Common Sense

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The Chinazis Next Door

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The Russians Are Coming! The Russians Are Coming!

This 1966 comedy about the accidental grounding of a Soviet submarine off the coast of New England was nominated for four Academy Awards and captured the Golden Globe Award for best motion picture.

But a remake exclaiming "The Chinese Are Coming!" would be old hat: *They're already here.*

"The People's Republic of China has opened at least three police stations on Canadian soil as part of an alleged attempt by the country's security state to keep an eye on the Chinese-Canadian diaspora," *The National Post* informed last month.

The message to Chinese dissidents is clear: "You're not safe anywhere."

"Canada-based dissidents of the Beijing government have long warned Canadian authorities that they face organized harassment from Chinese authorities," *The Post* added.

A new report by Safeguard Defenders, a Spain-based foundation working for human rights in Asia, reveals there are now 54 of these Chinese "service stations" in 30 countries... including one in New York City.

The organization warns of "China's growing global transnational repression," explaining that in the last



year 230,000 expats were "persuaded to return" to China but "these returns are often obtained by visiting extreme sanctions on the families of those targeted, such as asset seizures and prohibition from seeking government health care or education."

In another recent report noted by *The Globe and Mail*, "the United Nations human-rights office said it found 'patterns of intimidations, threats and reprisals' against Uyghurs and other Chinese nationals living overseas who had spoken out against Beijing."

Just last week, "*El Correo* published direct corroboration from Chinese authorities" of "illegal policing operations" with an anonymous Chinese official telling the Spanish paper, "The bilateral treaties are very cumbersome, and Europe is reluctant to extradite to China. I don't see what is wrong with pressuring criminals to face justice...."

The message to Chinese dissidents is clear: "You're not safe anywhere."

Are we?

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.