

## Hey Boss... China

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**From:** Burns Strider

RELEASE IN PART B6

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**Subject:** Hey Boss... China

I'm not pretending to be shaping policy... just my thoughts to my boss... it's an interesting area:

This is an interesting AP article... "Analysis: Clinton pushes for stronger China role"

I've copied the entire piece below... but first here are some excerpts with reaction (in all caps):

Hillary Rodham Clinton has moved aggressively and quickly to secure a stronger role in what she has called the world's most important relationship: U.S. dealings with China.

THIS IS TRUE IN TERMS OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP... SIZE OF POPULATION, ECONOMY AND POLITICAL WILL IN CHINA MAKES IT SO.

Clinton is pushing, however, to ensure that her diplomatic corps is not marginalized as the United States engages a country the Obama administration needs as a partner in efforts to solve the world's major problems.

MY GUESS IS THAT CHINA WILL HAVE SOME SAY IN WHO THEY WANT TO ENGAGE. THERE IS A STRONG HISTORY OF THERE CONSIDERING CHOICE OF ARRIVING EMISSARY NOT A DEFACTO CHOICE. THEY WILL ENGAGE WHO THEY RESPECT. CHINA HAS ALREADY INDICATED AS MUCH LATE LAST YEAR WHEN THEY SAID THEY WERE TIRED OF MULTIPLE FACES AND PREFERRED A CENTRALIZED POINT OF DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY (AFTER ALL, CENTRALIZATION MAKES SENSE TO THEM)

Clinton then pleasantly surprised China by saying the Obama administration would not let its human rights concerns interfere with cooperation with Beijing.

THIS STATEMENT OF YOURS RAISED MY EYEBROWS A GOOD BIT AT FIRST BUT I THOUGHT THROUGH. I CONSIDERED CHINA'S APPROACH TO MOVING FORWARD... NOT EVERYTHING HAS TO BE ON PUBLIC DISPLAY... YOU SHOWED RESPECT AND, MAINLY, YOU SHOWED DIPLOMATIC INTELLIGENCE WHICH THEY WOULD ADMIRE.

Despite all the talking, Bonnie Glaser, a China specialist at the Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank, said there remains a "profound level of distrust between the sides."

I MUST HAVE HEARD "SAVING FACE" A THOUSAND TIMES WHILE LIVING THERE BOTH IN CANTONESE AND ENGLISH. THERE'S A PUBLIC WAY AND A PRIVATE WAY THAT MOVE ALONG PARALLEL LINES BUT TOWARD A COMMON GOAL. WITHOUT SOUNDING TOO CLICHÉ THE PUBLIC WAY IS A DANCE FOR FOLKS TO WATCH WHILE THE RELATIONSHIPS, DECISIONS AND PLANS HAPPEN PRIVATELY. UNDERSTANDING WHAT THE PUBLIC WAY SHOULD BE WAS ALWAYS WHAT I HAD TO THINK THROUGH... I KNEW HOW TO MANAGE THE PRIVATE WAY.

Economy said China would be happiest with a long-running dialogue that does not require major policy changes. "The United States usually comes to China with a pretty long list of what we want China to do, and, for the most part, what China wants is to be left alone," Economy said.

REALLY? CHINA MOST WANTS "TO BE LEFT ALONE." I THINK WHAT CHINA WANTS IS GROWTH, RESPECT AND ADEQUATE PLACEMENT ON THE WORLD STAGE.

Mar 27, 3:36 AM (ET)

By FOSTER KLUG

WASHINGTON (AP) - Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has moved aggressively and quickly to secure a stronger role in what she has called the world's most important relationship: U.S. dealings with China. But military and economic tensions between the two powers keep getting in her way.

As the international financial crisis worsens, the two colossal economies have bickered over their intertwined interests. China is nervous about its position as Washington's biggest foreign creditor, holding an estimated \$1 trillion in U.S. government debt. Beijing and Washington also have sparred over military matters, including a confrontation between American and Chinese vessels in the South China Sea and harsh words over Pentagon claims that China's rapidly growing military strength could allow it to win short, intense conflicts against high-tech adversaries.

These issues will demand high-level attention from the Treasury and Defense departments. Clinton is pushing, however, to ensure that her diplomatic corps is not marginalized as the United States engages a country the Obama administration needs as a partner in efforts to solve the world's major problems.

Clinton began staking out her claim on China early. A week after President Barack Obama's Jan. 20 inauguration she signaled her deter