

## *The Betty Letters*

*My Dear Grandchild,*

*Since Wednesday, November 28, 2007, there has been a great deal of talk about the actions of the Government of China in respect of disallowing the US aircraft carrier, Kitty Hawk, from entering Hongkong waters. For the sailors of this huge warship, it would have been rest-and-recreation visit, allowing them to eat a Thanksgiving Day dinner and, no doubt, to sow some wild oats in Wanchai with the Filipina ladies of the night, who are in abundance, these days. I talked over this matter with Bo-Bo, my froglike husband, and he said that he had it from the highest authority in Beijing that the cold war between China and the United States has begun. I told Bo-Bo that China's Foreign Minister, Mr Yang Jie Chi ( ), said that the matter of the Kitty Hawk had just been an administrative mix-up. I think the word that Foreign Minister Yang Jie Chi used was 'misunderstanding'. President George W. Bush did not like the idea that members of his 'liberation' force could not land in Hongkong on Thanksgiving Day and he told of his displeasure to the Government of China in no uncertain terms. Admiral Timothy Keating, Commander of US forces in the Pacific, has commented on the incident, saying that China's actions were 'perplexing' and 'troublesome'. Admiral Timothy Keating said, from his headquarters in Hawaii: 'It (the incident of the Kitty Hawk) is not, in our view, conduct that is indicative of a country who (sic!) understands its obligations as a responsible nation.' One week, earlier, that is the week of November 23, 2007, China refused entry to Victoria Harbour of 2 US minesweepers, The Patriot and The Guardian. The minesweepers claimed that they wanted to enter Hongkong waters in order to escape a storm and, at the same time, they intended to refuel. Then, it was reported that the US frigate, The Reuben James, had been refused permission to enter Hongkong waters at the coming New Year holiday season. The Frog again: 'What do you expect? The Government of the United States of America has been particularly unpleasant to Beijing of late. Members of the Bush Administration have made unequivocal claims that China is the biggest threat to The Land of The Free and The Home of The Brave. What the United States does not seem to understand is that the 2, most-important parts to the Government of China are The Military Branch of Government and The Executive Branch of Government. Of course, The Military Branch wants to improve its capability to defend the country and, to that end, it must have the latest technology from where-ever it may be obtained if it cannot be manufactured, domestically. The business of The Executive Branch of Government is, among other things, to balance the country's books and to feed The Military Branch of Government with money in order to enable it to do that which is expected of this important branch of government. But there is no intention of The Military Branch of Government to launch an attack on the United States. It is unthinkable! In the history of China, it has never been an aggressive nation and has never launched an attack on any other country. Anyway, what kind of a fight would that be? It would be akin to an ant, considering to copulate with an elephant.*

*I was not too sure what The Frog meant when he used the analogy of the ant and the elephant. Which country is the elephant and which country is the ant? Anyway, The Frog often talks in funny ways. But, to some extent, he is correct in stating that the United States has been particularly unfriendly to China over the past few months. I think that is because the Bush Administration fears, not only the military might of China – which is massive – but the economic might of the Middle Kingdom. In the 2006 US Defense Department's Report, it is stated that China's military expansion has moved beyond defensive capabilities and it has the potential to alter regional balances and to threaten other militaries in the most-populous part of the world. In the 2006 Fiscal Year, the US Government spent about \$US420 billion in order to increase its military might. That amount of money is about 50 percent of the total global expenditure on defence. That's something, don't you agree? As for China's economic might, this is growing daily. Within a few decades, if not earlier, it is obvious that China's economic power will rival that of the US. So, the US is, like the spoilt*

*brat that it is, trying to berate China, now, in order to bring the most-populous country of the world to heel – while it, still, has that ability. China is training upwards of 200,000 computer engineers per year so that, within one decade, the most-populous country in the world will have 2 million-plus, fully trained, eager young computer engineers, working on concepts that the US could not even dream about, today. Human capital is a future growth engine, one that powers an economy like no other motive force. China, without question, is sponsoring its youth because the youth of a country is the way forward. The US cannot catch up with the training that China is giving to its future leaders of industry, not just in computer engineering, but in nearly every discipline. This, I suggest, My Dear Grandchild, is that which the Bush Administration fears most because this is the real through train for my country, mark my words.*

*As far as China is concerned, if a country wishes to be its friend, then, that country must demonstrate its resolve to be friendly, understanding and compliant with the wishes of China. It is mandatory that, if you love China, then, you must love her dogs, her cats, her political policies, etc, and never, ever voice any dissent against a determination of any member of the Chinese Government. This is, I hasten to point out, in line with President George W. Bush's formal statement just before the US invasion (the so-called 'liberation') of Iraq: 'You is either fer us, or agin us'. I think that that is word-for-word, as I recall. When the US Government acts in a manner, directly or indirectly, that is, obviously, contrary to the wishes of the Chinese Government, then, one must expect China to punish the US Government in the same manner that one has to spank a naughty child, from time to time, in order to teach the child a lesson. For the US Government to sell arms to Taiwan is naughty, clearly, and welcoming the Dalai Lama to a formal reception at the White House is naughty, also. China cannot permit such things to continue without a little spanking. The US Government had better watch out because the Government of China has the ability to bring down the translation value of the US dollar to much lower levels against other 'hard' currencies of the world merely by selling off part, or all, of its US-dollar, denominated bond holdings and/or diversifying its foreign-exchange holdings. China, of course, would not want to use these weapons unless pushed to extremes because it would hurt the country's reserves, also. But, at the same time, China cannot sit back quietly and permit the US Government to continue to slap the country in the face. China is not a Christian country, My Dear Grandchild, and will not turn the other 'cheek' after it is slapped.*

*Well, that is all for this letter. Talk to you, next week.*

*Chief Lady*

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