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## Made in America Panel Characterizes U.S. - China Tariff Battle as the Dispute of Our Age

Concern about stock market fluctuations; support for Trump's emphasis on business growth and profitability; the negative impact the U.S-China trade tariff battle is having on the economies of both countries; the risk Trump faces by staking his presidency to stock market performance; the loss of respect between the press corps and the White House; and the danger Democrats face by turning to the left in former red districts, were among the topics tackled by host Neal Asbury, co-host Dr. Rich Roffman, and a panel of experts on the nationally syndicated "Neal Asbury's Made in America" show on Radio America (aired by almost 100 affiliates and by the Armed Forces Network).

Neal is uneasy about the topsy-turvy economy, especially about the wild stock market fluctuations and the ongoing tariff battles with China that could jeopardize the economic gains attained under Trump.

The first guest on Made in America was Stephen Moore, an American writer and economic policy analyst who also founded and served as president of the Club for Growth. A former member of the Wall Street Journal editorial board, he is now a Distinguished Visiting Fellow for the Heritage Foundation.

Moore is concerned about the economy. "The threats of fiscal Armageddon are fairly easily avoided with one major policy objective: Faster economic growth. Mr. Trump has made this point, and so has his National Economic Council chairman, Larry Kudlow. They're absolutely right."

Moore is a firm advocate of Trump's America First agenda, and applauds Trump's success in once again making the American economy the envy of the world.

Both Neal and Dr. Roffman are concerned about the uneven stock market. Are we seeing the optics of a declining market? Or is it reality?

Moore believes that the stock market will recover, but is anxious about the long-term effect the ongoing trade war with China will have.

"Trump is playing hardball with the world on trade, but is having success. He's taking a lot of heat on the Saudi Arabian decision, but I think he's right. Look, there are no angels among Middle Eastern leaders, and that includes the Saudi Crown Prince, but it's hard to ignore \$350 billion in arms sales. Why shouldn't we support Trump's America First agenda? The question is: why haven't other presidents embraced the same approach?" asked Moore.

Despite the progress being made on trade, the ongoing Chinese tariff battle is worrisome.

"This battle could be the dispute of our age. America cannot back down, and needs to see China make concessions. China started this trade war years ago; not us. We can't ignore the \$300 billion in IP that China steals each year from American companies," proposed Moore.

Neal and Dr. Roffman are concerned that the Fed will impose higher interest rates, which could unravel the economic gains we've made. Moore agrees that the Fed needs to stand pat.

Dr. Roffman has been a big fan of Stephen Moore since he and Larry Kudlow crafted Trump's economic vision that he unveiled at the New York Economic Club that helped launch his presidential bid.

Neal agreed, but noted that as part of his presidential bid, Trump tied his success to a robust stock market, which now shows signs of weakness.

"If you live by the sword, you die by the sword. But it's hard to ignore the strong economy. Yet, it can be derailed if an agreement with China can't be reached. Already auto prices in the U.S. are headed up, which is turning off consumers," noted Neal.

The next guest on Made in America was John Carlson, who served as Deputy Press Secretary to Presidents Gerald R. Ford. He also served as Assistant Press Secretary to President Richard Nixon. Carlson also worked with George H. W. Bush when he was the U.S. Representative to China during the Nixon and Ford administrations.

Neal suggested that the relationship between the White House and the media has gotten nasty, and that there is no respect for the president. Dr. Roffman agreed, noting that the words "polite and respect" have fallen out of favor, as evidenced by the nasty encounter between CNN reporter, Jim Acosta, and the president.

"I happened to talk to some of my old contacts who agreed that Acosta is always showboating and is not generally liked. His grandstanding would not have happened in the old days when news conferences were not televised and reporters only asked one question. The White House decides on seating assignments at press conferences, usually giving priority to large networks like CNN, so Acosta is in the front row," according to Carlson, who noted that when he was a press secretary, they would plan out the headlines based on the administration's

agenda, and while the current press office is trying to do that, Trump frequently derails the plan by going off-script.

Dr. Roffman recalled the old press conferences when JFK was president and there was a communal feeling and the press showed respect.

Neal, Dr. Roffman and John Carlson weighed in on the outcome of the midterms, which they thought was being inaccurately portrayed as a GOP disaster.

"Let's look at the facts. Trump picked up additional senate seats, and while they lost the House when the Democrats won 38 seats, keep in mind that Clinton lost 54 seats while Obama lost 63 seats. What is concerning is that the GOP has been losing suburban seats, which was always their strength," explained Carlson.

Neal is optimistic Nancy Pelosi is sincere when she proposed that she can work with Republicans on issues such as infrastructure, cutting drug prices and fixing health insurance.

Dr. Roffman continues to be angry about the ongoing attacks against Trump by the progressive media.

"No matter what good he does, the media turn it into a negative. I can understand that Trump gets frustrated, and he lashes out at the media. The attacks are simply vicious, including the attacks on press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders, who was pilloried at last year's correspondence dinner. I can understand why the president is doing away with a comic emcee. Nancy Pelosi is claiming that she's out to save America, but I'm not buying into it," concluded Dr. Roffman.

Each week Neal Asbury's Made in America provides Neal's insights into the week's top news stories and their impact on the worlds of entrepreneurship, small business ownership and the overall economy. Neal's analysis, together with co-host Dr. Richard Roffman, a veteran 30-year publisher with extensive domestic and international experience, takes a non-biased approach based on real life experience in business as an American manufacturer and exporter. Made in America airs nationally each Saturday from 7-8:00 PM on Radio America. Link to Made in America at <http://www.nealasburysmadeinamerica.com>.



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