

## Re: Space travel not war

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On Mar 24, 3:35 am, Willie.Moo...@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Not well understood is that the banking and trading systems set up as extensions to the Marshall Plan were designed to enforce a trading regime that was permanently favorable to the United States. It has been known since the beginning that this advantage would be temporary. George Kennan and others who authored these plans to maintain peace in the nuclear age that they would one day fail. So, alternatives would have to be developed. These alternatives include 'direct military action to maintain US superiority' or 'alternatives to the present control regime'.

Unfortunately the United States cannot maintain a disparity of income through trade if it is at war with those it is trading with – so this direct military action angle wasn't well thought out. Also unfortunate, it appears that no alternative to the present control regime has been seriously considered or pursued.

The obvious thing for the U.S. to do is to admit that wide-open international trade leaves American jobs vulnerable to cheap imports, and so dump the WTO and go back to the days when countries set their own tariffs, and only let in the imports that they decide they can afford once they total up what sales they can make in exports.

After all, we can't force other countries to buy our goods, and the only other way to limit how much we import would be to contract the economy, throwing people out of work. This is what we're doing now, and that alternative should be the one that's unthinkable.

John Savard

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