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Lin Lin

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抄送: Susana Davidenko; Sheila Cohen; Katina Sayers-Walker; Shufang Shi

主题: 答复: Immigration

Hi, Mecke. Hope you had a good time with your flute emsemble. When is your concert this weekend?

You cannot imagine how full the Nottingham Gym was last night. I'm absolutely impressed with Dr. Noam Chomsky, who is 82, standing on stage for the duration of his talk on the U.S. foreign policy. I guess I might still be standing there for a hour when I become 82 (lots of prayers here), but I highly doubt that I would be so quick-witted and sharp-minded.

We didn't stay long after the talk. We left during the Q&A period. These points stood out to me. I understand Shufang and others will fill in more for you .

- 1. The financial institutions in the United States, developed in the last 40 years, should be mainly responsible for the economic recession since 2007. The CEOs of such financial institutions, such as Goldman Sachs and Lehman Brothers, could withdraw from the mess they created with a handsome bailout deal and parachutted out of the mess, clean! I feel ashamed of myself. I worked in China for a translation company that provided consultation for the Goldman Sachs for its Asian investment. I was fresh from the college, moonlighting to make ends meet.
- 2. The increasingly powerful China with its enormous economic transformation is always demonized by the U.S. and other Western society. The China threat should be a concern for Eastern Asian countries, but not a concern for the U.S. The U.S. should not use double standards to critize any other countries for their growing military might when it has numerous military bases around the world to guarantee its control of the world.

The trade deficits between China and U.S. have been overestimated so that the US public blames China instead of the financial institutions. This echos the findings of Dr. Beru Paul's research on the causes of the economic recession.

- 3. The U.S. Foreign Policy always prioritizes national interests, narrowly defined as national cooperations' interest to get more profits, ignoring the will of the people.
- 4. The Latin American countries have witnessed an unprecended surge of indigineous resistance (in Bolivia, Argentina, and Columbia, for example) and the United States recognizes the sad fact that the Latin America is no longer its sacred backyard where they would just go and get resources. They dare to say NO to their hegemonic North American neighbor.
- 5. The United States supported dictators around the world, particularly in the Middle East region, for as long as they could. The U.S. would support any efforts to get rid of these dictators if it is the will of the local people. The U.S. will then look for a new regime to support so that the new regime will cater to the

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U.S.'s national interests.

Then I became sleepy on and off, and couldn't keep up. Others will fill in more for you. I agree with many of his points, but I am concerned if Chomsky believes in having no intervention, whatsoever, even in the extreme cases such as in Lybia. When dictators persecute their citizens in their own countries, could governments in today's world speak up and take actions to save the defenseless citizens?

I would have asked that question if we had a chance.

Thank you so much, Susana, for inviting us to have this intellectually rich field trip together.

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Women are like tea bags. You never know how strong they are until they are put in hot water. -- Eleanor Roosevelt

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fyi, perhaps some hopeful news on the political scene. OR, what did Chomsky say? Hope it inspired you. Best, Mecke