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Apr 24, 2025 · 18 tweets · [wmhuo168/status/1915409431380070759](https://twitter.com/wmhuo168/status/1915409431380070759)

America isn't rebuilding industry, it's bailing out billionaires and calling it strategy. The Fed prints, Wall Street packages, think tanks cheer. Welcome to Quantitative Industry Easing: fake patriotism for a hollow empire.

<https://www.rand.org/pubs/commentary/2025/04/beyond-tariffs-what-the-us-can-learn-from-chinas-industrial.html?s=09>

RAND just dropped a think piece drooling over China's industrial playbook. But here's the hard truth: the US can't copy it—not because it lacks ideas, but because it's addicted to finance-led grift. 1/17

America doesn't do industrial policy. It does industrial cosplay. A chip fab ribbon-cutting with Taiwanese blueprints, Korean engineers, and 30 years of tax breaks isn't strategy. It's optics. 2/17

Enter Quantitative Industry Easing: Wall Street's wet dream where the Fed prints, BlackRock screens, and JPMorgan underwrites—dressed up as "national security" and "strategic investment." 3/17

Powell floods the market with cheap money. Fink sprinkles ESG dust on defense startups. Dimon packages the debt into "opportunities." And taxpayers foot the bill while being told it's patriotic. 4/17

RAND calls for long-term planning. That's cute. America's long-term plan is flipping IPOs before the next rate hike. This isn't a statecraft economy. It's a hedge fund with nukes. 5/17

Who's executing this "strategy"? Intel, which had to beg Taiwan to bail it out of its chip crisis? GE, the rotting carcass of American engineering now run like a leveraged buyout? 6/17

RAND dreams of R&D spending and automation. But in the US, "R&D" means stock buybacks wrapped in a grant proposal and "automation" means layoffs. 7/17

America's industrial class doesn't build. It arbitrages. It doesn't plan. It extracts. And it sure as hell doesn't compete—it consolidates. 8/17

Meanwhile, China played the long game. State-led capital, national champions, forced tech transfers, and a cultural focus on real industry—not NFTs and vibes. 9/17

Beijing didn't ask Goldman Sachs how to build a semiconductor stack. It told them to get out of the way. That's the difference. 10/17

The Chips Act? A \$50 billion bribe to the same firms that offshored American capacity in the first place. It's corporate repentance by checkbook. 11/17

RAND wants a manufacturing revival. But the US produces narratives, not machines.  
PowerPoints, not power grids. Unicorns, not utilities. 12/17

And when it all goes sideways? The Fed will print. Wall Street will pivot. And workers will be  
told to reskill—in the metaverse. 13/17

This is not policy. It's financial feudalism. A peasant economy for the masses and asset  
inflation for the few. 14/17

There's no "China model" to copy when the empire refuses to admit it's addicted to  
speculative finance and regulatory capture. 15/17

Until America makes real things again with real people for real strategic goals, it's just  
cosplay and collapse on a loop. 16/17

And when it collapses? Jamie, Larry, and Jay will still be there—cashing checks, waving flags,  
and calling it freedom. 17/17

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