Common Sense

Identified Floating Object?

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It's always something.

Last week, it was a Chinese spy balloon floating over Alaska, Canada and then across the continental United States from Montana all the way to South Carolina — repeatedly loitering over strategic military installations — before being downed by a Sidewinder missile fired by a U.S. military jet over the Atlantic.

China claims it was a civilian balloon gathering meteorological data that had accidentally blown off course; the U.S. says its flight path was deliberate and "We know it is a surveillance balloon."*

balloons were "near" U.S. territory, just possibly crossing into our airspace — nothing like last week's cross-country cruise.

With growing controversy about why the Biden Administration allowed a spy balloon to traverse the country, the Pentagon shockingly stated that the Chinese had done this before — once earlier in Biden's term and three times during the Trump Administration.

So just normal stuff, eh?

Well, no. As Byron York <u>sorts out</u> at *The Washington Examiner*, those Chinese spy balloons were "near" U.S. territory, just



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So, just what are the Chinazis up to?

"[The Chinese] want it to be seen," <u>argues</u> Professor Michael Clarke, a defense analyst for Australia's *Sky News*. "They want it to be noticed. My view is that it is all about the Philippines."

Clarke points to the South China Sea where China has been illegally building militarized artificial islands in areas that rightfully belong to the Philippines. Last week, the Philippines agreed on opening four more bases to the U.S. military, sending a strong message that Chinese aggression will be met with force. This was the Chinese government bringing the conflict to people in North America. Us!

While we still lack important information, analysis of the wreckage may allow us to learn more.

On the other hand, don't we already know everything we need to know about the CCP?

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.

^{*} I have nearly zero trust in 'fog of war' U.S. government pronouncements, but less than zero in the great gaslighting Chinazis.