The Daily Dish

Who Does Jensen Huang Work For?

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As readers are doubtless aware, erstwhile Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang is now the newly reinstated Nvidia CEO since the same corporate board that previously "unanimously accepted his resignation and [did] not intend to reinstate Jensen as CEO" got a phone call from President Trump and unanimously re-instated Huang.

So, Huang is back on the job. But who is he working for?

There are still suspicions that the ultimate beneficiary is China's Ministry of State Security, as *The New York Times* reports that Alice Huang "kept in contact with an official of China's top spy agency for more than a year while she was carrying out a secret affair with Jensen Huang, according to multiple people with knowledge of U.S. intelligence reports that describe the encounters." Alice may be out of the picture, but is Chinese influence on the destination of chip sales?

This is complicated by the fact that the president imposed the requirement that Nvidia and AMD pay the federal government either 15 percent or 25 percent of the value of sales to China of certain chips. (Since export taxes are unconstitutional, this was cleverly implemented as a 25 percent tariff on all chips from Taiwan, where Nvidia chips are produced, that are re-exported to China.) So, the Chinese have a stake in sales to China, but so does the president and U.S. Treasury.

Or, maybe it is a simple as Huang works for President Trump. (He certainly doesn't work for the board, a collection of unimpressive invertebrates.) If so, what is his job? Leaking secrets to China? Playing a long con as a double agent pretending to leak secrets to China? Filling out the leather jacket fashion quota? Whatever.

Unfortunately, Jensen Huang's job should be to serve the interests of Nvidia's shareholders. Remember them? The actual owners of the company and those that risked the initial capital investment. The problem is not unique to Jensen Huang. The problem is that in Trump's

bastardized state capitalism, business incentives get polluted by government officials' power plays, diverted by strategic objectives, and undercut by intelligence intrigue.

I have no idea who Jensen Huang works for. Do you?