

Ex-Federal Reserve Advisor Arrested for Selling Secrets to China

By James Conrad



America's economic security faces unprecedented threats from foreign adversaries seeking to undermine our financial sovereignty. As President Donald Trump continues strengthening trade protections against China, shocking new evidence reveals just how far Beijing will go to gain advantages over U.S. markets.

The Chinese Communist Party's web of influence extends deep into America's most sensitive institutions. Their tactics range from industrial espionage to intellectual property theft, leaving no sector of our economy untouched.

But just how deep does this betrayal go?

Federal authorities have arrested John Harold Rogers, a former senior Federal Reserve advisor, charging him with selling classified economic secrets to Chinese intelligence operatives. The 63-year-old Virginia resident allegedly received \$450,000 while posing as a university professor to cover his espionage activities.

Assistant Director Kevin Vorndran of the FBI Counterintelligence Division said that Rogers "betrayed his country while employed at the Federal Reserve by providing restricted U.S. financial and economic information to Chinese

government intelligence officers.” Vorndran went on to say that this information “could allow adversaries to illegally gain a strategic economic advantage at the expense of the U.S.”

A Web of Deception

For over a decade, from 2010 to 2021, Rogers held a trusted position within the Federal Reserve’s Division of International Finance. This is exactly why President Trump’s tough stance on China matters. Indeed, they’ve been playing the long game while we’ve been playing catch-up.

According to court documents, Rogers met his Chinese contacts in hotel rooms under the guise of teaching university classes. (Because what legitimate professor meets students in hotel rooms?) These “students” were actually intelligence officers seeking inside information about U.S. monetary policy and market operations.

The stolen information included proprietary economic data sets, briefing books prepared for Federal Reserve governors, and details of Federal Open Market Committee deliberations. And what could China do with this stolen intelligence? Far more than most Americans realize.

The timing couldn’t be more critical. With China holding approximately \$816 billion in U.S. foreign debt as of October of 2024, the potential for market manipulation poses a severe threat to America’s economic sovereignty.

While liberals push for more engagement with China, this case shows why we need more scrutiny, not less. The Justice Department warns that access to Federal Reserve secrets could allow China to effectively engage in state-sponsored insider trading. This could potentially destabilize U.S. markets and undermining confidence in our financial system.

Protecting America's Financial Future

This case exposes dangerous vulnerabilities in our federal institutions. As President Trump implements stronger trade protections against China, equal attention must be given to securing our financial infrastructure against internal threats.

Rogers is currently being held without bond. He's facing charges of conspiracy to commit economic espionage and making false statements. His attorney claims Rogers "denies the allegations," but the evidence suggests a calculated betrayal of American trust.

The implications extend far beyond one individual's alleged crimes. This incident raises serious questions about vetting procedures for government positions and the need for enhanced counterintelligence measures to protect America's economic interests.

As this case moves forward, one thing becomes clear: America must strengthen its defenses against China's economic warfare. Our financial sovereignty and national security depend on it.