

US Stock Express

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The **APEC Summit 2025** will be held in **Gyeongju, South Korea from October 31 to November 1, 2025**. This will be the second time South Korea has hosted the summit, having previously done so in 2005.

***Themes:** The overarching theme for APEC 2025 is "**Building a Sustainable Tomorrow**," with three key priorities: **Connect, Innovate, and Prosper**. These themes reflect APEC's commitment to enhancing regional connectivity, fostering innovation, and promoting sustainable economic growth.*

List of APEC Member Economies

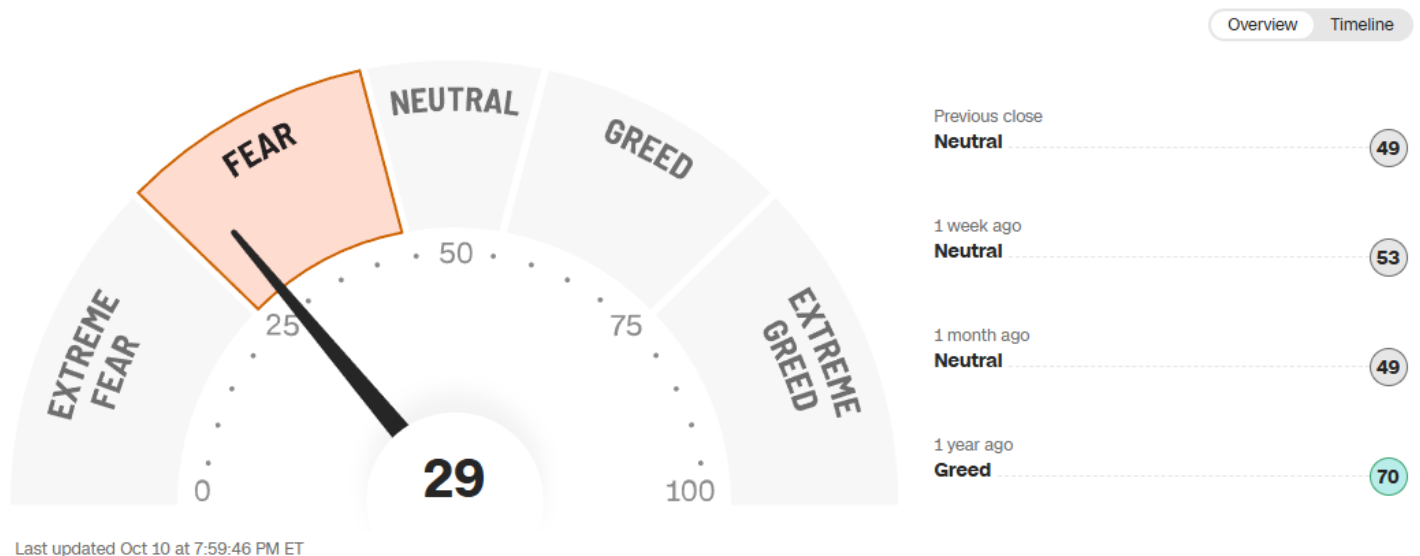
Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong (China), Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei (Taiwan), Thailand, United States of America, Viet Nam

*Risk disclosure: Price can go up and down at any moment, use free money to trade and bear the risk according to your own capital;
Never trade with money that has a deadline for withdrawal.
All suggestions are for reference only, even AI cannot be 100% reliable, final decision still lies upon investors.
Copy trading cannot replicate another trader's background or psychological state.*

Fear & Greed Index

What emotion is driving the market now?

[Learn more about the index](#)



North East West South is **NEWS**

The **APEC Summit 2025** will be held in **Gyeongju, South Korea** from **October 31 to November 1, 2025**. This will be the second time South Korea has hosted the summit, having previously done so in 2005.

The United States warned today that it would impose sanctions and other punitive measures against any country that supports the United Nations International Maritime Organization's (IMO) push for a carbon tax on shipping.

U.S. President Trump said he would impose additional 100% tariffs on China starting November 1st due to China's "extremely aggressive" export controls on rare earth minerals. He no longer believes a summit with Chinese President Xi Jinping this month is necessary.

The White House announced today that it has begun mass layoffs of federal employees, part of President Donald Trump's efforts to increase pressure on opposition Democrats to end the federal government shutdown.

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Brendan Carr said in an interview on Friday that major U.S. online retailers have removed millions of banned Chinese electronic products from sale. These products are on the U.S. banned equipment list or are not authorized by the FCC. These include home security cameras and smartwatches from companies such as Huawei, Hikvision, ZTE, and Dahua Technology.

Context on China's rare earth export tightening ahead of a Trump–Xi side meeting



GPT-5 is here - OpenAI

China expanded export controls on rare earth elements, related technologies, and even certain foreign transfers that embed Chinese rare earths, framing it as a “major upgrade” in advance of a possible Trump–Xi meeting in South Korea later in October. The move extends beyond raw materials to include processing know-how and requires case-by-case licensing, signaling leverage in upcoming negotiations and tightening control over the global supply chain [CNBC +1](#) . Chinese state media positioned the measures as regulatory “standardization,” not a blanket ban, but acknowledged they could restrict some flows and heighten scrutiny—particularly for military and advanced chipmaking uses [아시아경제 | MSN +2](#) .

What China ultimately wants

- **Negotiating leverage:** Tying controls to permits and technologies increases China's bargaining power in broader trade talks, especially amid rising U.S. tariffs and export controls on critical tech and software [The Star +2](#) .
- **Industrial dominance:** Consolidation of domestic firms and protection of processing IP aim to preserve China's near-monopoly in separation and magnet manufacturing, a critical chokepoint in global supply chains [Atlantic Council +1](#) .
- **Security and standards narrative:** Official messaging casts controls as ensuring supply chain stability, environmental protection, and compliance—while practically strengthening strategic influence over downstream industries [Chatham House +1](#) .

[The Star +5](#)

Can Europe and Australia stand up rare earth capacity in 3–8 years?

- **Feasibility window:** Building independent mining, separation, and magnet-making capacity typically spans multiple years due to permitting, financing, engineering, environmental safeguards, and workforce training. Recent analyses and policy moves in Europe and Australia highlight upstream financing, strategic reserves, and project pipelines—but they still face complex processing challenges. A 3–8 year horizon is broadly consistent with industry commentary and policy plans, not guarantees [mineralprices.com +2](#) .
- **Scaling realities:** Australia could grow into the world's second-largest supplier over the decade, but China currently controls most processing capacity and magnet manufacturing; bridging the midstream gap is the bottleneck that often extends timelines [ITWire +1](#) .

Does this let China “hold the throat” of the U.S. for 3 years, including a Taiwan invasion?

It raises risk but does not equate to unilateral coercion. The U.S. has begun stockpiling initiatives, near-shoring, and diversification across allies to mitigate short-term vulnerabilities. Controls introduce friction for defense, energy, and high-tech sectors, yet multiple mitigation levers—alternate sources, recycling, substitution, and inventory buffers—reduce the likelihood of total dependency during a 3-year window. Any military scenario involves far broader determinants than minerals alone [CNBC +2](#) .

[CNBC +2](#)



GPT-5 is here - OpenAI

Impact on U.S. national defense and shipbuilding

- **Defense platforms use meaningful quantities of rare earths:** F-35s incorporate hundreds of kilograms of rare earths for sensors, motors, and targeting systems; submarines and destroyers also require large volumes for propulsion and electronics. Supply constraints can slow production and maintenance schedules, especially where magnet materials and separated oxides are bottlenecks [Elements by Visual... +3](#) .
- **Risk management:** The U.S. has moved to treat rare earths as strategic power—expanding stockpiles, incentivizing magnet manufacturing, and coordinating with allies to diversify sources—mitigating but not eliminating near-term risk to naval and aerospace production [CNBC +2](#) .

[Elements by Visual... +5](#)

What can the U.S. do now?

- **Stockpile and secure contracts:** Expand strategic reserves and long-term offtakes with non-Chinese miners and processors to buffer shocks [discoveryalert.com... .](#)
- **Accelerate midstream capability:** Fund separation and magnet manufacturing domestically and in allied countries; midstream is the critical choke point [CSIS](#) .
- **Allied supply chains:** Coordinate with Europe, Australia, and emerging sources (e.g., Greenland) for diversified flows, environmental standards, and workforce development [Chatham House +3](#) .
- **Recycling and substitution:** Scale recovery from end-of-life turbines, EVs, and electronics; invest in motor designs that require fewer heavy rare earths to reduce vulnerability [Chatham House +1](#) .

On WTO, media access, and “lost 45 years”

China’s WTO accession in 2001 followed negotiations since the 1980s with commitments on market openness; however, Beijing maintains extensive restrictions on foreign media platforms while Chinese outlets operate in the U.S., reflecting asymmetric access. This disparity has fueled debates on reciprocity and industrial policy. To “win back” lost ground, U.S. options center on targeted industrial strategies, reciprocity in market access, and resilience in critical supply chains rather than attempting to relitigate decades of policy choices [Chatham House +1](#) .

[Chatham House +1](#)



GPT-5 is here - OpenAI

Where rare earth tensions may head

- **Worsening tension scenario:** Controls expand to more elements, magnets, and embedded products; licensing becomes slower; reciprocal trade actions escalate—tightening supplies and raising prices [CNBC +3](#) .
- **Negotiated easing scenario:** China uses controls as a bargaining chip to secure concessions in broader talks; some permits flow for civilian uses under strict compliance, while defense-related applications face continued scrutiny [Aljazeera +2](#) .

Direct answer: Expect persistent tightness and periodic escalations tied to negotiations. Some relief is possible if talks yield face-saving compromises, but structural dependence in midstream processing suggests friction will remain for years [Aljazeera +3](#) .

Quick clarifications on semiconductor vs. defense

- **Semiconductors:** Rare earths are important in certain equipment and polishing compounds, but volumes are relatively modest; restrictions matter more for specific tools and alloys than wafer volumes [South China Morni... +3](#) .
- **Defense:** Permanent magnets and specialty alloys are critical in propulsion, guidance, and sensing—small parts, outsized impact. That’s why even modest tonnage constraints can have substantial operational consequences [Elements by Visual... +2](#) .

[Elements by Visual... +3](#)



China expands rare earth export...



Aljazeera

China tightens export controls on rare-...



Show all

China's decision to tighten rare earth export controls, announced on October 9, 2025, requires foreign entities to obtain a license from Beijing for exporting any products containing more than 0.1% of Chinese-sourced rare earth materials or technologies. This expands on prior restrictions (e.g., April 2025 curbs on specific elements like dysprosium and terbium) and now includes intellectual property, equipment, and downstream products like magnets, effectively giving China veto power over global supply chains. The timing—just two weeks before the anticipated Trump-Xi sideline meeting at the APEC summit in Gyeongju, South Korea (October 25-26, 2025)—is deliberate brinkmanship, escalating pressure amid ongoing U.S.-China trade tensions. Beijing framed it as a "national security" measure to prevent military misuse, but analysts see it as a strategic signal to Trump, who has threatened retaliatory tariffs. [cnbc.com](#) [+7 more](#)

What China Really Wants Ultimately

China's move is less about a permanent cutoff and more about leveraging its near-monopoly (60-70% of global rare earth mining, 85-90% of refining) to extract concessions in broader negotiations.

Ultimately, Beijing seeks: [politico.com](#) [csis.org](#)

- **Trade Relief:** Reduced or delayed U.S. tariffs (e.g., on EVs, chips, and steel), which Trump has escalated to 60-100% on Chinese imports. China wants "export control dialogue mechanisms" to normalize relations and avoid escalation. [cnn.com](#) [+2 more](#)
- **Tech and IP Protections:** Limits on U.S. restrictions for Chinese firms (e.g., Huawei, SMIC) and access to advanced tech, while protecting its own IP in rare earth processing. [scmp.com](#)
- **Geopolitical Leverage:** To deter U.S. support for Taiwan (e.g., arms sales) and maintain influence in global supply chains, forcing diversification costs onto the West. [chathamhouse.org](#) [rff.org](#)
- **Economic Dominance:** Long-term, China aims to sustain its edge in green tech (e.g., EVs, wind turbines) and defense, using rare earths as "lawfare" to reshape global manufacturing. This aligns with Xi's "dual circulation" strategy—bolstering domestic resilience while pressuring adversaries. [cnbc.com](#) [indianexpress.com](#)

The restrictions are calibrated to disrupt without total cutoff, signaling willingness to negotiate if the U.S. yields on tariffs or chip bans. [rff.org](#) [npr.org](#)

 **Grok - xAI** The
World's Most Powerful AI

Timeline for Western Rare Earth Independence: Is 3-8 Years Accurate?

Yes, the 3-8 year estimate is broadly correct, based on industry forecasts and project timelines. Key

points: [rareearthexchanges.com](#) +2 more

- **Mining and Initial Processing:** Australia (e.g., Lynas Rare Earths) is already producing concentrates but scaling full separation/refining takes 2-4 years for new facilities. Lynas achieved commercial non-Chinese refining in May 2025, but global capacity buildup (e.g., for magnets) lags until 2027-2028. [discoveryalert.com.au](#) +2 more
- **Full Supply Chain (Refining/Factories/Staff):** Europe (e.g., EU's Critical Raw Materials Act) and Australia aim for "capacity-establishing" by 2030, with 2025-2027 focused on pilots and 2028-2033 for mature hubs. Building refineries costs \$500M-\$1B each, plus 1-2 years for permitting and 2-3 for training skilled workers (e.g., chemists, engineers). IEA's 2025 Outlook projects meaningful diversification by 2030, but short-term gaps persist. [rareearthexchanges.com](#) +4 more
- **Implications for Next 3 Years:** China could indeed "hold the throat" of U.S. supply, giving it leverage over Taiwan (e.g., deterring U.S. intervention by threatening defense shortages). However, the U.S. isn't helpless—stockpiles (e.g., DoD's 6-12 month reserves), recycling (covering 10-20% needs), and allies (Australia supplies 10-15%) provide buffers. An invasion would trigger sanctions, but yes, 2025-2028 vulnerabilities could limit U.S. responses. [chathamhouse.org](#) +2 more

Impact on U.S. National Defense: Hindered, But Not Crippled

Rare earths are critical but not voluminous in semiconductors (trace amounts for doping), so chip production faces manageable disruptions (e.g., via alternatives like recycling). Defense is more vulnerable: An F-35 requires ~900 lbs of rare earths (for magnets, electronics, engines); nuclear subs ~9,000 lbs; warships use them for radar, propulsion, and weapons. Shortages could delay F-35 Block 4 upgrades (e.g., sensors, stealth), slow shipbuilding (e.g., Virginia-class subs), and strain maintenance—potentially reducing readiness by 10-20% in 2026-2028. The U.S. is accelerating diversification (e.g., DoD funding \$1B+ for domestic refining), but yes, forward momentum is hindered, forcing stockpiling and diplomacy. [rareearthexchanges.com](#) +7 more

Regarding the 1995 Taiwan Strait Crisis: U.S. carriers (USS Independence, Nimitz) deterred China, which lacked counter-capabilities. Today, China's navy (350+ ships vs. U.S. 290) outnumbered but lags in tonnage/firepower (e.g., no global projection like U.S. carriers). Rare earth curbs could hinder U.S. builds (e.g., delaying 2-3 carriers/subs), but the U.S. can respond by: [theguardian.com](#)

- Accelerating alternatives (e.g., non-REE magnets via R&D).
- Diplomatic pressure/allies (e.g., QUAD for joint procurement).
- Stockpiles and sanctions (e.g., export bans on U.S. tech to China). The trial: U.S. must diversify faster (e.g., via CHIPS Act extensions) and deter via alliances (AUKUS for subs), maintaining superiority despite short-term pain.



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WTO Promises, Media Asymmetry, and "Lost 45 Years"

China's 2001 WTO accession promised market opening (e.g., reduced tariffs, IP protection), non-discrimination, and human rights improvements (linked via U.S. negotiations). However, commitments were unevenly met: Media access remains blocked (Google, Facebook, YouTube censored since 2009–2010), while Chinese outlets (CGTN, TikTok) operate freely in the U.S. Human rights stalled (e.g., no labor reforms), and SOEs distort markets. chrissmith.house.gov +6 more

U.S. presidents weren't "blind"—Clinton/Bush pushed accession for economic gains (e.g., jobs from exports), but underestimated enforcement. To "win back" 45 years: brookings.edu bakerinstitute.org

- **What They Can Do:** WTO disputes (U.S. won 20+ cases), tariffs (Trump's Phase 1 deal), and alliances (CPTPP/IPEF to bypass China).
- **What They Will Do:** Escalate "de-risking" (e.g., friend-shoring), subsidies (\$52B CHIPS Act), and reciprocity (e.g., ban Chinese apps if asymmetry persists). Full recovery? Unlikely—focus on future resilience, not reversal.

Future of Rare Earth Tensions: Negotiation Chip Over Escalation

I expect improvement via negotiation—China's curbs are a "gambit" for leverage, not war (e.g., temporary like 2010 Japan dispute). Trump/Xi talks could yield deals (e.g., eased tariffs for relaxed exports), as both avoid mutual harm. Escalation risk (e.g., 100% tariffs) is 30–40% if talks fail, leading to higher tensions—but economic interdependence favors de-escalation by Q1 2026. rff.org +5 more



Refer to page 12, please.



World Observation

Day 1328
Russia/Ukraine Conflict

Unrestricted Warfare on Rare Earth

APEC started the first meeting in Nov 1989, but after the Financial Tsunami of 2008, its glamour has been replaced by the formation of G20, for APEC only consists of regions around the Pacific Ocean but G20 includes European countries. This year again it becomes the focus of the world because of the Trump-Xi meeting. The tariff war agreed to have a ceasefire for 6 months and will be matured on November 8. Even China agreed to supply rare earth in these 6 months but also needs to have permit and the progress is so slow.

The long arm control of rare earth to all other foreign countries beyond China made Trump in great anger and greatly blamed it immoral and would hurt the whole world. Thus, Trump announced further 100% tariff on the current 30% basis which comes to a total of 130%. Actually, when US had sanction upon China, they can avoid it by using the 3rd, 4th, 5th or some even said up to 10th countries for re-exporting chips. So now US Senate plans for a bill to install GPS system on all chips and if shipped to sanctioned countries will stop function at once. The bill not yet passed, but *de facto* carrying out. This is also the response of China to have long arm sanction. It is easy to install GPS inside the chip, but I wonder how can they install GPS on rare earth?

US can also use the 3rd, 4th or 5th countries for shipping of rare earth. Easy!

In 1995, president Lee Ten Hui of Taiwan visited his alma mater Cornell University (the most beautiful campus in the world), China launched out a missile test in objection. US sent 2 aircraft carrier strike groups including *USS Independence (CV-62)* and *USS Nimitz (CVN-68)* for patrolling and thus

ended the crisis. China could not do anything at that time. Since then, China fully developed their navy and now the total warship number is more than US even though the tonnage and firepower is weaker. US wants to chase up now, but they need rare earth for production. Not only this, China uses little blue men (civil warship) to intrude into South Sea. They are fishery boats in outer appearance, but interior has professional arms as navy and turn up in number of 30-50 and the scale equals to naval warship. US has no civil warship at all and thus need more special warship to face them. Now China take chance to ban the rare earth so as to hinder the naval development of US and surely will have strong effects.

For the manufacturing of semiconductor, they also need rare earth, but the volume of course is so small. The actual effect is not so great, but psychological effect on investor is much greater. If they can affect the production of jet fighter and warship, those stocks concerning national defense will be greatly affected.

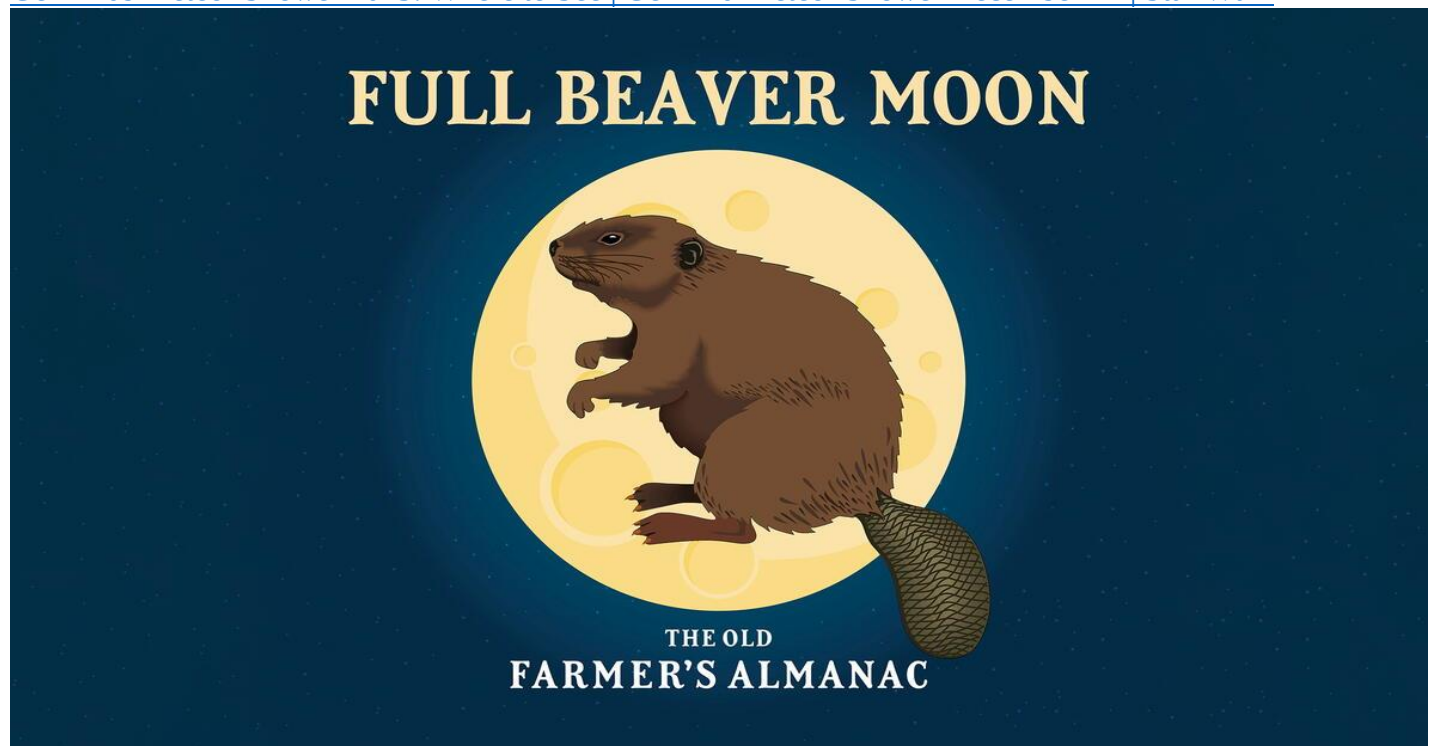
Some people said that this is just a means of negotiation for China to get better terms in tariff war. It is no wrong, but western countries also need 3 to 8 years in order to be fully independent on production of rare earth. This means the next 3 years the sanction of China would have greater effect and then from 3rd to 8th year, the effect will be lowered gradually. The problem lies they will face a hard time for the next 3 years with effective from today.

Anyway, the problem cannot be solved in a single meeting. However, in the current stage of AI, investors better use at least 2 AI platforms for daily consultation and the 3rd for standby purpose. There is no need to change iPhone every year now, the trend has changed to use GPT 5, GPT 5 pro. Grok Expert, Super Grok or Gemini.....upgrading AI platform instead of upgrading iPhone. The situation is changing every day and we must keep in pace.



In 2025, the Geminids' peak will occur on the night of **December 13-14**. Under ideal conditions, you could see up to **150 meteors per hour**.

[Geminids Meteor Shower 2025: Where to See](#) | [Geminid Meteor Shower December 14](#) | [Star Walk](#)



Beaver Moon: Full Supermoon in November 2025 at 8:19am EST.



Market Observation

***God hath not promised,
skies always blue;***

Bitcoin
112461.10

On September 22 of The Express, talking about the curse of September, I not only pointed out this year is the exception, 3 major indexes would not fall as the past, but also broke record highs. The focus is that the hardest thing of analysis is to find out the exception. If you follow the continuous trend of rising and need not to forecast the top, for it is hard to guess the top but easy to follow the trend. So, September is the month of record high and not as the curse said will fall only. But on that day, I quoted the hymn that *God hath not promised, skies always blue.....*

How about October? It is said as Uptober for crypto, but Bitcoin fell from high of \$120,000 to \$112,000, again it's another exception.

Now the long-awaited adjustment came at last. Mind that this is peculiar of US stock market, bull long and bear short. That is the rise in the whole month is in short candlesticks, but the fall of a single day equals to the rise of the whole month. From the S&P chart of page 8, it showed the bottom of April 7 to the top of Oct 10. Don't say tariff war has no effect now, it still can block the top of the market. It has risen for 29 weeks, so if there is a correction of 6-8 weeks, its quite normal. The greatest support should be at 6018 the year-line (250-SMA) and also the Fibonacci series. But practically, it should find its bottom at 6212 of August 1.

Remember the NASDAQ 100 components is a winner's club. All earning stocks and rising stocks will be absorbed as members, and sluggish stocks will be kicked off. By the end of this year, they will renew the members. The 3 major indices are all like this. Don't worry, such a system will make the index rise and the market will follow the index.

How to handle such a scene, I have already said that stocks purchased in the buying period from March to August should be lock up till 2030, the landing of Mars, the completion of Stargate project and also the Pay and Performance scheme of Elon Musk should be half done in 2030.

China chose this specific time to announce sanction obviously is because of the shutdown of US government, hoping they could not function easily in order to get better terms in negotiation. Trump first refused to turn up in the APEC and later said he would still go. Thus, made people afraid that he might insult Xi publicly as that of insulting Zelensky. Maybe or may not be! It is true that the problem could not be solved in a single evening and would carry on for a longer time. So, we should wait for the counter retaliation of China. Now is on the edge of total decoupling of China and US. When US totally banned the parts of Boeing planes, the reserve in China can only last for 3 to 6 months and after that all Boeing planes must be grounded. And if US banned China of using swift code, it will be disastrous not only in the field of finance, but also in international trading. And if US further banned the chips, all mobile and e-car of China will be affected.

Don't worry, it is worse but not worst. November 5 is the beaver moon, the largest full moon of 2025, 7.9% larger and 16% brighter than an average Full Moon. The Geminids will peak on December 14, producing up to 150 meteors per hour. The waning crescent Moon (27% illuminated) won't hinder the view.

We can buy at low of the dip, no matter it is golden pit or short bear market. People always said there would not be 2 golden pits in a year. In April, there is a golden pit, so after that, the market kept on a rising trend for half a year, for even the slightest drop would trigger buying orders to fill the falling potential golden pit.

Is this year an exception?

In the first half of 2025, market is governed by tariff war. Since the Liberation Day, the effect of tariff gradually diminishes. Now what we are facing is not just tariff war, it is the decoupling of US and China. What triggers US to join World War II. It is because US have sanction on Japan and they organized the Pearl Harbor attack of TORA! TORA! TORA! Now US has *de facto* sanction of chips by GPS, and triggered the decoupling of China and US.

Please wide open our eyes and see what will happen!