CBS Mornings
11/18/26
7:00:21 a.m. [TEASE]
11 seconds

VLADIMIR DUTHIERS: And President Trump is in China for a very big summit. Tony Dokoupil is there, too, with some original reporting. He'll preview the meeting and show us how China is racing ahead with new technology.

(....)

7:02:39 a.m. [TEASE]
19 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Trump in China]

GAYLE KING: We're going to start with this because it is a very, very busy Wednesday. President Trump is in China, as you know, for an economic summit, but the main event is a meeting with two of America's rivals. *CBS Evening News* anchor Tony Dokoupil is there. We're going to check in with him a little bit later. He's going to take a look at the stakes of the summit and China's very impressive tech advances.

(....)

7:11:01 a.m.
1 minute and 5 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking Overnight; Trump in China Ahead of Historic Xi & Putin Talks]

TONY DOKOUPIL: Tomorrow he will meet with both men who are often accused of trying to damage America. *CBS Evening News* anchor — that's Tony Dokoupil — is there. He's got a look at what's at stake. Tony, good morning. What can you tell us today?

TONY DOKOUPIL: Hey, good morning, Gayle, which is already good evening here in Shenzhen, a city preparing to welcome world leaders representing about half of the global economy, and that alone is a milestone for this place which, in the words of the Chinese President Xi Jinping, was a "small, backward fishing village" just a few decades ago. Now? It's got more skyscrapers than New York City and enough innovation to give Silicon Valley a real scare. We are, of course, anticipating that historic first, a meeting between Xi, Vladimir Putin and PresidentTtrump, but we are also following the race for new technologies here, which Xi calls the main battlefield between his country and our own. Shenzhen is a city of drone deliveries, robot taxis, and electronic vehicles that are basically your smartphone on wheels, and China sees it all as a shining example of the future with China, of course, in a defining role. But the rest of the world does not always agree with that, and that's what this gathering is all about.

(....)

8:00:11 a.m. [TEASE]
9 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Superpower Summit]

GAYLE KING: President Trump is in China for an economic summit and a controversial meeting with Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin. Tony Dokoupil is covering it all. We'll check in with him.

(....)

8:01:56 a.m.
4 minutes and 49 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking Overnight; Trump in China Ahead of Historic Xi & Putin Talks]

DOKOUPIL: Witness the wonder. That's the slogan of this year's summit. It's on signs all over the city as China tries to tell the world that its rise as a dominant force in technology is nothing to worry about, but the world is not so sure, which is why, in addition to nuclear weapons and the war in Iran, a big topic of discussion here is AI and the American-made Nvidia chips that power so much of it. Earlier today, we saw some of the humanoid robots already available for sale here, and we spoke with an executive from one of the biggest robotics companies in China who outright acknowledged the brains of these robots would be a lot better if they had those chips. They do not, because the U.S. banned sales to China on national security grounds, and after Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang resigned in recent days following that alleged affair with a suspected Chinese spy, well, that ban seems politically stronger than ever. In fact, Eurasia Group president Ian Bremmer thinks President Trump has very little room to bargain on. [TO BREMMER] Do you think the President would unlock more Nvidia chips for China in exchange for help on Ukraine or help on Iran?

IAN BREMMER: I think it's going to be very hard, knowing what we now know with these investigations coming out, with people inside the Trump administration very concerned about it for Trump to be flexible on export controls. I think it's going to move in the other direction.

DOKOUPIL: And, of course, no matter what happens here, Chinese entrepreneurs are moving forward, already working towards a world when a robot to be in every home. And our Anna Coren recently got a look inside China's robot revolution. She joins me now. Anna, good morning.

ANNA COREN: Good morning, Tony. Yeah, look, when we arrived at this training center in Wuhan, we were greeted by dancing and singing robots, but what we found most interesting were the humans training the humanoids. A computer science graduate in Wuhan, China, patiently

puts cutlery and chopsticks into a container, a tedious job he will do over and over again. But this is all about collecting valuable data using motion sensors, cameras, and AI to help train what some believe will ultimately replace us: humanoid robots.

ELON MUSK: Ten years from now, I would say there are well over a billion humanoid robots. [SCREEN WIPE] And the productivity per robot will be probably five times that of a human.

COREN: But here in China, their aim is to help humans rather than replace them. Professor Jiyin Ciao runs the Hubei Humanoid Robotics Innovation Center, where over 100 graduates train humanoids. [TO YINATO] What are you training these robots to do? "Our main goal is for these robots to serve humans in household and industrial settings," he tells me. "We're training them to integrate better into human life." And China is under enormous pressure to make this happen. The country is facing an aging and shrinking population, a demographic change that's one of the fastest in the world. There is an urgency to get these humanoid robots into labor-intensive industries, but this training all takes time. [TO ROBOTICS ENGINEER] And how many times do you need to do this? "We need to run this hundreds or thousands of times. We've only completed 500 iterations so far," he says. While it's questionable as to when these humanoid robots will be in our homes doing these types of menial tasks, China is working at breakneck speed and scale to make this a reality. Whether it's pouring water, stacking dishes, making beds, or folding clothes, every single motion needs to be captured and perfected, as witnessed by visiting students and tourists. [TO WESTERN TOURIST] Could you see one of these in your home?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE WESTERN TOURIST: My home? Not sure. But in the local supermarket, yes.

COREN: Some experts believe it will take tens of millions of hours of data before humanoids reach their breakthrough moment, which could be years away. Now, China produces more than a million computer science graduates every single year. Compare that to the U.S., which has, on average, about 130,000. Now, this is a concerted effort by the Chinese government to make AI and technology a national priority. And Tony, I think what really struck me the most were the number of female graduates that were there. More and more women are wanting to get into AI and have a future career.

DOKOUPIL: It's an amazing piece. You know, Anna, many young Americans are not excited about a robot future. Are they excited here in China?

COREN: Yeah, they are. You know, I asked them whether they're concerned about being replaced, or at least their jobs being replaced by robots, and it was a definitive no. You know, they are there to help us. They are there to make our lives easier. And as I said, China, as much of Asia, is facing an aging and shrinking population, so they need that industrial, you know, resource to — to boost up the economy.

DOKOUPIL: We'll keep track of it, Anna. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.