

Local Politics Matter

Workers Betrayed

No Surprise Here



On March 8, 2018 the President of the United States signed a proclamation imposing a 25% tariff on steel and a 15% tariff on aluminum. While most of the individuals reporting on this announcement focused on the potential repercussions that could result from this action I was more focused on a statement that president Trump made that did not get a mention. He actually said:

"The workers who poured their souls into building this great nation were betrayed," Trump said.

My jaw literally dropped when I heard this insensitive, misspoken and flat out wrong statement. This statement was made in a room filled predominantly with white males. The

thought of continuing to perpetuate the lie saying that this Country was built on the backs of white males is downright sickening. We are at a real crossroads in this Country when it comes to race relations. We have a President who has moved beyond race baiting to the use of racist rhetoric and more disturbing racist policy positions. You can start with his attempt to ban individuals from Muslim countries then move to his comments after the horror in Charlottesville. From there we can take a look at his immigration policies and the hateful, foul language that he used to describe African Countries. On top of all of this he stands in a room full of white males and tells them that they

have been betrayed. I know that Donald Trump is no scholar or history buff but he must know something about the slave trade and the resultant benefits that were reaped by the United States of America. It is one thing for this Country to continually ignore the horrors of slavery but it is quite another to publicly thank those who come from the bloodlines of slave owners for their heroic efforts to build this nation. Those who are truthful know how this nation was built. They also know that slaves played a major role in the building of this nation. If Trump believes that white steelworkers were betrayed what can be said about the black men, women and children who were forced into slavery and never paid a dime. I always wonder why we can never talk about reparations in this Country. Maybe Trumps speech on tariffs will open the door to this discussion.

Yes, the United States of America is at a crossroads. The demographics of the Country continue to change and men like Donald Trump are ready to stand on the tracks in an attempt to stop this fast moving train. They are willing to do anything and take anyone down who gets in their way. The good news is that Trump and his supporters really aren't scholars or historians so they don't understand that all great empires have their day of reckoning. It doesn't matter how long they resist "The Chickens Always Come Home to Roost".

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