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 **TODAY'S "QUICK HIT":
TRUMP AND CARRIER:
YOU MISSED MY POINT!**



By Stephen L. Bakke  January 7, 2017

Here's what provoked me:

As usual, slight editing of a letter to editor, and changing the title led to a reader misinterpreting my original message. I responded in an attempt to redirect the discussion.

Here's my response:

Trump and Carrier: You Missed My Point!

Thanks to Barbara Kozma for her critical reaction to my letter that had been published on 1/5. Debate brings clarity and that's a good thing! Her letter ("Pence, Trump and Carrier," 1/7) makes these main objections: I am a Trump apologist; and, Trump doesn't deserve credit for the Carrier deal, which was a "swindle" anyway.

Let me clarify some important points: Anyone reading all I have said and written about Trump in the last year would not label me a Trump apologist; I did give credit to Trump for being instrumental in bringing the parties together to finalize the Carrier deal – perhaps too much credit, but I don't think so; I stated clearly that this was SYMBOLIC and NOT the way he should get things done when President; and finally, I contrasted this minor "dance" with Carrier with Obama's clumsy and harmful meddling in the Chrysler bankruptcy negotiations. Obama's "sharp elbows" had attempted to negate decades of precedence in the enforceability of loan contracts.

Let me advise the readers that my unedited title dealt with sharp elbows vs. the "Art of the Deal." And my conclusion was that I prefer "the art of the deal" – i.e. effective negotiating techniques.