



Zanetti Monday Missive 2022.02.21 Tracking a Lion

Renias Mhlongo: “I don’t know where we are going, but I know exactly how to get there.”

~ Boyd Varty, The Lion Tracker’s Guide to Life

The other day, I was trying to distract myself from all of the upsetting news I’ve been reading about lately, so I turned on a “non-financial” podcast. I happened upon an interesting interview with Boyd Varty who runs a wildlife preserve in South Africa.

Without going into the details of the interview, what caught my attention was the approach his lion trackers take. They use all of their senses to read the environment as they enter a state of high alertness. They stay alert, they navigate dangerous terrain, and they reach their destination safely.

As I listened, it dawned on me... that’s what we are, my friends. Lion

Trackers!

Stay with me here...

Here were some of the headlines in the news this week...

- Inflation continues to climb
- The Federal Reserve isn't ready to raise rates just yet
- The Biden administration is convinced Russia is about to attack Ukraine
- Canadian Truckers are getting arrested as they protest their vaccine mandates
- Russian figure skaters traumatically shook up the Winter Olympics
- The S&P, the DJIA, and Nasdaq dropped for another week

Bad news!

And yet, this past week we got several calls from many of you as you happily watched your investments weather the financial storm that is wreaking havoc out there – causing many news outlets consternation.

And so, even though I was trying to distract myself, I kept finding parallels in this interview with what we are doing and why.

We may not be tracking lions in South Africa, but financially speaking, these times seem just as dangerous. And the tools we use are very similar to the lion trackers.

We read our entire environment, and we use all our senses. Yes, we read economic reports coming out of investment banks, but we also read the political section of the newspapers. We keep our ear to the ground, listening to the rumblings in the distance. We use our sense of smell to determine if things smell funny. We use our vision, to look at more than what's in front of us. We lift stones, to see what others don't take the time to see.

And like guides, we share what we sense with you. We make decisions

that we will all benefit from. And we keep everyone's safety in mind.

And, yes, this financial mess that is unfolding in front of us, we've been expecting for quite some time now. We've been calling for it here in these missives.

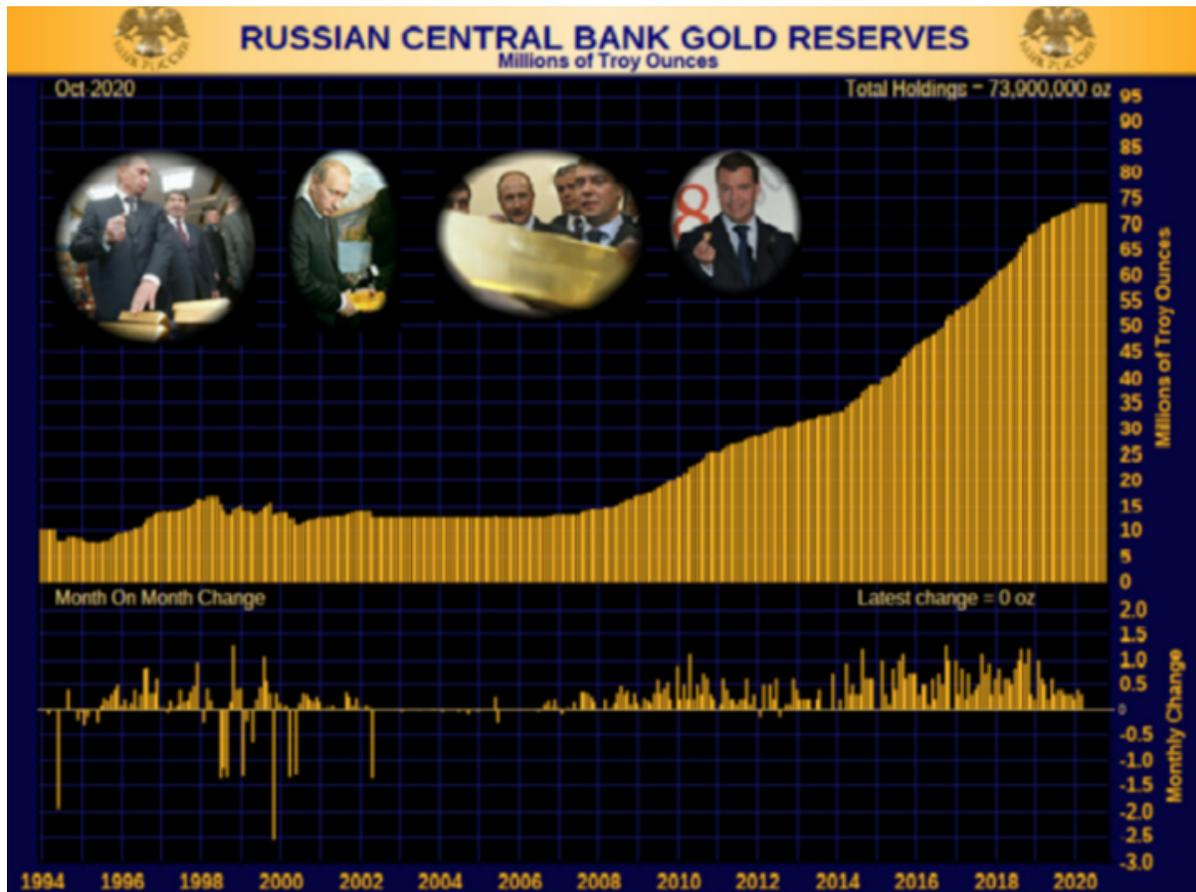
The end result?

The same result the lion trackers get. They navigate what may be precarious terrain for some and find a lion at the end. While some may be scared, we are not. When you know what you're dealing with, and you have the tools to deal with it, it makes it so that it's not quite as scary.

Here's some tactical information for you that I found interesting in the news this past week.

Yes, Russia is potentially about to invade Ukraine. If they don't, our investments are well positioned. If they do, our investments are well positioned.

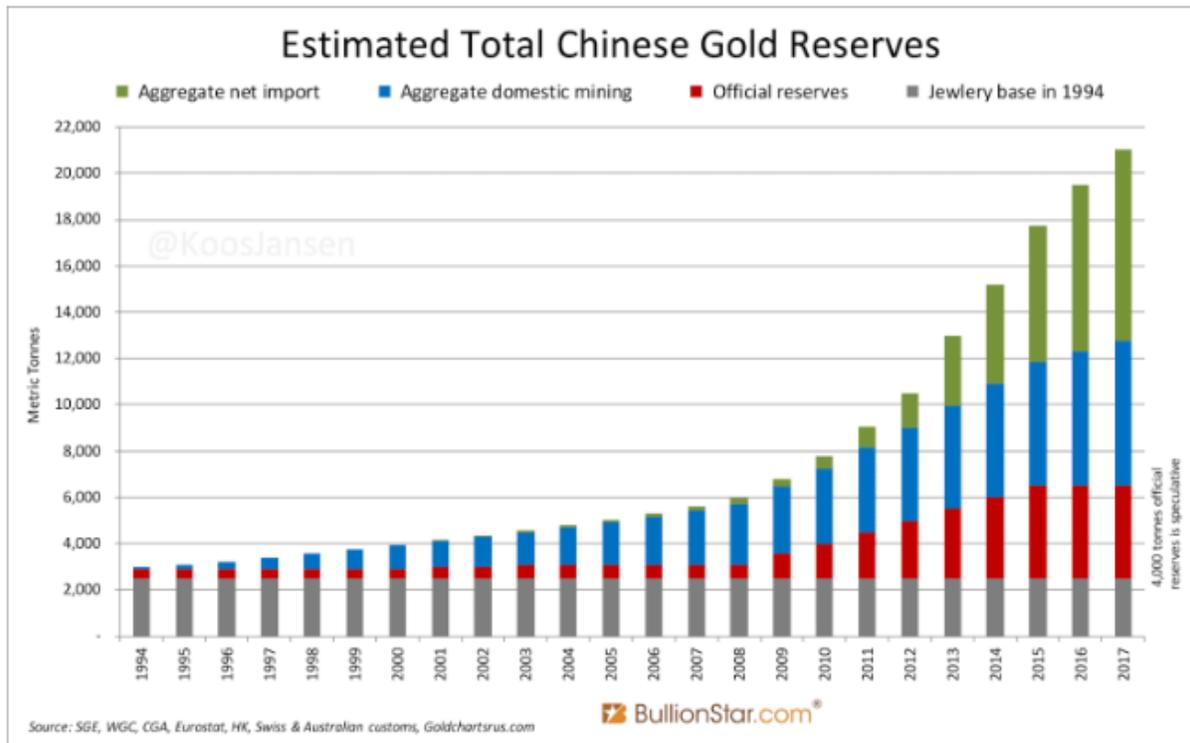
But meanwhile, regardless of whether or not they invade, look at what the Russian Central Bank has been accumulating over the last several years...



That's right... Gold.

And they're not the only one.

While it's difficult to track China on anything (due to the tight control they keep on all information), their central bank gold reserves are no exception. But we can track what they "report" along with what imports and exports are reported, as well as what mine production would be. What we've seen is a ramp up in gold imports and domestic mining over the past several years. And it's massive!



With that in mind, we know we're on the right trail. We are tracking a lion and while we don't know when we'll find it, we know we will.

Signed Your a-Lion-Might-Not-Play-Golf-But-A-Tiger-Wood Financial Advisor,

Walt

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