeteers? The article explains from her own words:

*While learning on the job at the UN, Haley said, **she sought out Henry Kissinger as her personal foreign policy mentor, meeting with him every two months to absorb his lessons.** During a tense diplomatic standoff with North Korea, she appeared to have embraced a version of Kissinger and Nixon's notorious "madman theory." [emphasis added]*

Henry Kissinger, of course, was one of the founding members of the elite Trilateral Commission. President Trump considers Kissinger a long-time personal friend, and has received him at the Whitehouse on multiple occasions.

The fact that both Trump and Nikki Haley are taking foreign policy queues from Kissinger is highly disturbing because it suggests that reality and perception of the Trump Administration are far apart.



Google's Deep Relationship With China Spells Technocracy

Eric Schmidt runs Alphabet, Inc, which is Google's parent company. Schmidt is a member of the elite Trilateral Commission that has groomed China since 1976 to be a Technocracy that will dominate the world. Thus, we can expect Google's involvement in China to be deeply transformational - and, in fact, it is! The original Trilaterals who inducted China were Henry Kissinger, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale. □ TN Editor

Google analyzed search terms entered into a Beijing-based website to help develop blacklists for a censored search engine it has been planning to launch in China, according to confidential documents seen by The Intercept.

Engineers working on the censorship sampled search queries from 265.com, a Chinese-language web directory service owned by Google.

Unlike Google.com and other Google services, such as YouTube, 265.com is not blocked in China by the country's so-called Great Firewall, which restricts access to websites deemed undesirable by the ruling Communist Party regime.

265.com was founded in 2003 by Cai Wensheng, a Chinese entrepreneur known as the "the godfather of Chinese webmasters." In 2008, Google [acquired](#) the website, which it now operates as a subsidiary. Records show that 265.com is hosted on Google servers, but its physical address is listed under the name of the "Beijing Guxiang Information and Technology Co.," which is based out of an office building in northwest Beijing's Haidian district.

265.com provides news updates, links to information about financial markets, and advertisements for cheap flights and hotels. It also has a function that allows people to search for websites, images, videos, and other content. However, search queries entered on 265.com are redirected to Baidu, the most popular search engine in China and Google's main competitor in the country.

It appears that Google has used 265.com as a de facto honeypot for market research, storing information about Chinese users' searches before sending them along to Baidu. Google's use of 265.com offers an insight into the mechanics behind its [planned Chinese censored search platform](#), code-named Dragonfly, which the company has been preparing since spring 2017.

After gathering sample queries from 265.com, Google engineers used them to review lists of websites that people would see in response to their searches. The Dragonfly developers used a tool they called "BeaconTower" to check whether the websites were blocked by the Great Firewall. They compiled a list of thousands of websites that were banned, and then integrated this information into a censored version of Google's search engine so that it would automatically manipulate Google results, purging links to websites prohibited in China from the first page shown to users.

According to documents and people familiar with the Dragonfly project, teams of Google programmers and engineers have already created a functioning version of the censored search engine. Google's plan is for its China search platform to be made accessible through a custom Android app, different versions of which have been named "Maotai" and "Longfei," as The Intercept [first reported](#) last week.

The app has been designed to filter out content that China's authoritarian government views as sensitive, such as information about political opponents, free speech, democracy, human rights, and peaceful protest. The censored search app will "blacklist sensitive queries" so that "no results will be shown" at all when people enter certain words or phrases, according to internal Google documents.

The documents seen by The Intercept indicate that Google's search project is being carried out as part of a "joint venture" with another company, presumably one based in China, because internet companies providing services in China are required by law to operate their servers and data centers in the country. In January, Google entered into an agreement with the Chinese company [Tencent](#), which Google said at the time would allow it to "focus on building better products and services." A

bipartisan group of six U.S. senators is asking Google CEO [Sundar Pichai](#) to explain whether the Tencent deal is linked to the censored search app.

It is unclear whether, as part of the joint venture, Google's partner company would be able to unilaterally update the blacklists. Documents seen by The Intercept state that that the "joint venture will have the ability" to blacklist websites and "sensitive queries."

One source familiar with the project told The Intercept that Google has planned to provide the partner company with an "application programming interface," or API, that it could potentially use to add blacklisted words or phrases. The source said they believed it was likely that the third-party company would be able to "update the blacklist without Google's approval," though the source could not confirm this with certainty. The details about the API have not been reported before.

[Read full story here...](#)



Diane Feinstein's Deep Relationship To China

Sen. Diane Feinstein, a long-time member of the elitist Trilateral Commission, has been in bed with China since at least 1979 when co-founder Zbigniew Brzezinski put China back on the world map. The Feinstein's have gotten rich because as TC members transformed China into a Technocracy and the into economic giant that it is today. As a U.S. Senator since 1992 and Chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence from 2009-2015, she has reserved herself a special place in the afterlife with both Brzezinski and David Rockefeller. □ TN Editor

"I sometimes say that in my last life maybe I was Chinese."—Sen. [Dianne Feinstein](#)

As media, intelligence agency, and political scrutiny of foreign meddling is seemingly at its apex, a story with big national security implications involving a high-ranking senator with access to America's most sensitive intelligence information has been hiding in plain sight.

The story involves China and the senior U.S. senator from California, and former chair of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Democrat Dianne Feinstein. It was buried eight paragraphs into a recent [Politico exposé](#) on foreign efforts to infiltrate Silicon Valley, as a passing example of political espionage:

Former intelligence officials...[said] Chinese intelligence once recruited a staff member at a California office of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, and the source reported back to China about local politics. (A spokesperson for Feinstein said the office doesn't comment on personnel matters or investigations, but noted that no Feinstein staffer in California has ever had a security clearance.)

Later comes additional detail:

According to four former intelligence officials, in the 2000s, a staffer in Senator Dianne Feinstein's San Francisco field office was reporting back to the MSS [[China's Ministry of State Security](#), its

intelligence and security apparatus]. While this person, who was a liaison to the local Chinese community, was fired, charges were never filed against him. (One former official reasoned this was because the staffer was providing political intelligence and not classified information—making prosecution far more difficult.) The suspected informant was ‘run’ by officials based at China’s San Francisco Consulate, said another former intelligence official. The spy’s handler ‘probably got an award back in China’ for his work, noted this former official, dryly.

This anecdote provides significantly more questions than answers. For starters: Who was the spy? For how long was the spy under surveillance? What information about “local politics” was the spy passing back to China? Just how close was the spy to the senator? Did law enforcement officials sweep vehicles and other areas for listening devices? Was there an investigation into whether others in the senator’s circle may have been coordinating with Beijing?

Did the senator expose herself to potential blackmail, or the public to danger through leakage of sensitive, highly classified information? Is firing really the proper punishment for providing political intelligence to a foreign power?

The Details Right Now Are Few and Blurry

We now know only the most basic of additional details about what occurred in Feinstein’s office. Five years ago, the FBI approached the senator to apprise her that a San Francisco-based staffer was being investigated under suspicion of spying for China. According to the [San Francisco Chronicle](#), Feinstein’s hometown paper, this staffer, who had worked with Feinstein for almost 20 years, drove her around in San Francisco and “served as gofer in her San Francisco office and as a liaison to the Asian American community, even attending Chinese Consulate functions for the senator.”

An unnamed source added that a Chinese MSS official first approached the staffer during a visit to Asia several years prior. Given his proximity to Feinstein, we have no idea what information he could have gleaned in

her employ. We do have a presumed identity. [The Daily Caller](#) discovered that a Feinstein staffer named Russell Lowe, listed on the senator's payroll as an "office director" as of 2013 before he was let go, matches the description of the Chinese asset.

It appears Lowe continues to operate freely in the United States. A year after he was removed from Feinstein's staff, Lowe spoke at a conference on Chinese investment in California. In October 2017 he visited a South Korean publication's office with former Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA), indicating he still had access to political figures.

Lowe presently serves as secretary general of the [Education for Social Justice Foundation](#), which seeks to "educate the public on unresolved historical conflicts, human rights, and crimes against humanity." [The Chinese government](#) likely views its present focus favorably: Japanese abuses during the World War II era via its "comfort women" system whereby 200,000 girls from 13 or more Asian countries were forced into sexual slavery. Lowe discusses the nonprofit's work [here](#).

It took a tweet from President Trump implying hypocrisy, given Feinstein's role investigating "Russian collusion" as a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, while a Chinese spy had infiltrated her own office, to force the senator to address the issue.

Feinstein's account conflicts with what has been reported regarding the recruitment and activities of the Chinese spy. She conveniently omits that her office employed this individual for almost 20 years in a close capacity, while he represented the senator in interactions with Chinese officials.

A Short History of Dianne Feinstein's Love for China

For the last 40 years, no politician in America has arguably maintained a deeper, more longstanding and friendlier relationship with China, at the highest levels of its ruling Communist Party, than Feinstein. It dates back to the opening of U.S.-Chinese diplomatic relations in 1979.

Shortly thereafter, Feinstein, then mayor of San Francisco, [established a “sister city” relationship with Shanghai](#), one of the earliest and most robust such relationships in U.S.-China history. Soon after, Feinstein led a mayoral delegation to China joined by her husband, investor Richard Blum, a trip they took together many times over the ensuing years as the relationship between both Feinsteins and China grew.

During the 1980s, as mayor of San Francisco, Feinstein developed a close friendship with Shanghai Mayor Jiang Zemin. This substantially enhanced Feinstein’s foreign policy profile, and created an important linkage to the U.S. government for China’s Communist Party (CCP).

Just as Feinstein rose to a prominent position in foreign affairs and national security in the U.S. Senate, first on the Foreign Relations Committee and later as chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Jiang rose to the top of Chinese leadership, serving as chairman of the Central Military Commission, general secretary of the CCP, and president of the People’s Republic of China (PRC). Under Jiang’s leadership, the PRC initiated a [brutal crackdown against practitioners of Falun Gong](#), including mass imprisonments, beatings, torture, rape, organ harvesting, and murder, and engaging in alleged [human rights atrocities against Tibetans](#). Feinstein never renounced her friendship with Jiang, in spite of these acts.

Feinstein and Jiang [reportedly](#) visited each other regularly in the 1980s, with Jiang once spending Thanksgiving in San Francisco with Feinstein and her husband. Jiang [supposedly danced with Feinstein](#) during one such visit, which surely must have been a propaganda coup for the CCP [a la Ted Kennedy and the Soviets](#).

It Turned Out to Be a Lucrative Relationship

In 1986, Feinstein and Jiang designated several corporate entities for fostering commercial relations, one named Shanghai Pacific Partners. Feinstein’s husband served as a director. His financial position was relatively small, less than \$500,000 on one project, the only such position in China the Feinstein family held when Feinstein entered the

Senate in 1992.

‘They said that Feinstein’s consistent support for China’s interests cannot help but benefit her husband’s efforts to earn profits there.’

That project, however, which Blum’s firm participated in alongside PRC state-run Shanghai Investment Trust Corp., was one of the first joint ventures between San Francisco and Chinese investors, [reportedly](#) “cited by Chinese officials as a testament to the friendly business ties between Shanghai and San Francisco that Feinstein had initiated.” Subsequently Blum’s investments in the Middle Kingdom mushroomed.

In May 1993, Feinstein [expressed her strong support](#) on the Senate floor for continued trading with China. Contemporaneously, her husband was seeking to raise up to \$150 million from investors, including himself, for a variety of Chinese enterprises.

In August 1993, Feinstein and her husband visited Beijing for extensive meetings with Chinese leaders at President Jiang’s invitation. As the [Los Angeles Times](#) reported in a 1994 exposé on Feinstein’s husband’s business ties and the potential conflict of interests they presented: “Such encounters are fondly remembered when deals are clinched back in China, according to American experts in Chinese business practices. They said that Feinstein’s consistent support for China’s interests cannot help but benefit her husband’s efforts to earn profits there.”

The historical record suggests these American experts were right. Blum successfully raised \$160 million for the aforementioned Asia fund under his Newbridge Capital investment company, including investing \$1-2 million himself. The fund invested in several state-owned and Chinese government-linked businesses.

Why, We Love Trading with China

Blum’s firm’s largest holding—at the time his [China investments began to draw scrutiny](#) in 1997—was its stake in Northwest Airlines. The then-estimated \$300 million position was poised to significantly appreciate in value, as Northwest happened to be the sole airline operator providing

nonstop service from the United States to any city in China.

On one such visit in January 1996, Feinstein and Blum enjoyed a meal with President Jiang.

When questioned on his China investments, Blum pledged to donate future profits from the holdings to his nonprofit foundation to help Tibetan refugees, thereby “remov[ing] any perception that I, in any way, shape or form benefit from or influence my wife’s position on China as a U.S. senator.” But these conflict of interest issues persisted.

In January 1995, Feinstein was appointed to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Subsequently, she made several visits to China, accompanied by her husband, where she met with senior government officials.

During these trips it the couple was wined and dined. On one such visit in January 1996, Feinstein and Blum enjoyed a meal with President Jiang in Zhongnanhai, the exclusive leadership compound for China’s Communist Party, where according to Feinstein they ate in Mao Zedong’s residence in the room where he died.

Feinstein kept up her dogged support for increased trade with China. In May 1996, she penned an editorial in the [Los Angeles Times](#) calling for the United States to grant most-favored-nation trading status to China “on a permanent basis and get past the annual dance that is proving to be extraordinarily divisive and not at all helpful toward reaching the oft-stated goal: improvement in human rights.”

Campaign Contributions from Foreign Sources

While Feinstein maintained her pro-China positions, in March 1997, the senator [revealed](#) that the FBI had warned her the Chinese government might seek to funnel illegal contributions to her campaign fund. She was one of only six members of Congress to receive such a warning. As the *New York Times* noted at the time, Feinstein had returned \$12,000 in 1994 contributions from people with connections to Lippo Bank, an arm of a multi-billion dollar conglomerate owned by the Riady family,

with investments and operations throughout Asia. It employed a senior American executive named John Huang.

At the time Feinstein disclosed returning the Lippo-tied contributions, Huang was under Justice Department investigation.

The Riadys had been friends and supporters of the Clintons since Bill Clinton was governor of Arkansas. Clinton named Huang, a top fundraiser for the Democratic National Committee (DNC), his deputy assistant secretary of commerce.

At the time Feinstein disclosed returning the Lippo-tied contributions, Huang was under Justice Department investigation for making potentially illegal contributions to the Democratic Party from foreign sources. [He later pled guilty](#) to violating campaign finance laws as part of the [investigation into Chinese attempts to influence U.S. policy through illegal campaign contributions stemming from the 1996 election](#).

It was later revealed that Huang may have had a direct financial relationship with the Chinese government. The DNC returned more than half of the \$3 million he had collected for the party. In 1998, [an unclassified report](#) from the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs stated that the Riadys—Huang’s former employer, the leader of which [had also pled guilty to campaign finance violations](#)—“had a long-term relationship with a Chinese intelligence agency.”

What is the connection to Feinstein? In June 1996, the senator held a fundraiser at her home attended by President Clinton, Huang, and Xiaoming Dia, chairman of a Hong Kong-based investment company in which Lippo Group had owned a controlling stake until 1994.



Sen. Diane Feinstein Employed Chinese Spy As Personal Driver For 20 Years

Sen. Diane Feinstein (D-CA) was a long-time member of the Trilateral Commission and a consummate insider and globalist. Zbigniew Brzezinski, co-founder of the Commission with David Rockefeller, was responsible for bringing China back to the world stage in 1976, and then rebuilding it into the Technocracy that it is today. Her husband has become fabulously wealthy because of these connections. Could Feinstein be ignorant of this? Not a chance. Because this backstory is not widely known, radio commentators like Mark Levin totally miss the seriousness of the situation. □ TN Editor

New details emerged Wednesday about how a mole for the government of communist China managed to stay by Senator Dianne Feinstein's side for nearly 20 years.

It happened five years ago, but additional information is just surfacing about how the Bay Area senator's office was infiltrated by a Chinese spy.

The Bay Area is a hotbed for Russian and Chinese espionage. Late last year, [the feds shut down the Russian consulate in San Francisco](#).

You may remember [the thick black smoke that billowing from building](#) before Russian diplomats turned it over to authorities, presumably produced by burning documents.

Now, all eyes are on Chinese intelligence in the Bay Area [after the website Politico reported last week](#) that a staffer for Senator Feinstein turned out to be a Chinese spy who reported back to the government officials about local politics.

On Wednesday, the San Francisco Chronicle uncovered additional details [in a column written by reporters Phil Matier and Andy Ross](#).

The column revealed that the Chinese spy was Feinstein's driver who also served as a gofer in her Bay Area office and was a liaison to the Asian-American community.

He even attended Chinese consulate functions for the senator.

Feinstein — who was Chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee at the time — was reportedly mortified when the FBI told her she'd be infiltrated.

Investigators reportedly concluded the driver hadn't leaked anything of substance and Feinstein forced him to retire.

Former FBI agent and KPIX 5 security analyst Jeff Harp said he was not surprised.

"Think about Diane Feinstein and what she had access to," said Harp. "One, she had access to the Chinese community here in San Francisco; great amount of political influence. Two, correct me if I'm wrong, Dianne Feinstein still has very close ties to the intelligence committees there in Washington, D.C."

Harp ran counter espionage for the FBI in the Bay Area. He said in addition to traditional political intel and diplomatic secrets, Bay Area spies are often focused on things like R&D, technology and trade secrets.

“They also have an interest in the economy here. How to get political influence here,” said Harp. “What’s being developed in Silicon Valley that has dual-use technology. All of that is tied to the Bay Area.”

[Read full story here...](#)



Trilateral Commission: 5G Technology Will Be The Backbone Of Smart Cities

Gen. James Jones is a member of the Trilateral Commission and was President Obama’s first National Security Advisor (NSA). He never used computers at the White House because they were not secure, but for us, somehow 5G is going to be secure as it lights up Smart Cities and autonomous driving? Consider the source: the Trilateral Commission has been the primary actor in pushing modern Technocracy since its

inception in 1973. □ TN Editor

Former NATO Supreme Allied Commander James L. Jones and retired Air Force Major General Robert Wheeler were both optimistic that the next wave of wireless technology will be the safest.

The fifth generation of wireless technology has the potential to upend the way cities work, but it'll all be for naught if 5G networks can't be properly secured, James L. Jones, a former U.S. national security adviser, said Thursday.

"I think we're involved in a very serious race that'll affect who we are as a nation for the rest of the century," Jones, a retired Marine general and former NATO supreme allied commander who served as President Barack Obama's first national security adviser, said at a [smart-cities conference](#) hosted by the law firm Dentons. "4G" — the current wireless standard — "was a revolutionary technology that enabled things like smartphones and GPS, but 5G is disruptive."

But the new networks will only be as strong as their cybersecurity, Jones said.

"For all the good things we might think about in smart cities, there will be threats we have to deal with," he said. "We have to win, because our ability to win will affect data and security."

Specifically, Jones, who now runs a private consulting firm, said he focuses on inside threats, telling his clients to run more regular background checks on employees and to be wary of behavior that triggers major cyberattacks, such as [one in Atlanta](#) this year that began when a city employee opened a phishing link in an email that unleashed a ransomware virus.

"When I was in the White House I never used the White House computer," he told StateScoop. "I never used my own computer. I did everything by a secure phone or hand-delivered letters. Our networks are vulnerable."

While most city computer networks or consumer-facing wireless networks aren't going to have the same layers of security as the National

Security Council, Jones sounded an optimistic note about the technology. “The good news is that when we get to 5G, [wireless networks] will be almost invulnerable,” he said.

Telecommunications companies are starting to test 5G technology [in a number of U.S. cities](#), and some states, [including Illinois](#), have adopted legislation making it easier for wireless carriers to install the small cells that will power eventual 5G networks designed to support the next generation of smartphones and other internet-connected devices.

The telecom industry has said 5G devices will be manufactured with encryption that [uses their providers’ public keys](#), though similar promises about previous generations of wireless technology did not prevent successful cyberattacks.

But 5G will be the platform on which local governments’ “smart city” dreams rest, said Robert Wheeler, a retired Air Force major general and Jones’s fellow panelist.

“If you think about 5G and the ‘internet of things,’ you think about the backbone of critical infrastructure and how a smart city will run,” Wheeler said.

[Read full story here...](#)



Trilateral Commission Member Joseph Nye Speaks Out On China, Asia

When Nye states, “Contrary to conspiracy theories, the Commission has little power”, he is speaking of this writer’s seminal works *Trilaterals Over Washington*, Vol. I and II, co-authored with the late Professor Antony Sutton. The Trilateral Commission and its members stand naked before the clear documentation of history, and no amount of self-effacing rhetoric will erase that. □ TN Editor

When the Trilateral Commission - a group of political and business leaders, journalists, and academics - met in Singapore recently, many expressed concern about the decline of American leadership in Asia.

Every Asian country now trades more with China than with the United States, often by a margin of two to one. That concern has been exacerbated by President Donald Trump’s recent imposition of tariffs and expressions of contempt for multilateral institutions. A frequently heard question in Singapore: Will US leadership in Asia survive the

Trump years?

History provides some perspective. In 1972, President Richard Nixon unilaterally imposed tariffs on America's allies without warning, violated the framework of the International Monetary Fund, and pursued an unpopular war in Vietnam.

Fear of terrorism was widespread, and experts expressed concern about the future of democracy.

The following year, David Rockefeller and Zbigniew Brzezinski created the Trilateral Commission, which meets once a year to discuss such problems.



Contrary to conspiracy theories, the Commission has little power; but, like other informal channels of "track two" diplomacy, it allows private citizens to explore ways to manage thorny issues. The results can be found in its publications and on its website.

In Singapore, there was no consensus about Asia after Mr Trump. For example, Indian and Chinese members held different positions about the role of China's "Belt and Road" infrastructure projects.

Some Asians and Americans differed over the prospects for a successful resolution of the Korean nuclear crisis, as well as the larger question of whether a China-US war is inevitable. And some Europeans wondered whether the current global uncertainty reflects the rise of China or the rise of Mr Trump.

My own guess, which I warned the group might be wrong, is that the US can recover its leadership after the Trump years if it relearns the lessons of using power with others as well as over others.

In other words, the US will have to use its soft power to create networks

and institutions that will allow it to cooperate with China, India, Japan, Europe, and others to deal with transnational problems - for example, monetary stability, climate change, terrorism, and cyber-crime - that no country can solve unilaterally.

That will require overcoming the unilateral policies and attitudes associated with the rise of Mr Trump.

As for the rise of China, contrary to current pessimism, the US will retain important power advantages that will last longer than even an eight-year presidency, should Mr Trump be reelected.

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Trilateral Commission Member Gary Doer To Join Board Of Air

Canada

Canadian readers might want to know that a prominent Canadian member of the Trilateral Commission has joined the board of Air Canada. He has been the Premier of Manitoba and sits on numerous other boards of directors as well. □ TN Editor

[Air Canada](#) is pleased to announce the nomination of Gary A. Doer to its Board of Directors to be voted on at its upcoming Annual Meeting of Shareholders (“AGM”) to be held on April 30 in Montreal, Quebec. Roy J. Romanow will retire from the Board at the conclusion of the company’s AGM after more than eight years of dedicated service.

Doer is the former Canadian ambassador to the United States and during his tenure from 2009 to 2016, he participated in the negotiations of the Canada-U.S. new border agreement and the Trans-Pacific Partnership tentative agreement. He also served as Premier of Manitoba from 1999 to 2009. Doer was elected a member of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba in 1986 and served as Minister of Urban Affairs and Minister of Crown Investments. From 1979 to 1986, he was the President of the Manitoba Government Employees’ Association.

Currently, Doer is a Canadian member of the Trilateral Commission and serves as Co-Chair of the Wilson Centre’s Canada Institute, a non-partisan public policy forum focused on Canada-U.S. relations. In addition, he is a director of several other leading Canadian corporations.

“We are delighted that Gary will be standing for election as a director at Air Canada’s AGM and will bring his extensive experience and deep knowledge of the government sector and international relations to the service of our company and our various stakeholders,” said Calin Rovinescu, President and Chief Executive Officer of Air Canada.

Roy J. Romanow will retire from Air Canada’s Board on April 30 after more than eight years of dedicated service. “Following a distinguished career in government, notably as Premier of Saskatchewan, Roy joined our Board in 2010. On behalf of our employees, directors and shareholders, I sincerely thank Roy for his strategic insight, advice and

invaluable contribution to the transformation at Air Canada,” said Calin Rovinescu. “We wish him the very best in his retirement.”

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Trilateral Commission Stalwart: Charlie Rose Shamed, Broken, Lonely

Exactly when Rose was dropped from Trilateral Commission membership is uncertain, but his long TV career was shattered when several women accused him of sexual misconduct. The allegations had enough substance that Rose was fired from CBS and PBS and Bloomberg Television immediately suspended the program. Rose interviewed dozens of other Trilateral members over the years and was considered one of the trusted media insiders at the Commission. At 76, he will likely never see the red light on the TV camera again. □ TN Editor

On the night of April 2, Charlie Rose walked into Gabriel’s Bar & Restaurant, a Lincoln Center eatery that’s popular among New York’s

media elite. Al Pacino had just left, while the state Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, who recently filed a civil lawsuit against Harvey Weinstein and The Weinstein Co., entered only minutes before the arrival of the 76-year-old ex-anchor of *CBS This Morning*.

Rose, a legendary man-about-town in addition to one of the most iconic broadcast journalists, once exuded an “old-school New York socialite vibe,” notes one media executive who has known him for a decade, adding, “When Charlie goes to Michael’s, it takes him 10 minutes to get to his table because people come up to him and he always says hello. He’s fearless: He’ll talk to anybody and he knows everybody.”

On this Monday night, however, four months after *The Washington Post* published devastating allegations of sexual misconduct against Rose, the normally dynamic fixture was in full-on head-down mode. Dressed in a dark suit, Rose projected dishevelment: his hair messy, his notebook’s pages askew, his gait shuffling. He headed to his table by himself and completed his dinner alone in under an hour. Previously one to take his time and glad-hand, Rose beat a hasty retreat. Perhaps out of a desire to give a struggling man his space — or worse, as a sign of indifference — no one in the restaurant approached Rose nor seemed to notice him.

Since November — when eight women who worked for (or aspired to work for) the *Charlie Rose* show accused Rose of sexual harassment — the former PBS and CBS anchor has been at loose ends. After a string of appearances in the gossip pages while attempting to patronize his regular Manhattan watering holes, Rose decamped to his four-bedroom, 5,500-square-foot Long Island home in Bellport, from January through much of March.

THR spoke with more than a dozen of Rose’s friends, neighbors and former associates, as well as proprietors of his current hangouts, to piece together what life is like for a media star deposed by harassment claims. Those familiar with Rose’s daily schedule believe it now begins as it always did, with a hefty media diet of 10 newspapers delivered to his door and regular exercise. “[Charlie] plays tennis most mornings, which I think keeps him in shape and together,” says *Daily Beast* co-

founder and author Tina Brown, who says she has reached out to Rose in recent months.

Bellport, 60 miles from the city and known for its low-key vibe, has become Rose's sanctuary. It has been described as the "un-Hamptons," with Calvin Klein women's creative director Francisco Costa, Princess Alexandra of Greece and Isabella Rossellini — who lives around the corner from Rose and is an occasional dining companion — all owning residences there.

A past Bellport inhabitant who has been a guest describes Rose's \$4 million to \$6 million property on Great South Bay as enjoying "panoramic views of the water and Fire Island in the distance." He describes Rose's "Grady-White fishing boat ... bobbing in the waves in the foreground. I think Amanda [Burden] helped him decorate [the house]."

Burden, Rose's on-and-off-again girlfriend of more than 25 years, is Bloomberg Associates' principal of urban planning and stepdaughter to late CBS founder William Paley. She owns a home nearby, which she purchased in 2012 for \$6 million. While a current Bellport resident insists that they're not currently a pair, Rose and Burden attended Sesame Workshop executive Sherrie Westin's Chinese New Year's party in Bronxville in mid-February together.

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