

You Eat What You Kill

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We've become animals in a zoo and wait for our masters to feed us. Our masters are our bosses, the government, the shareholders of massive corporations, the media that spoon feeds us random doses of fear and greed. The banks that squeeze our genitals when we try to break free.

Life only tastes good when you eat what you kill. When you hustle for what you earn and someone pays you money in proportion to the service you've offered, the idea you've created, your ability to execute on it, and their ability to consume it in a way that benefits them. --- [James Altucher, The Altucher Confidential](#)

That's what JP Morgan Chase and friends did in their rescue of First Republic Bank. After basting the bank with billions in loans. Seven weeks later it was cooked and served up to --- JP Morgan Chase:

"Our government invited us and others to step up, and we did," said Jamie Dimon, Chairman and CEO of JPMorgan Chase. "Our financial strength, capabilities and business model allowed us to develop a bid to execute the transaction in a way to minimize costs to the Deposit Insurance Fund."

In 1955 Chase National Bank merged with the Bank of Manhattan Company to form the Chase Manhattan Bank. In 1991 Chemical Bank and Manufacturers Hanover merged and in 1995 Chemical merged with Chase Manhattan. In 2000 JP Morgan merged with Chase Manhattan. In 2004 JP Morgan Chase merged with Bank One, and in 2008 it bought Washington Mutual. And then in 2023 after the death of First Republic became finalized, Chase was allowed to gobble up one more. That was a special accomplishment in that Chase is already rated the riskiest bank in the country.

At the end of 2022 regulators determined that Chase held \$2.01 in domestic deposits and \$426 billion abroad. American domestic hold \$17.7 trillion in domestic deposits. Chase's total of \$2.4 trillion breaks the 10% maximum rule but it was waived to seal the deal.

The FDIC doesn't insure deposits held in American Banks located abroad. Thus foreign depositors in the Cayman Islands branch of the Silicon Valley Bank had their funds seized by the FDIC – it doesn't insure deposits by foreigners. Much of those funds were held by China citizens and Asians, and they are unlikely to get a cent in return.

Weapons Sale Record

According to *The Intercept* the US sold in 2022 \$85 billion in bilateral weapons sales to 142 countries 84 designated as autocracies. The State Department's Direct Commercial Sales authorization usually means approval of sales directly from supplier to customer. Sales in which a government acts as an intermediary for a domestic firm are usually conducted through the Pentagon as Foreign Military Sales. Biden's weapon sales in his first full fiscal year amounted to \$206 billion. That is a record surpassing Trump's \$192 billion former record. Biden says this is all part of the battle "between liberty and repression... between a rules-based international order and one government by brute force." Yet somehow the majority of the rules-based good guys tend to be authoritarian states committing mass murder to bring peace on earth.

Money

According to a new report published by Oxfam, the richest 1 percent grabbed nearly two-thirds of all new wealth worth \$42 trillion created since 2020, almost twice as much money as the bottom 99 percent of the world's population, reveals a new Oxfam report today. During the past decade, the richest 1 percent had captured around half of all new wealth. From "*Survival of the Richest*" is published on the opening day of the World Economic Forum in Davos...

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