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# Expert: China has built in "back door" that could completely take out the U.S. electric grid

*About The Author*

20-25 minutes

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**USA-** While much of the world, including the United States is focused on the current nightmare in Ukraine, another silent potential threat is currently hanging over the U.S. and it

involves our electric grid. Once again, our reliance on Chinese products as we outsourced everything to that communist nation has left our country extremely vulnerable.

*Law Enforcement Today* has previously reported on electromagnetic pulse bombs, and the possibility that such a weapon could potentially take down our electric grid and wreak untold havoc. However it is our reliance on China for important components contained within that grid that has also left us in a very bad spot.

A piece in [TimeNews Desk](#) warns that by using Chinese-built components in our electric grid, they could have built

in some redundant “back door” time bombs which could disable critical components of the grid.

In every city across the U.S., electric substations take their place within our electric generation system. As the piece notes, the larger the substation, the more critical they are to the system.

**“Transformers have been called by many people the ‘Achilles’s heel’ of the electric grid,” said Jon Weiss, an engineer and independent consultant.**

Transformers take voltage sent by power plants through high-voltage lines, then convert it to a level that can be distributed to homes and

businesses. Basically they keep electricity flowing at safe levels, then they are stepped down by smaller transformers along utility lines.

The U.S. electric grid consists of thousands of such transformers, while less than three percent of them are the large capacity transformers; however they are responsible for transporting 60 to 70 percent of U.S. electricity.

**“These are 500 ton, 20-foot tall, multi-million dollar machines,” Weiss noted.**

The bad part? They are custom-made in China, and despite the best efforts of the United States to secure our networks and grids, China is able to

sabotage the equipment before it even makes its way to the U.S. In effect, they have the ability and in some cases have built a “back door” into our electric grid.

**“What they have the ability [to to]... they have their finger on that trigger today that they can take over that transformer and everything that transformer supplies coming in or going out. That’s a very big deal,” Weiss warned.**

This is nothing new, and it is not merely a hypothetical...the U.S. has already found backdoor electronics contained within Chinese made transformers.

In 2020, such a discovery led then-

President Donald Trump to sign an executive order, in which he banned "...the acquisition, importation, transfer or installation" of any bulk power systems from "foreign adversaries."

After Trump's order, the next large electric transformer arriving from China which arrived at the Port of Houston in Texas was intercepted by the Department of Energy and taken to the Sandia National Laboratory for analysis.

**Weiss explained this was not merely a "small" piece of equipment, but rather a 500 ton, multi-million dollar machine, "so there was a utility missing," Weiss said.**

According to Llewellyn King, a journalist who specializes in covering the energy field, he notes that absent a comment from the Energy Department about a seizure, where “there’s smoke...there must be fire.”

**“So not only do our domestic utilities not know what has been found, our closest allies that also have Chinese-made transformers, do not know what has been found,” Weiss said.**

Of course once he took office, Biden promptly overturned Trump’s order. For more on that, it follows this article.

It is reported there are currently over 200 of those large Chinese-built

transformers within our electric grid today. For example, one accounts for 10 percent of the power going to New York City, another supplies between 18 and 20 percent of the power going to Las Vegas. Meanwhile, the U.S. government continues to focus on our cyber networks, which China has already shown it can get by.

**“Instead of trying to hack all of these networks and everything else to get in, all they did was put in some hardware that will allow them to send signals.**

**So instead of sending a voltage signal that’s coming from a voltage sensor in the transformer, they can**



**send a signal from Beijing into that piece of equipment,” Weiss said.**

In November 2020, an arctic freeze took out some 40 percent of Texas’ electric grid, causing millions of homes and businesses to lose power for days. Over 100 people died as a result.

Going back as far as 2012, U.S. officials were aware of the possibility of such an attack on the electric grid, with then-Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta warning a room full of business leaders about the ramifications of an attack on the U.S. electric grid.

**“The collective result of these kinds of attacks could be a cyber Pearl**

**Harbor. An attack that would cause physical destruction and the loss of life. An attack that would paralyze and shock the nation and create a profound sense of vulnerability,” Panetta warned.**

Weiss admitted that such an attack is not as much a matter of if, but when, and if it does occur, will we even realize it was, in fact, a cyberattack?

**“What a sophisticated attacker will do and Russia, and China, even Iran and North Korea now fit into this, they will make a cyber attack look like an equipment malfunction,” Weiss said.**

As an example, he pointed out Stuxnet,

a U.S.-led cyberattack that took out a fifth of Iran's nuclear centrifuges.

**“For a year, an entire year, the centrifuges were being destroyed. The people inside could hear those centrifuges screaming. They never even thought that cyber was the problem. They simply viewed it as a systemic design flaw,” Weiss said.**

In order to overcome shortcomings and protect our grid, it will take a partnership between engineers and cybersecurity defenders to truly guard it.

**“Our workforce is not trained to address this. The people that understand the equipment have no**

**training in cybersecurity. The people who understand cybersecurity are not trained to understand how an electric grid or a pipeline or anything else works,” Weiss said.**

Weiss also warns that so-called “back doors” from adversaries are not strictly limited to the electric grid.

**“Much of that same equipment is used in all other industries, so what’s a weak spot for the electric industry is just as much a weak spot for every other industry,” Weiss said.**

It should also be noted that much of the critical infrastructure is pretty aged, which means if it goes down, whether

by intentional or unintentional means, were these systems to go down it will take months...perhaps years before they come back, which makes the country extremely vulnerable, Weiss warned.



For more on bumbling Biden overturning Trump's vital order to protect national security, we invite you to:

**DIG DEEPER**

**WASHINGTON, DC-** In yet another indication that Biden plans on selling

the United States down the river to China, the overmatched Biden quietly revoked an executive order issued by President Trump which was intended to keep foreign countries out of our power grid.

Trump's order was indirectly intended to keep China, our primary enemy, out of our infrastructure. Biden's "Executive Order on Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis" undoes all of that.

Along with revoking the permit for the Keystone XL Pipeline, which experts say will [eliminate thousands of jobs](#), Biden's order also pulls back on

several other climate and energy-focused executive orders that had been implemented under the Trump administration,” the [National Pulse](#) [says](#).

The portion that exposes our power grid to foreign control is under Subpoint C, which says: “Executive order 13920 of May 1, 2020 (Securing the United States Bulk-Power System), is hereby suspended for 90 days.”

Terrific.

President Trump’s order was intended to ban, replace and set new criteria on bulk-power system (BPS) electric equipment coming from a foreign country or nation which may pose a

national security threat.

Trump's order stated:

**“Foreign adversaries are increasingly creating and exploiting vulnerabilities in the United States bulk-power system, which provides the electricity that supports our national defense, vital emergency services, critical infrastructure, economy and way of life.**

**The bulk-power system is a target of those seeking to commit malicious acts against the United States and its people, including malicious cyber activities, because a successful attack on our bulk-power system would present significant**



**risks to our economy, human health and safety, and would render the United States less capable of acting in defense of itself and its allies,' the intro to Trump's order read.**

The question becomes; why would Biden want to overturn or suspend that order for 90 days? To what end?

Either Biden is naïve as to the threat posed by the Chinese Communist Party, he doesn't care, or perhaps there is a financial incentive somewhere for a member of the Biden family. It wouldn't be the first time that has happened, [according](#) to Tony Bobulinski, a former business associate of Hunter Biden.

**The executive order issued by President Trump continued, by prohibiting “any acquisition, importation, transfer or installation of BPS electric equipment by any person or with respect to any property to which a foreign country or a nation thereof has any interest, that poses an undue risk to the BPS, the security or resiliency of U.S. critical infrastructure, or the U.S. economy, or U.S. national security or the security and safety of U.S. persons.”**

Trump also directed the Department of Energy to identify any existing BPS electric equipment which violated the

aforementioned, and were tasked to “develop recommendations to identify, isolate, monitor or replace this equipment as appropriate.”

Prior to the inauguration, on January 16, former Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette issued a “prohibition order designed to reduce the risks that entities associated with the People’s Republic of China pose to the Nation’s BPS.”

The press release announcing the decision further read:

**“The order prohibits utilities that supply critical defense facilities (CDF) from procuring from the People’s Republic of China, specific**

**BPS electric equipment that poses an undue risk to the BPS, the security or resilience of critical infrastructure, the economy, national security, or safety and security of Americans.”**

Now, with a stroke of a pen, Biden has put all of that at risk, putting the order’s fate in the hands of the Biden administration:

“The Secretary of Energy and the Director of OMB shall jointly consider whether to recommend that a replacement order be issued.”

The National Pulse reported that Biden’s choice for OBM chief, Neera Tanden formerly served as head of the

far-left, Soros-funded Center for American Progress (CAP), where she earned over \$700,000. In addition, the CAP has, according to the National Pulse co-authored reports alongside a Chinese Communist Party-backed influence operation.

As widely reported, Biden's son Hunter, when he wasn't doing lines of coke and engaging in other forms of debauchery was previously involved in business dealings with CEFC China Energy Chairman Ye Jianming.

The Pulse, citing a [CNN report](#) said:

**“After his father left office in 2017, Hunter Biden worked on securing a deal with CEFC China Energy to**

## **invest in US energy projects, according to documents released by Republicans.”**

In addition, an investment firm that was headed by Hunter Biden dumped millions into China General Nuclear Power Corp, a state-owned power company guilty of stealing American nuclear technology, which was used by the Chinese Communist Party for decades, the Pulse reported.

The above was reported by investigative journalist Peter Schweizer, who noted that China General through its agent Allen Ho had worked for twenty years to acquire the highly-guarded American nuclear

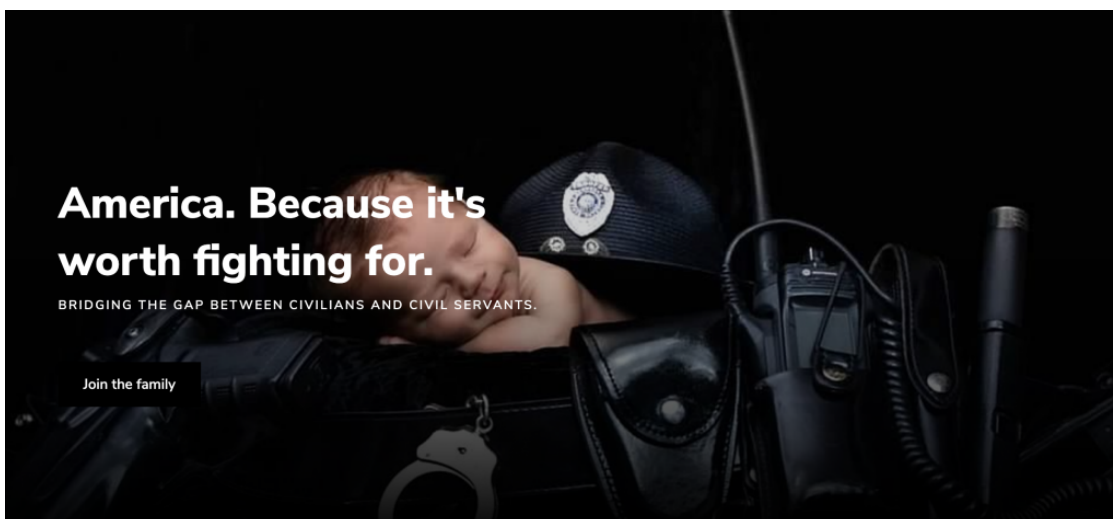
technology, [Real Clear Politics](#) (RCP) reported.

Ho was arrested by the FBI for his role in the stealing of nuclear technology, however at the time he was arrested no connection had been drawn to either Hunter Biden or his father, who was actually engaged at the time as vice president with China over South China Sea and other issues, RCP said.

Many conservatives have been raising alarm bells for some time about the Biden's apparent cozy relationship with the Red Chinese and by Biden suspending President Trump's executive order over the power grid for ninety days, that only confirms

suspicious that something may be amiss.

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We previously reported on warnings from former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo about China's threat to the United States. For more on that, we invite you to:

## **DIG DEEPER**

**WASHINGTON, DC-** One of the greatest losses the American people will suffer next week when Biden is sworn in as president is the loss of Mike Pompeo as Secretary of State.

Pompeo has been one of the true shining stars in the four years of the Trump administration. On Friday, Pompeo warned Republican lawmakers that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is "inside the

gates.”

As the [Epoch Times reported](#), when Ronald Reagan was president, in speaking to the Soviet Union Reagan always warned Americans that we should “trust, but verify.” For Pompeo, the saying is similar, but starkly different; “Distrust and verify.”

In a meeting with the conservative Republican Study Committee, Mr. Pompeo said that as a former lawmaker he has always been aware of the threat imposed by China upon the United States, however did not appreciate “the scope and the scale and the nature” of how close the threat was until he became CIA director,

## [Breitbart News reported.](#)

**“This fight is inside the gates today...Containing where they are today leaves them in our institutions of higher learning. It leaves them in our high schools; it leaves them in our PTA groups.**

**It leaves them inside our city councils and our state legislatures all across America. This is a deep effort that has been going on for 50 years. Republicans and Democrats alike refuse to deal with it, and we started to and did,” he said.**

**“We not only got it right, and frankly, I think there is some bipartisan basis, I hope, that we can continue**

**to get this right," he added.**

Unfortunately, Biden will not be anywhere near as tough on China and has in the past dismissed the threat that China poses to the United States. There is also the issue of possible business ties between members of his family and the CCP, as we have previously reported on.

There is also the issue of Congressional Democrats refusing to address the Chinese threats. Even when it was discovered that Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA) had an [affair with a Chinese spy](#), he still sits on the House Intelligence Committee and Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) has shown no

interest in removing him from that spot.

The United States has been aware of the danger the CCP poses to our country, Pompeo noted going all the way back to Tiananmen Square. Yet despite knowing how such regimes have operated throughout history, the United States ignored it.

Pompeo identified Chinese oppression of Muslim Uyghurs in the western part of China, how they treated Tibetans in the past, and the current oppression of people in Mongolia and northern China. He noted the oppression of religious minorities throughout the country.

Pompeo said that the Trump

administration had worked to build an enormous coalition” with numerous countries, including India, Australia, Japan and South Korea, as well as some parts of Europe in order to oppose Chinese influence and global spread. Pompeo noted that 120 international telecommunications companies have refused to incorporate any Chinese technology in their systems.

**“This is about the West and our ideas. This is not the United States versus China, and we have to get this right, and we need partners and friends to do it,” he said.**

Pompeo continued:

**“A substantial number of international businesses have seen the political risk in China as different from what they thought it was three or four years ago...This is a place that has fundamentally shifted under Xi Jinping in a way that is different from the Chinese Communist Party of even 20 years ago.”**

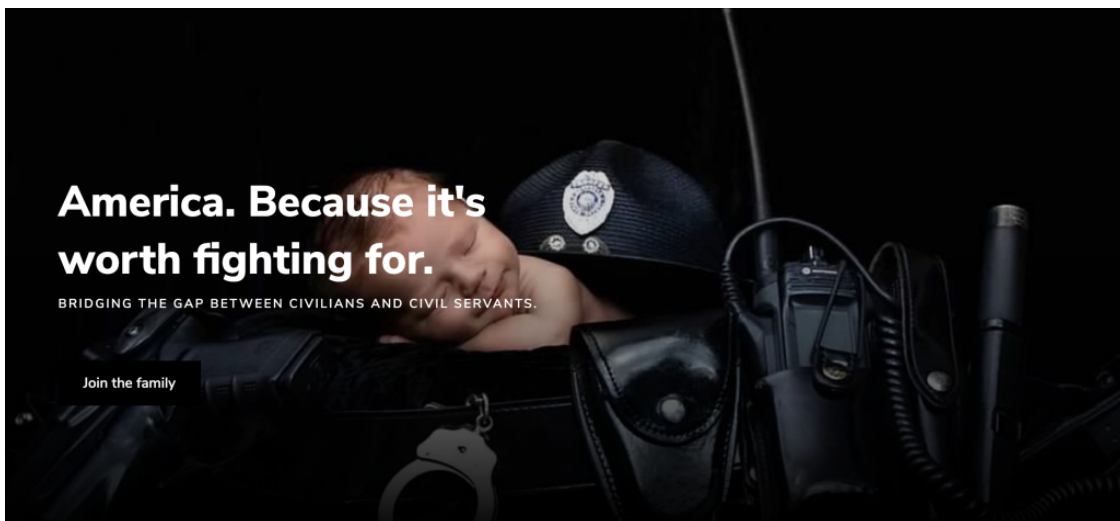
Mr. Pompeo further told the group that while it would be a financial cost to push back against the CCP regime, it is important for lawmakers to be upfront with their constituents as to the risk of continuing to do business with the communist regime.

**“You all need to remind everyone that if your kids and grandkids desire to live in a Western society, one that is not dominated by Chinese telecommunications infrastructure, and Chinese ideas and philosophies that come from the East that are very different from the rule of law and basic human dignity that we have, then there’s going to be some cost attached to that,” Pompeo continued.**

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Pompeo complained that for over 50 years, people refused to push back on the Chinese, taking advantage of “cheap stuff” and that Americans felt they “could have it all.” Businesses felt that they could get off cheap by outsourcing jobs to China in order to

take advantage of cheap labor.

**“We can allow them to do this; don’t worry [about] the leverage they gain from having these enormous supply chains. By the way, put TikTok on your phone, no worries.”**

Pompeo noted that there was a failure to warn people that by putting Chinese apps such as TikTok on cell phones, “your children’s most private personal information is in the hands of some really, really bad actors that mean ready ill for America.”

He continued that while the information may only be stored “in the clouds or the hard drive for a while, may not put it to use, but collectively, the data set

that they develop will be used in a way that puts our young men and women at risk and puts American freedom at risk," Pompeo said.

Pompeo also admonished the group to stand up to China, while saying that India had banned about 300 apps from China, and within two months there were replacements for more than half of them.

**“”They aren’t ten feet tall. They have enormous challenges. And we need to go use the tools that we have, the power that we have, to impose real costs on them in a way that will shape their behavior, in a way that reflects the understanding that we**

**have about how the West must win, and how the United States must protect its own,” Pompeo continued.**

Pompeo said that in his ten years in national public service, six years in Congress and four years serving the Trump administration, putting trust in anything coming out of China is, in his words “folly.”

**“They’ve broken promise after promise after promise, not just promises to the United States, promises to the world, promises to the people of Hong Kong, promises to their own people in mainland China, a promise to President Obama that says they wouldn’t**

## **militarize the South China Sea.”**

Speaking about the Wuhan China virus, Pompeo noted the fact that China still has not allowed the World Health Organization to begin its investigation into the origins of the virus, although sources this week say that may be forthcoming soon.

Pompeo said the CCP regime had been promising they would allow investigators to look into the origins of the virus for quite some time.

The secretary said he wouldn't address the possibility that the release of the virus may have been tied into the presidential election, noting that he "can't say much" and the intelligence

community would need to “complete their work and issue their report as appropriate.”

Pompeo noted that Chinese diplomats in the United States are not engaged with behavior consistent with what diplomats are supposed to do and highlighted the closing of the Chinese consulate in Houston. He warned that the American people “need to be on guard.”

**“...the Chinese Communist Party is not acting in a way that is in America’s interest. And the leadership of the United States has to be very clear with the American people about that.”**

Guessing Biden won't be all that interested in doing that.

Pompeo finished his remarks:

**“It goes back, it reminds us of the greatness of America and how smart and capable our Founders were and why that is so central to the successes that our nation has had. These rights matter. If all rights, if everything becomes a right, our foreign policy can be delivered in a way that is principled. And I wanted to get us back to that tradition.”**

The next time you hear about American greatness from Biden or any Democrat will be the first time.

Secretary Pompeo, we are going to

miss you.

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