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China reforms needed World should take action ahead of Olympics

Earthquakes, giant pandas and the Olympic Games: China can't seem to escape the news. Most of this news isn't making China any more popular, either.

According to USA Today, national security agencies are warning business and federal officials that electronics taken to the Beijing Olympics are likely to be hacked by Chinese agents interested in U.S. security, political and business data.

"There is a high likelihood — virtually 100 percent — that if an individual is of security, political or business interest to Chinese ... security services or high technology industries, their electronics can and will be tampered with or penetrated," Larry Wortzel, chairman of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, told USA Today.

This, combined with news out of Washington regarding possible Chinese hacking attempts against computers of members of Congress — most notably members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee — sheds yet more light on the dark spectre that is communist China.

If the Chinese were looking to "clean up their image," as it were, flagrantly spying on the rest of the world's populations really seems like a rather poor way of doing so. In a year that was to mark China's showcase

to the world at the Beijing Olympic Games, they have managed only to stumble from one public relations disaster to another: first Tibet, and now this.

Perhaps, nearly 20 years after the massacre in Tiananmen Square, this chain of events — highlighted by the glaring spotlight of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad — will remind people of what China and communism really are: a brute machine interested only in the unwavering maintenance of its own power, under the guise of the "people" and "progressive socialism."

More worrisome than that, however, is the relative impunity with which the People's Republic has been able to go about this.

How much leverage can our government possibly hope to exert on the Chinese, whose central bank now holds nearly one-fifth of our national debt?

If repression, espionage, privacy invasion and police state-style tactics aren't enough to elicit boycotts from some other countries around the world, who knows what is. Hopefully, however, the world will reawaken to the true nature and intent of the Chinese government — and comprehend just how little progress has actually been made since that fateful June day 19 years ago.

Do the right thing, punk

Bitter feud between two directors should be settled on the silver screen

"Go Ahead, Shut Your Yap" — directed by Clint Eastwood

A fiery five-time Oscar winner battles a rogue African-American director who criticizes him for not including black soldiers in his World War II films. Chiseled 78-year old star of "Dirty Harry," Clint Eastwood becomes irate when director Spike Lee uses the Cannes Film Festival to bash his films "Flags of Our Fathers" and "Letters from Iwo Jima."

Eastwood snaps at Lee that while there was a small detachment of black troops in Iwo Jima as part of a munitions company, they did not raise the flag, and if he used an African American actor in the flag-raising picture people would say he had lost his mind.

Caught in the line of fire by Lee's comments, the stoic hero Eastwood questions whether Lee has ever studied history and advises that a guy like him should shut his face.

In a sudden twist, Eastwood takes the law into his own hands and asks Lee one question: if he feels lucky enough to let his next film "Miracle at St. Anna," about a black U.S. unit in WWII, duke it out in the box-office boxing ring against any of Eastwood films. If Lee wins, Eastwood promises to make Nelson Mandela a white guy in his next film "The Human Factor."

Five rounds into the fight, Eastwood knocks so much historical sense into Lee that he answers that not only does he not feel lucky, but that he is a punk. Eastwood is forced to put Lee out of his misery and euthanize his hurt career.

"This Isn't a Plantation, Old Man"—A Spike Lee Joint

Star black director does the right thing by rallying millions to support his fight against an old cranky cowboy. Influential director of "Malcolm X" Spike Lee



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asks Clint Eastwood why in more than four hours of his World War II films there was not one Negro actor on screen.

Lee concludes that in Eastwood's warped mind, the Negro version did not exist. A student of history, Lee knows how Hollywood likes to omit the one million African Americans that were crucial to WWII. He reminds Eastwood that not everyone there was John Wayne.

After Eastwood takes a low blow and angrily tells Lee to shut his mouth, Lee is forced to remind the old man that he is not Lee's father and that they're not on a plantation.

Lee wades through the racial prejudice and assembles a group of African-American men, both living and dead, who fought at Iwo Jima and marches to Eastwood's manor.

He then refuses Eastwood's "Dirty Harry" flashback of getting in the boxing ring, and demands that Eastwood tell the veterans that they never existed.

Eastwood is so bamboozled by Lee's will and historical knowledge, he admits that Lee got game. Lee then decides to take the Obama high road and end the feud. He runs for presidency preaching a ticket of peace and love and ends up winning in a landslide.

Sujay is a senior in biochemistry and thanks you for reading.

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Readers' opinions

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