

The Charge of the Light Brigade

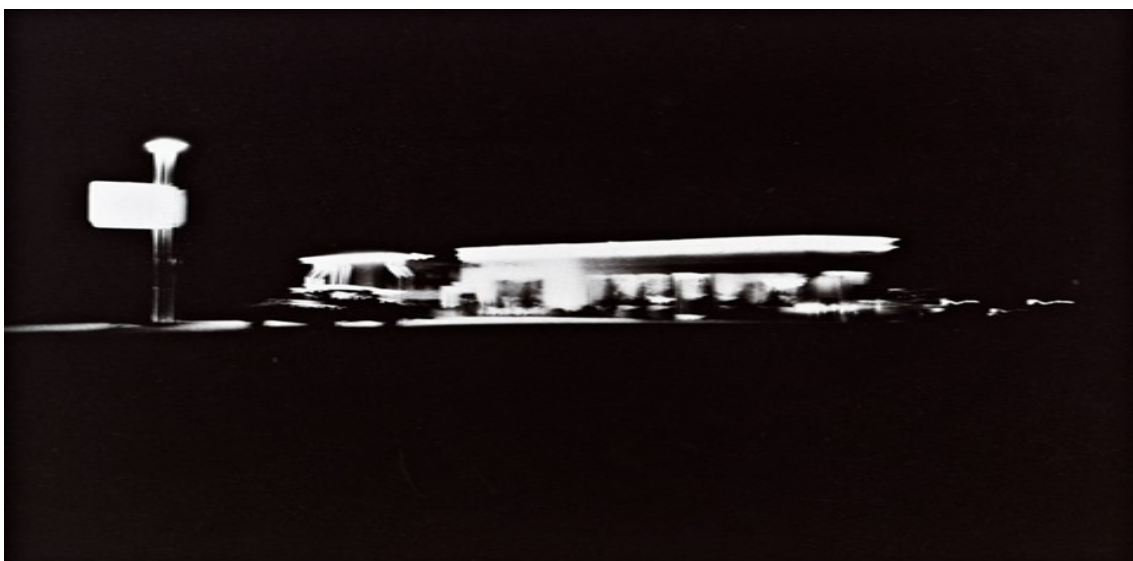
Aly Khan Satchu

Sunday, January 23, 2022

President Putin's Russia is oftentimes compared disparagingly on a GDP basis [the GDP comparison is made with Italy] and Russian power projection dismissed out of hand.



For example, @MittRomney described #Russia as a gas station parading as a country.



Credit Ed Ruscha

Sun Tzu pronounced "“Pretend inferiority and encourage his arrogance.”"

The sheer arrogance and naivete of the Hashtag Warrior #StandWithUkraine @SecBlinken and "the UK and our partners would impose a severe cost on Russia" @LizTruss is simply unfathomable.

It is difficult to know who is producing a bigger guffaw in the Kremlin. It is a "Charge of the Light Brigade" moment.

The Charge of the Light Brigade was a failed military action involving the British light cavalry led by Lord Cardigan against Russian forces during the Battle of Balaclava on 25 October 1854 in the Crimean War.



CHARGE OF THE LIGHT CAVALRY BRIGADE.
25TH OCT. 1854.
THIRD MAJOR GENERAL THE EARL OF CARDIGAN.

The Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava by [William Simpson](#) (1855), illustrating the Light Brigade's charge into the "Valley of Death"

The Charge of the Light Brigade BY ALFRED, LORD
TENNYSON

<https://bit.ly/3GWGzI4>

Half a league, half a league,
Half a league onward,
All in the valley of Death
 Rode the six hundred.
“Forward, the Light Brigade!
Charge for the guns!” he said.
Into the valley of Death
 Rode the six hundred.

II

“Forward, the Light Brigade!”
Was there a man dismayed?
Not though the soldier knew
 Someone had blundered.
Theirs not to make reply,
Theirs not to reason why,
Theirs but to do and die.
Into the valley of Death
 Rode the six hundred.

President Putin has fashioned an extraordinary even parabolic rebound ["But it is a curve each of them feels, unmistakably. It is the parabola."] in Russia's geoeconomic and geopolitical position over the last two decades.

Russia FX reserves hit all-time high at USD 630bn towards the end of 2021. That's about 40% of GDP! @akcakmak <https://twitter.com/akcakmak/status/1481596899274924037?s=20>



More than 75% of those reserves are backed by Gold. In a World of hocus pocus monetary policy making, the Russian Ruble is the soundest of sound money.

Oil & gas is now only 15% of Russia's (official) GDP (so even lower, in reality) The country is the world's biggest grain exporter, second in weapon's exports and the largest exporter of complex nuclear reactors.

In fact 2/3rds of Russia's economy is actually services.

In fact My Trade of the Year in the Markets would be to buy The Russian Ruble and the Stock Market. Of course, Timing is everything.

\$USDRUB has hit a 9-month high of 77.4774 at 16:05 on 21-Jan @tradermade

<https://twitter.com/tradermade/status/1484558950884331527?s=20>



IMOEX:IND MOEX Russia Index 3,439.25 RUB -76.77 -2.18%
52 WEEK RANGE 3,256.60 4,292.68 P/E Ratio 6.53

<https://www.bloomberg.com/quote/IMOEX:IND>

Returning to "geopolitical" scenario, it is clear that looking through the deluge of hashtags, Russia has largely triangulated Europe. The Gas dependency is real and the asymmetry of military forces very real. The idea that Erdogan and his Bayraktar TB2 drones are going to rescue Ukraine is simply quaalude level [Quaaludes ''to promote relaxation, sleepiness and sometimes a feeling of euphoria. It causes a drop in blood pressure and slows the pulse rate. These properties are the reason why it was initially thought to be a useful sedative and anxiolytic It became a recreational drug due to its euphoric effect''].delusion.



There is no stomach for a fight. Furthermore, **We exist in a Tripolar World and the West appears to be inviting its own triangulation.**

@JoeBiden is in a Pincer with Xi & Vladimir holding the console & ratcheting up the pressure & they own the timing on the Ukraine Taiwan Two Step
<https://twitter.com/alykhansatchu/status/1468498980342484992?s=20>

The West seems determined on its own kamikazi.

Putin sees this optimal window of opportunity to test the readiness of US for bilateral talks with Moscow but also the red line for future concessions if Washington really intends to get Russia out of China's orbit in the long term. Moscow has put its conditions on the table.
tweeted @vtchakarova.

and added "Amid bifurcation of the global system, think of Machiavelli: „There's nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success, then to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things.“ Because this is what Russia's doing now"

Will the West deal? Anyone who follows international affairs and who appreciates that outside the Yemen its no longer a Unipolar World has to understand "The Great Balancer" has to be accommodated.

