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**Subject:** Kuhn  
**Date:** Tue, 25 Dec 2018 15:11:34 +0000

**Attachments:** 10\_foreigners\_given\_medals\_for\_roles\_in\_reform\_opening-up\_-\_China\_Daily\_-\_12.19.18.docx; 10\_Foreign\_Winners\_of\_China\_Reform\_Friendship\_Medal\_-\_中国改革友  
友奖章获得者像 - Xinhua - 12.19.18.docx

**Inline-Images:** 40th\_Anniversary\_R&O\_-\_Dec.\_18,\_2018\_-\_Great\_Hall\_Announcement.png;  
40th\_Anniversary\_R&O\_-\_Dec.\_18,\_2018\_-\_Great\_Hall\_Medal\_Presentation.png;  
China\_Reform\_Friendship\_Award\_-\_Inside\_Content,\_Xi\_signature.jpeg;  
40th\_Anniversary\_R&O\_-\_Dec.\_18,\_2018\_-\_Xi\_Jinping\_&\_RLK\_11.jpeg;  
40th\_Anniversary\_R&O\_-\_Dec.\_18,\_2018\_-\_Group\_9.jpeg

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Jeffrey - Happy Holidays, wherever you may be.... I just returned from Beijing, in NY through January, so whenever you return, love to meet.

On December 18, I received the China Reform Friendship Medal, said to be China's highest award; it was given by President Xi Jinping and Chinese leaders at the commemoration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of reform and opening up in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. I prepared the following as explanation.

Breakthroughs filming schedule coming together very well - lots of enthusiasm among participants,

All best for 2019.

Warm regards, Robert

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The China Reform Friendship Medal highlights those who have helped China, in diverse areas and ways, throughout the country's historic, four-decade transformation, when China's per capita disposable income increased about 23 times, and roughly 750 million people were brought out of extreme poverty. 100 Chinese and 10 foreigners were honored; five foreigners are living, I am one of two Americans.

I see my receiving the medal as not so much personal but more as expressing China's enhanced appreciation of international communications. In this 'new era' of China's reform and opening up, in this transitional time of China's enhanced engagement with the world, and in this difficult period of US-China relations, China must take international communications seriously - to tell the world the genuine, variegated, complex story of China, but also to understand world ideas and opinions more thoughtfully.

For 30 years I have been learning about China at all levels — from leaders, officials and experts to farmers, migrant workers and students — communicating what I've been witnessing and experiencing in commentaries, interviews, books, essays, articles, TV programs, and documentaries, most recently on China's "targeted poverty alleviation campaign." To all those who have helped me along this remarkable journey, I express my profound appreciation. In the group photo session, President Xi graciously told me that they appreciate what I do and asked that I continue to do so.

Attached are CCTV photos of the event and articles in China Daily and Xinhua (I'm at the end). China Daily - <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/19/WS5c194335a3107d4c3a001816.html>

