

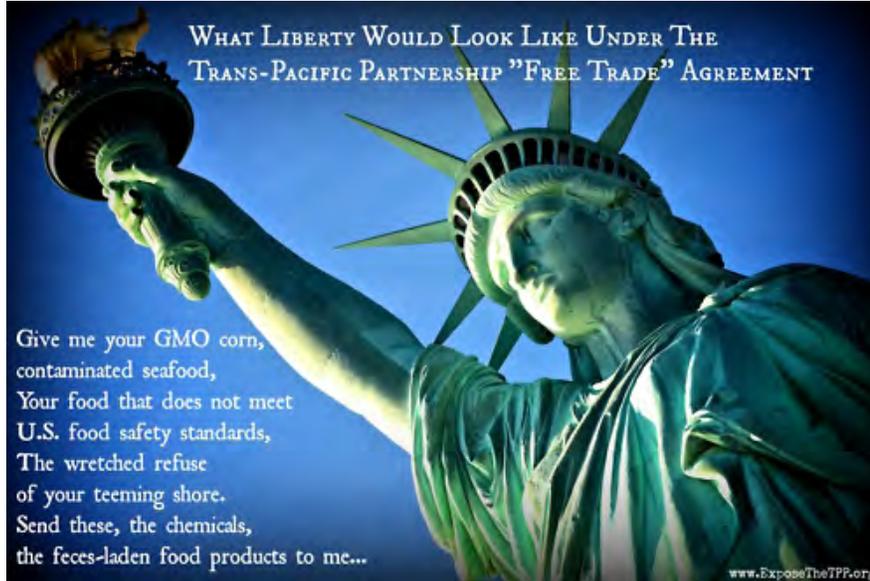


by Jason Perlman •in News
- Ohio AFL-CIO

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE SUPPLEMENT TO VOLUME 2 NUMBER 4



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Stop the Trans-Pacific Trade Agreement!



Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement - TPP or TPPA

President Obama has signed the agreement and congress has passed Fast-Track legislation which denies congress any significant discussion or amendments before a simple yes or no vote. This supplement presents our readers information on the TPP and other trade agreements from past issues.

The United States lost \$10.6 TRILLION since 1976 in trade with other countries and \$736 BILLION in 2015. That is money pulled from our economy we could have used to improve this country and the lives of many Americans or pay down our debt. When dollars flow past our shores jobs, technology, intellectual property, and decent wages flow with them.

Economically, our country is bleeding to death. The government shoves cotton balls in the wound so we won't know how bad we are injured by turning on the printing presses to print more money which lowers the value of the dollar or they borrow money, mostly from foreign governments which adds to our debt. We are facing a make or break point where the question won't be should we raise taxes or cut social security and medicare. Instead the tax increases and cuts to entitlement will be severe and mandatory.

Speak up now! Reject the TPP.

We have published various articles since April 2012 presenting a variety of facts concerning our trade balance, which is has been negative since 1976 and the impact of existing trade deals on the trade balance. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is the largest and is recognized by the most people. Before it was implemented the trade balance with Mexico was essentially zero, meaning we exported to Mexico as much as we imported from Mexico. The balance of trade went negative the year NAFTA was signed and has continued to favor Mexico every year since. We now import about \$55 billion a year from Mexico than we export to Mexico. All data was obtained from the U.S. Government . www.census.gov/foreign-trade/balance/

The second page of this supplement contains a list articles from the **GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE** (in chronological order) to demonstrate the importance of the subject of trade agreements and to illustrate our dedication to presenting timely articles with facts not fiction. Each of the original publications are presented here for your convenience.

There is no reason to believe the TPP will fare any better than previous agreements. The World Bank has ranked Vietnam as the most likely to succeed under the TPPA and ranked the United States as the biggest loser. History says they are right.

Time is running out to pressure congress to reject the TTP. Congress will be under a lot of pressure from industries that will benefit from the TPP . We need a VERY large response telling congress to reject the TPP and reverse our course when it comes to international trade.

Why You Care About the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement!

Speak up now! Reject the TPP!

This is a list of reprints of articles (with synopsis) from GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE concerning trade agreements.

June 2012 Edition 34 Page 5: “Living in a Bubble” highlighted the U.S. trade deficit and the stress it puts on our economy. We live in an economic bubble!

April 2014, Edition 55 Page 3: “The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement” discussed the long term results of the United States negative balance of trade with the rest of the world. At that point we had imported more than \$9.6 TRILLION dollars worth of goods and services than we exported between 1976 and 2013. The situation has not improved. In 2014 we imported \$508 billion worth of goods and services than we exported and in 2015 that imbalance rose to \$539.8 billion. In other words, over a TRILLION dollars was pulled from our economy and spread around the globe for others to enjoy in less than two years. In the same edition of the GDV, we presented evidence of the North American Free Trade agreement (NAFTA) on the trade balance with Mexico. We went from a slightly positive balance in 1994 to a continuous negative balance reaching \$58.4 billion in 2015.

July 2015 Vol. 2 No. 7 Page 8: “More Bad News About the TPP” points out the effect of the trade imbalance on jobs and wages here in the states. At that time the TPPA had not been released to the public and it was just a rumor that foreign corporations could sue the United States Government for profits they “lost” due to environmental regulations imposed by the United States. It doesn’t take much imagination to envision Transcanada suing the U.S. over issues with the Keystone pipeline. Heaven only knows how many other foreign corporations are frothing at the mouth waiting to attack.

November 2015 Vol. 2 No. 10 Page 6: “What They Don’t Talk About and Why” lists the TPPA as one of the issues candidates for president gloss over when campaigning because they don’t have a verifiable solution. Again we stressed the impact on jobs, wages, technology and revenue to the government.

December 2015 Vol. 2 No. 11 Page 6: “Do the People in Power really Represent Us?” We question whether those in power represent the people or corporations and their personal ambitions. Are we victims of ignorance or corruption? Do trade negotiators have our best interest in mind during negotiations?

December 2015 Vol. 2 No. 11 Page 7: “Who Do You Trust?” We asked if anyone would side with the American workers and scrap the TPPA. Its like the debt and deficit, since most people don’t know or understand them, politicians gloss over or ignore the subject. Perhaps as the younger members of our society mature, ignorance of the facts will fade as a major impediment to a solution.

February 2016 Vol. 3 No. 2 Page 5: “The Questions All Candidates for President Must Answer” We point out that the trade imbalance weighs heavily on the options available as the burden on the federal budget increases when more people retire and live longer while the workforce shrinks toward one worker for each retiree.

March 2016 Vol. 3 No. 3 Page 5: “Are Free Trade Agreements Really Free?” We summarize the results of the last 14 trade agreements in which the United States participated. Those 14 agreements have cost Americans \$63.3 billion since 1985 but most have only existed since 2004.

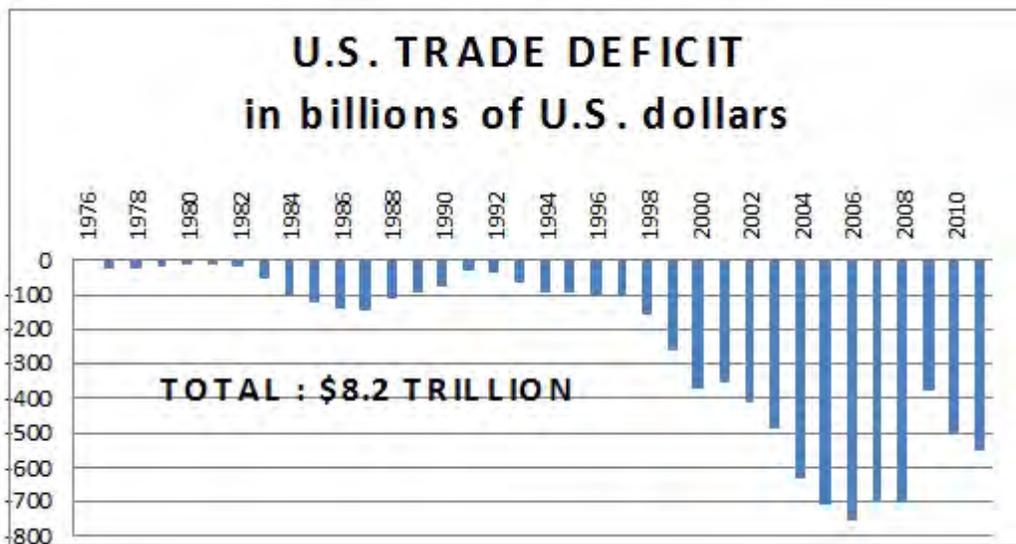
Living In a Bubble

— Charles E. Ford, Jr

The U.S. economy is a bubble. If you go the grocery store you have helped support the grocer, the delivery service, the distributor, the farmer or rancher, and perhaps the government, if any of the items were taxable. Those same people spend their portion of the money to purchase items keeping the money in circulation. In this scenario, the skin of the bubble is thick because the money is in circulation and stays within the bubble.

If we change our mind and go to Harbor Freight Store instead of the grocery store, we will help support the store employees, the distributor, the packager, and more likely than not we support a foreign manufacturer and deprive an American manufacturer a sale. This is a thin-skinned bubble, losing air. Without a mechanism to replace the air, the bubble will collapse and be destroyed.

The first paragraph is an analogy of the U.S. economy 50 years ago. We manufactured the goods,



services, and products we sold to each other and imported less than we exported. Even the Federal debt was owned by U.S. citizens. Life was good. Our bubble was strong and secure. Times have changed. Many of the items we buy are imported letting the air out of our balloon. In January, we imported \$52.6 billion worth of goods and services more

than we exported. This would be tolerable if it were an isolated case, but it isn't. The trade balance has been a deficit since 1975 and exceeds a trillion dollars for the years 2010 and 2011 combined. The total removed from the U.S. economy since 1976 is \$8.2 trillion.

Like most of our problems, there is no simple, single action we can take to immediately return to a balanced or profitable trade condition. Europe, our best customer, is struggling with weak economies also. Tariffs on imports are not a solution because the exporting countries will retaliate with tariffs on goods and services from the United States. Efforts to get China to reevaluate the yuan have not been very successful and more trade agreements doesn't give one much hope for improvement. We, as individuals, can reduce the deficit by making a concerted effort to "Buy American."

[ed: <http://madeinusaforever.com> is an excellent online source.]

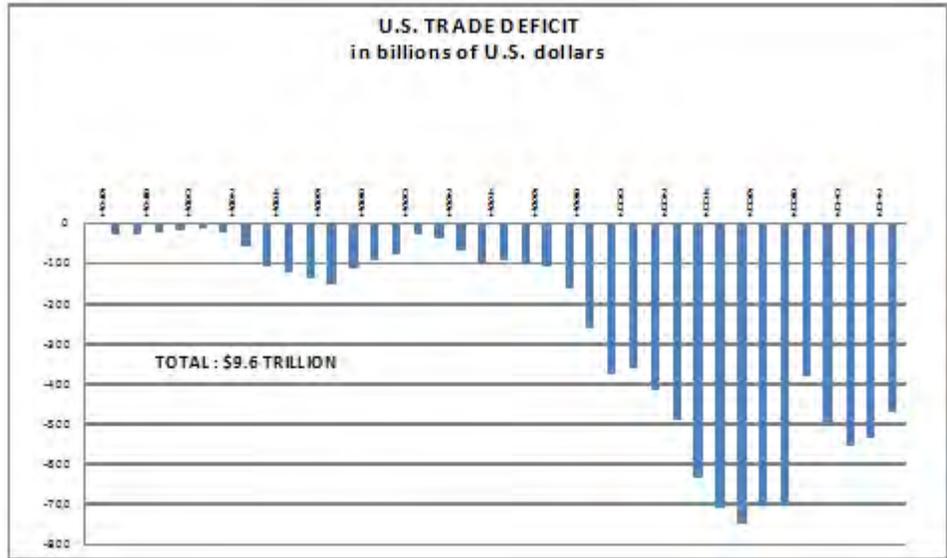
Don't count on the jobs and technology lost to other countries coming back to solve this problem. Our best hope to reverse the deficit trend is to educate and encourage American youth to be entrepreneurs instead of working for corporations. We must rebuild our manufacturing instead of giving it away.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA)

The Government is challenging corporations for the Killing the Golden Goose Award.

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

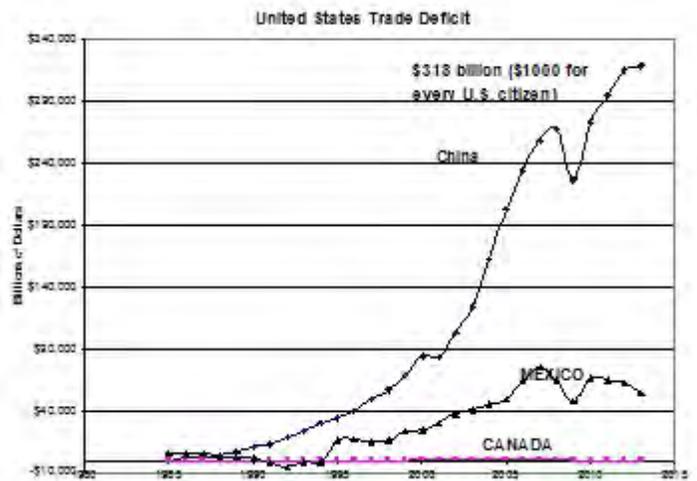
The government is negotiating a “fair trade” agreement with Australia, Vietnam, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, and Singapore. If you look at the result of prior fair trade agreements we have not fared so well. Our trade deficit from 1976 to 2013 is a cumulative \$9.6 trillion. Not one year in, has the trade balance been positive in our favor. The trade agreements have replaced the foreign aid the government dished out years ago. Australia and a few of the South American countries are the only countries where we have a positive balance.



In 1972, President Nixon went to China to open the door for American exports. That trip was a major game changer. It opened the door to cheap labor, lower taxes, and an unregulated environment for American corporations.

Retailers jumped on the bandwagon, importing cheap goods that competed directly with products manufactured in the United States. Manufacturers followed suit moving manufacturing to foreign countries. They can brag about how many Americans they employ but fail to mention how many jobs they shipped overseas.

As you can see in the graph our deficit with China in 2013 was \$318 billion or \$1,000 for every United States citizen. Prior to the North American Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with Mexico and Canada in 1994, we had a slightly positive trade balance with Mexico but it instantly went negative and stayed negative. The current deficit with Mexico exceeds \$40 billion each year. The deficit correlates to jobs created elsewhere instead of the United States.



There is a debate in Congress whether to approve the TPPA without a public debate. Since the document has been negotiated with as much secrecy as they could maintain, little is known of the contents. However, in a teleconference on the subject it was mentioned foreign countries demanded a statement requiring access to bidding on our military procurement contracts. That is an absolute no. It would send more jobs overseas and the military would lose control of the availability and quality of essential supplies. A public debate is mandatory!

The government is challenging corporations for the Killing American Jobs Award.

Rewriting by Democrats of the Iraq war history to score points against Hillary

NOBODY voted FOR the invasion of Iraq. The law gave Bush authority to use the force HE determined necessary to protect our national security and enforce UN resolution. Bush and Bush alone decided to invade a country which was no threat to our national security and in violation of international law.

Republicans have been trying to rewrite history in order have the American believe a lie — that Democrats authorized Bush's illegal acts. And now the anti-Hillary are giving their support to the GOP lies in order to win points for their candidate. What they are doing is adding to the lie that the 58 percent of [senate] Democrats who voted to give Bush a vote of confidence in his ability to use the nation's military force in fashion comparable with international law and appropriate to a threat to our national security, must share the blame for the disaster that resulted in Bush's decision.

For those still confused by the GOP's meme, it is the Congress that declares war, which is NOT what the law did, unless these Democrats just want to impugn the character of the leadership of their party — people such as Kerry and Biden — they need to stop aiding and abetting the GOP in deceiving the American people!

Steve Love Facebook 6/29/15

Do not forget Sandy Hook. If 9/11 is the symbol of all that is associated with terrorism, so should Sandy Hook be the symbol of all that is associated with our refusal to deal with guns in the same way we deal with all other threats to public health and safety.

I love the Democratic Party and am 100 percent Democratic.

I believe the 2016 Elections will be the most important elections in my lifetime. We must not turn back the clock. If we as Democrats fail to turn out and vote both in the primary and general elections in 2016 all working men and women of all races will see this country become one which is bought and paid for by Koch brothers and other wealthy Americans who could care less about the hard working Americans in this country.

The next president will decide the make up of the Supreme Court which could reverse the progress of working Americans and minorities. They [SCOTUS] could change the laws that takes away the rights of certain people to vote. Remember, at one time, minorities and women did not have the right to Vote!

We must not let this happen.

Please vote and make sure that everyone you know votes as well. This is the only time in your life that you have the same power as the richest and most powerful people in this country.

— Joe Burkleo

[ed: Joe is precinct chair of precinct 4043. He has served Dallas County for 45 Years as Precinct Chair and Election Judge and an Early Voting Judge for Dallas County.]



More Bad News About the TPP

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

Granted it is hard to comment on a secret document, the Trans Pacific Partnership, so I chose to use history as a guide. Nixon opened the door to China. The trade balance with China in 2013 was \$318 billion. Before NAFTA we had a slightly positive trade balance with Mexico. Now the trade imbalance exceeds \$40 billion a year. The cumulative U.S. trade deficit from 1976 to 2013 was \$9.6 TRILLION.

It isn't just about the almighty dollar. Every deficit represents exported jobs, lower wages for Americans, a lower standard of living for Americans and more power for corporations over which we have no control except one. Boycott imported products and buy American when the option exists.

According to rumors, there may be another issue that should concern us if the rumor is true. Corporations may have new legal avenues available to them if the TPP becomes law. Because it is secret, who knows? Why should we expect the TPP to be improved over prior trade agreements?

Note to editor: Refer to www.garlanddemocraticvoice.com and www.census.gov

[ed: This is an unpublished Letter sent originally to *The Dallas Morning News*.]



What They Don't Talk About and Why

There are certain subjects politicians avoid like the plague or they give an answer so vague you can't tell what they said. The list includes ISIS, Iraq, Afghanistan, our national debt, the federal deficit, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and our trade imbalance with other nations. They don't talk about these subjects because they don't have a believable solution for any of them.

The national debt is now over \$18 trillion and still growing at more than \$500 billion per year in spite of gimmicks like the sequester to "control" spending. Any idiot can reduce spending but that can do more harm than good if you don't look at the consequences. When the Government cuts spending, people lose jobs whether they work for the Government or a contractor. Unemployed people don't pay taxes and get receive Government assistance in the form of unemployment checks, food stamps and other benefits. So instead of paying them for working we pay them because we laid them off. Unemployment is a drag on the economy.

Payments for Social Security and Medicare are growing rapidly as baby-boomers retire. Payments now exceed the revenue collected so the trust fund is being depleted. The population will continue to age and the burden on the Government is going to increase faster than the revenue to the Government will increase.

Adding to the problems is shipping manufacturing facilities and technology overseas. Decent paying jobs, technology, and revenue to the Government are lost and politicians don't care. The current knife in the back of the American workers is the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement. As reported in the **GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE** April 2014 Edition 55, the United States lost over \$9.6 TRILLION in trade deals between 1976 and 2013. The loss is now \$10.1 TRILLION when 2014 is added. The balance of trade deficit accounts for over half of the federal debt but no one talks about it. Instead they aggravate the situation with more free trade pacts.

There is no reason to believe the United States will fare any better with the TPP. The TPP is also alleged to have serious legal issues that give international corporations powers that supercede U.S. laws.

One issue politicians do talk about but never take action is the trillions of dollars corporations are holding overseas. The politicians suggest that lowering the tax on those funds would encourage corporations to invest the money in the United States. That is not fact. We no longer make high priced products to sell to Americans and to other countries. Products are manufactured in other countries and sold to Americans at prices American made products cannot compete. We are only 5 percent of the earth's population so the trend is not going to change until other countries raise wages and protect their citizens with appropriate regulations years or decades from now.

Ask your favorite politician for a solutions but be prepared for the blank stare.

The Boys on Wall Street Didn't Do This One

A recent post on Facebook concerning the stock of nine solar power companies, SunEdison (SUNE), Solar City ((SCTY), SunPower (SPWR), SolarEdge (SEDG), Vivint (VSLR), TerraForm Power (GLBL), Sunrun (RUN), and 8Point3 Energy (CAFD), is very misleading. The stock of each of these companies has dropped in recent months.

The article highlights Solar City as an example with a plot showing the stock value with a high of \$63.79 and a low of about \$23 per share. That part is accurate but the data presented only covers the period from June to November of this year (2015).

The author continues with commentary about "The big boys in the smoke-filled rooms on wall street..."

Solar City stock started at \$11.72 on December 14, 2012 and rose to a peak \$84.96 on February 28, 2014. The stock dropped rapidly in the month of March 2014 then hovered around \$55 per share until May 2015. Since then there has been an accelerated drop in the price of the stock. What has happened since the summer of 2014 that might affect the stock of solar industry stocks.

It isn't the boys on Wall Street tinkering with the market. The price of oil has dropped from \$105.86 in June 2014 to \$41.92 per barrel in November 2015. At the same time gas dropped from \$4.40 to \$2.19/mmBTU (million British Thermal Unit).

Lower oil and natural gas prices make it much harder to justify the investment in solar technology not the boys on Wall Street.

www.macrotrends.net/1369/crude-oil-price-history-chart

www.infomine.com/investment/metal-prices/natural-gas/1-year/

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ARTICLE

Do The People in Power Really Represent Us??

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

In the early 1970s a friend ask me to come to a John Birch Society meeting and I accepted. After the first meeting, I was scrambling for excuses not to attend. According to the John Birch Society, there were communists under every bed and around every corner. A lot of their theories were contradictory. If we lost the war in Vietnam, communists would take over all of Southeast Asia (the domino effect) and yet the war was bad and everything we were doing was wrong. Conspiracies dominated the conversation. After a few meetings, I gave up inventing excuses not to attend and simply said no. I haven't believed in conspiracies since but now I wonder...

How would the leader in another country destroy the United States? Engaging in military action would be senseless. It would be much easier to get people in a few select positions where they influence critical decisions. Members of the negotiating team negotiating trade deals for the United States is one possibility. Members of the Federal Reserve is another. Of course Congress is an excellent position for pushing an agenda. Patience is a key element. Being too aggressive would raise a red flag and attract too much attention. But, little by little the agents could bring us to our knees. The agents could be lobbyists so they are out of view from the public. Our own spy network, the CIA, has omitted from time to time to covert actions far more aggressive than simply infiltrating another government.

The New York Times ran a story on on December 7, 2015 titled, "A Revolving Door Helps Big Banks Quiet campaign to Muscle out Fannie and Freddie." Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were created to provide financing for home buyers if the banks couldn't or didn't support the market. They were bailed out with \$187.5 billion dollars in 2009. They have since repaid the entire amount plus \$53.8 billion. In spite of the recovery, on the advice of multiple individuals who had worked for both the government and the financial industry, congress is trying to privatize or drive both Fannie and Freddie out of business. Mortgages would only be available from banks. We see how well that works with credit cards. Banks can borrow money from the government for a fraction of a percent yet they charge Americans any where from 12 to 30 percent interest on credit card debt.

Do you think people that cycle between government employee and private sector jobs multiple times look out for your interests?

I don't have any proof, other than the results, to say whether these problems are the result of conspiracies, ignorance, or corrupt politics. While a giant conspiracy is a distinct possibility, I am more inclined to believe we are victims of corruption at all levels of our government. Corruption that flourishes because of ignorance at the voting booth by the voters. The news media can also take substantial credit by distracting the public with trivia such as comments spewing from Donald Trump's mouth.

Transparency in government and an informed, educated populous who exercises their right to vote in *every* election is the sole path to success.

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ARTICLE

Who do you trust?

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

The \$19 TRILLION national debt ought to make us all wonder why it was allowed to get so high and why are we allowing it to grow at half a trillion dollars every year. Even those in Congress that spout comments about wanting a balanced budget apparently aren't serious about it because they refuse to allow any tax increases. A lot of elected office holders have come and gone from Washington, D.C. without a serious attempt to solve the problem. We could start by capping the budget and let attrition reduce the number of government employees. Who do you trust to lead this effort?

\$10.1 trillion of the national debt is due to a negative import/export trade balance with nearly every country on this earth since shortly after President Nixon's visit to China in 1972. He opened a floodgate through which flowed manufacturing jobs, dollars, and the middle class=standard of living. Wages are declining and the wealth gap between the rich, poor and middle class is growing. And yet President Obama and most of Congress are pushing for congressional approval of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA). The final vote in Congress will probably take place early next year. The TPP will either be approved or disapproved with no debate. Will anyone side with American workers?

It isn't new for the three branches of our Government to disagree with each other but it couldn't be more bitter than it is now. As ridiculous as it sounds, the Senate majority leader was re-elected after publicly declaring Republicans would block everything the Obama administration would try to do. Blatant obstructionism is the equivalent of telling you boss you won't do any work but send your paycheck to your house! Do you trust obstructionists to govern your country?

Congress, particularly John McCain and Lindsey Graham, have been pushing for more military troops to fight ISIS. Some want more United States troops "on the ground" and others want combat troops from the surrounding nations as if we could order those countries to participate. Meanwhile, we bomb cities in Syria and Iraq with little regard for the civilian population or the enemies we create. The media, pollsters, and members of Congress bombard the airwaves with reports the American people are afraid ISIS is going to get us. Apparently they believe we spend all day in bed with the covers pulled over our heads. Or is their alleged fear another excuse for another war in the Middle East since President Obama has at least temporarily blocked an invasion of Iraq? There is a big difference between being cautious and being afraid. Do you trust the fear and war mongers?

Our Governor went to Cuba claiming Texas would export \$43 billion of goods and services to Cuba generating 214 jobs. In 2014, Texas exported \$131,000 of goods and services to Cuba and that was considerably less than 2013 because of competition from South and Central America. Is the Governor stupid enough to think the competition is going to go away because he spent a few days in Cuba? \$43 billion and 214 jobs, which figures out to be \$200 million per job. Its OK to laugh at the job number. Do you trust Governor Abbott?

Do you trust people that claim to be pro-life but don't want to care for or help people after they take their first breath? The don't want to provide health care, education, unemployment insurance benefits, jobs, food stamps, or any kind of welfare benefits to people in need. Too bad, buddy, you're on your own.

Don't blame it all on Republicans or Tea Baggers. If the elected Democrats really cared, they would be fighting every day to fix these issues.

###

The Question All Candidates for President Must Answer

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

The question candidates must answer is: **Specifically, what action or actions will you implement as President of the United States to reverse the trend of higher debt and lower wages? Be specific. What will you do and how will you do it?**

We, in the United States, are only 5 percent of the earth's population. Thus, 95 percent of the potential market for corporations live outside our borders. It is reasonable for corporations to manufacture products or provide services close to their market. As a result 10's of millions of manufacturing and service jobs have left our country for locations closer to the market place and lower labor costs. Our government has little or no control over multi-national corporations.

The impact is visible in our national debt which exceeds \$19 TRILLION and our balance of trade exceeds \$10 TRILLION for the period from 1976 to 2014. Our retiree group is growing larger at an increasingly rapid pace as the baby boomer generation reaches retirement age. At the same time, our working age group is shrinking. More retirees will need Social Security and Medicare benefits and are already putting a serious stress on the budget for these programs. [ed: A reminder: a TRILLION is a thousand BILLION and a BILLION is thousand MILLION.]

As this trend continues, we face the situation Greece is facing now. Excessive debt far beyond their ability to pay. The creditor nations are forcing them to adopt austere budgets and raise taxes to the point it impacts decisions that inhibits the growth they need to crawl out of the hole. We already see the impact on our own economy with arguments about spending priorities, taxes and education of our children.

Some of our smartest economists advocate solutions tied to increased government spending. They refer back to times after previous depressions and recessions. Dealing with the current situation and global economy requires an entirely different outlook on life.

It all comes back to jobs.

Fast food and retail jobs do not pay living wages or adequate benefits. Many of the workers make so little they are eligible for government support programs instead of paying income taxes.

Many large corporations are turning their backs on us and trade agreements, leaving us holding the bag. We need a novel approach to regenerating our economy and job market. The argument for better education is fine but we need better employment opportunities now.

To repeat: The question candidates must answer is: Specifically, what action or actions will you implement as President of the United States to reverse the trend of higher debt and lower wages? Be specific. What will you do and how will you do it?

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Are Free Trade Agreements Really Free?

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

Name of the pact	Primary Country	Year pact signed	Trade Balance with U.S. In Billions of Dollars			GOOD OR BAD
			5 year Total Before	5 year Total After	2015	
Israel - U.S.	Israel	1985	No Data	-.1	-10.9	BAD
NAFTA*	Canada	1994	-45.5	-103.1	-14.9	BAD
NAFTA*	Mexico	1994	5.2	-86.6	-58.4	BAD
Jordan - U.S.	Jordan	2001	1.5	-2.1	-0.1	BAD
Australia - U.S.	Australia	2004	30.3	51.3	14.2	GOOD
Chile - U.S.	Chile	2004	-2.3	1.7	6.7	GOOD
Singapore - U.S.	Singapore	2004	2.2	37.2	10.4	GOOD
Bahrain - U.S.	Bahrain	2006	-0.3	2.0	0.4	GOOD
Morocco - U.S.	Morocco	2006	0.1	5.6	0.6	GOOD
Oman - U.S.	Oman	2006	-0.6	0.2	1.5	GOOD
Peru - U.S.	Peru	2007	-8.5	7.2	3.7	GOOD
Panama - U.S.	Panama	2012	25.4	27.5**	7.4	GOOD
Colombia - U.S.	Columbia	2012	-16.9	0.9**	2.4	GOOD
South Korea - U.S.	South Korea	2012	-60.4	-74**	-28.3	BAD

This chart is a summary of U.S. trade agreements. As an indicator of the effect of the agreement, the chart includes the total of the trade balance between the United States and the individual country for the five years prior to the five years after the agreement was signed. The year the pact was signed was excluded.

A negative sign (–) before the number indicates the United States imported more than it exported to the other country. No sign before the number means we exported more than we imported. A negative sign is bad.

In the last column: Good means the pact creates jobs in the U.S. Bad means jobs are lost in the U.S.

Total Good in this chart in 2015 is \$49.3 Billion. The BAD total in 2015 \$112.6 Billion. Thus, we had a negative trade balance of \$63.3 Billion with these 14 countries in 2015. U.S. Overall 2015 trade balance is a negative \$539 Billion.

<https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/balance/index.html>

NOTES:

* NAFTA: North American Free Trade Agreement; Canada, Mexico, are the primary trading partner

** Pact was signed in 2012 so there is only 3 years of data available.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). These agreements are in negotiation or not yet approved.

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