

Things Fall Apart

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Two corrupt regimes despised by the masses but loved by capitalists, who had already mentally spent the promised booty of these miscreants, find themselves struggling for survival.

In Brazil the corrupt rightist Michel Temer, selected by the corrupt leftist Dilma Rousseff as her running mate who then contributed to her impeachment so he could take over, is reported to have been recorded giving approval to the paying of bribes to one of his former coalition partners. Seven officials from JBS, the world's largest meat packer (owner of Swift and Pilgrim's Pride, etc.) have promised to tell all, including providing the tape, in exchange for lesser charges. It doesn't help that the former chairman of the JBS holding company was also a partner in Temer's government. Bovespa fell 9% when the news broke this week. Brazil is currently mired in its worse depression ever. Temer's planned solutions included a Grecian-like haircut performed on the pensions of the working class. If Temer goes they will have to find fresh trash to do their dirty work.

Meanwhile, back in the USA, we not only have mainstream media pondering the removal of the president, and his own chosen vice president starting a personal 'Great America' PAC so he will be ready to step in should his boss be kicked out, but also the nuttiest form of liberalism taking pages from the past that would shame most conservatives

Trump is inept to the point of being stupid (nothing special are even unusual there in the history of the American presidency). He is also congenitally corrupt (actually his corruption at birth is easier to forgive). Neither of those are grounds for impeachment. Instead we are bombarded with reports about his secret dealings with Russia – that is *capitalist* Russia. Just imagine McCarthy shaking a piece of paper and shouting – 'Here is a list of 200 capitalists in the State Department serving the interests of capitalism in Russia!' The liberals are promoting a position that even the Nazi-loving Senator would have found too crazy for his taste.

On Wednesday the markets had their worst day since November of last year after the firing of FBI chief Comey was added to the outrages. Suddenly the liberals loved the guy who they had hated since he released negative Clinton stuff just before the election. The FBI is a criminal organization that has systematically stifled opposition and even criticism of the how American capitalism does its thing. It committed tens of thousands of felonies just in its Cointelpro operations, and murdered, mostly through third party assassinations, Malcolm X, Dr. Martin

Luther King, Jr., and dozens of Black Panthers, and still keeps Native American Leonard Peltier in jail because somebody killed two FBI agent marauders even though they know it wasn't Peltier. Yet the liberals are outraged that this esteemed protector of the American people (as long as they are registered members of the ruling class) is being dragged in the mud by our evil president.

Lawrence Tribe and Noah Feldman are two of many lawyers searching for the best grounds for impeachment. Tribe likes obstruction of Justice in the firing of Comey and telling Comey to drop the investigation of Michael Flynn. Feldman thinks slander could work – accusing Obama of tapping his phone in Trump Towers. Then there is that *emolument* clause in the Constitution. Is doubling the reservation at his Mar-a-Lago resort to \$200,000 such or thing such an offense, or is it just the tacky money grubbing of a numskull capitalist? As for jacking up rates for diplomats staying at his Washington property – I think that's kind of cute.

In recent weeks verbal boosting of the economy worldwide has boomed. Stringing together a couple of better than bad reports is said to mean the take off has because. For example – Industrial Production. It is at 102.5, which means it's 2.5 above the trough. But the baseline for recovery (where it would have been had the crash not occurred) would have now been at about 109. Then there is total hours worked. According to the BLS it was 110 at the time of the crash, about where it was in the late 90's. Now it is about 111. 20 years and a few tens of millions increase in the population and its hardly budged. Using a 1992-2007 baseline retail sales should be well above \$600 billion. Instead it's 18.7% less at about \$475 billion.

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