The Threat of China's Secret Police Stations on Our Soil

From Geoffrey Carfield from the <u>Epoch Times</u> This is Canada today.

When you think of a local police station—not the headquarters building but a smaller neighbourhood branch—what comes to mind? Likely a few things: a sense of security that the police are nearby if trouble brews, a place to touch base with law enforcement officers, perhaps a way for police to engage in outreach with residents. Overall, a positive vibe.

What, then, comes to mind when you learn that the People's Republic of China (PRC) has set up a "police station" around the corner from your house? Likely anything but the scenarios just listed.



Chinese paramilitary police march on Tianamen Square in Beijing, in a file photo. Frederic J. Brown/AFP via Getty Images

China denies—of course!—that such places exist. But they do, in several cities across 50 nations worldwide, including at

least five in Canada and four in the United States. It is unclear whether all these stations remain operational. The Canadian government finally began "<u>investigating</u>" them two years ago (who knows how long they had been in operation up until then). The RCMP <u>announced</u> in June 2023 that it had "shut down" these facilities.

And what has been China's official line about these stations, which it initially claimed did not exist? These were merely service centres to help Chinese citizens renew their driver's licences! Simply above-board services to aid fellow communists in need.

The truth, however, is far more insidious. . .

These so-called police stations were, in reality, covert operations engaged in "transnational repression"—a practice aimed at silencing anyone who fails to conform to the PRC's dictates. Tactics include threats to critics' families back home if their activities abroad do not cease.

There is, however, a glimmer of hope. In late December, a Manhattan man <u>pleaded guilty</u> to running a secret Chinese police station in New York used to intimidate and silence critics of the Beijing regime. Chen Jinping admitted to acting as an agent for a foreign government, a crime that could result in a five-year prison sentence. Not a severe punishment, but a start.

As for Canada, its response to Chinese interference remains feeble.

With the Trudeau Liberals facing potential electoral defeat, it remains to be seen how a new government, possibly under Pierre Poilievre, will address this threat. It cannot do less than the current administration, but whether it will do more is uncertain.

The Christmas season is a time for joy, hope, and optimism. Let us dream that Canada will finally "smell the soy sauce" and push back against the actions of Beijing, a communist regime that is undeniably not a friend.

Read it all here