

## EIR Daily Alert Service

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## EDITORIAL

### **Warning: Military Coup Threat against President Trump Rose with New War Plans against Russia and China**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—Former Virginia State Senator, Col. Richard Black (USA, ret.) has delivered an explicit warning in presentations over the Internet Sept. 5 and again Sept. 12, that senior U.S. military officers are considering a military coup against President Donald Trump because he opposes American wars and has pushed withdrawals from them. Colonel Black was backed up, on webcasts of the LaRouche movement, by former

NSA experts Bill Binney and Kirk Wiebe opposing a cover-up of the events surrounding the 9/11 attacks. Black denounced the indications he sees of coup planning. He cited known conversations between then-Secretary of Defense Gen. James Mattis and then-DNI Daniel Coats in which Mattis told Coats the time would come for them to “take collective action” against Trump; a blatant call for a military coup in an open letter to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley by retired Colonels John Nagl and Paul Yingling on the website Defense One; the open refusal of generals around Defense Secretary Mark Esper to carry out Trump’s directives to withdraw troops overseas, or keep order in American cities; retired senior officers violating the Uniform Code of Military Justice in their public remarks about the President; and an article rehearsing a military coup in outrageous detail in an Australian-British blog, *The Conversation*.

Investigation reveals that the British blog published one detailed planning document for a military coup against Trump, in September 2017, by a professor at the known British intelligence center, the University of St. Andrews; but that writer cited two other such pieces in “[Thinking the Unthinkable: Could There Be a Military Coup in the U.S.?](#)”

One of those excites additional suspicion: It was published in *Foreign Policy* on Jan. 30, 2017, just 10 days after Trump’s inauguration, by Georgetown Law Prof. Rosa Brooks, a former Pentagon aide to Michèle Flournoy, former Bush State Department advisor 1999-2000, and suggested Trump’s removal by a military coup. Today, Professor Brooks is also co-founder and head of the so-called [Transition Integrity Project](#), which in June 2020 just ran a “war game of the 2020 election” of a “bipartisan group of over 100 current and former senior government and campaign leaders and other experts” participating. Under Brooks’ direction, that war game found that *any outcome other than a landslide victory for Joe Biden would throw America into chaos*.

Shortly after same fall 2017 in which the British blog published its detailed plan of events of a coup against Trump, in winter 2017-2018 the Pentagon started issuing new national defense strategy documents which

made Russia and China major strategic adversaries of the United States—clearly at odds with the President’s own repeated statement that “good relations with Russia and China are a good thing.” While President Donald Trump has stated this again as recently as his Michigan rally last week, Pentagon strategy documents and top generals have become virulent nuclear power confrontationists, and not only in documents—they are carrying out war practices all around Russia and China. In this Fall of 2020, American and NATO aircraft are staging repeated air exercises that come within a few miles of Russia’s northwestern and southwestern borders, *conducting acquisitions and mock attacks on sites and targets inside Russia.* ([National Security Strategy 2017](#), December 18, 2017: “[Summary of the 2018 National Defense Strategy of the United States of America: Sharpening the American Military’s Competitive Edge](#),” January 19, 2018:)

There is no indication from President Trump’s public statements or policies that he approves the conduct of constant surveillance and air war games over the borders of Russia, for example. Are we reliving JFK’s 1962, when the top Pentagon brass kept demanding to attack and invade Cuba even while President John Kennedy was achieving the removal of Soviet nuclear missiles from that country? Kennedy’s moderation, in the eyes of the warhawks planning wars from Cuba to Vietnam, probably had him removed by assassination a year later.

The long attempt to oust President Trump by some form of coup—including a possibly “uncallable” 2020 election—could now be taking the shape of a military coup in order to launch a war or wars of incalculable consequences for the American population and the world.

The British “Conversation” blog said, “the plotters of an American military coup would need to deny them information on what’s happening, and just as importantly to deny any would-be loyalists the time or ability to act.”

Now is all our time to act. “I think the most important thing we can do right now,” Colonel Black said Sept. 12, “is to shine the spotlight on what is going on in the Pentagon, how absolutely poisonous the atmosphere has

become.... I think it comes down to organizations like this, publications like this, that publicize and get the word out early enough.... It is very, very important that this talk about the potential for a military coup, spread across the country. If it does, I think it throws a steel rod in the turning wheels of the Pentagon, and I think it will block a coup, if one is seriously being contemplated, as I suspect it is.”

## STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

### ***Global Times* Chief Editor Explains How China Must Fight ‘Just Wars’ It Can Win Militarily**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—A *Global Times* Observer op-ed by Editor-in-Chief Hu Xijin on Sept. 11 set out detailed conditions under which China could fight a war—combining the requirement of a “just war” with the extent of military preparedness that would allow China to win the victory. It was entitled, “[China Must Be Militarily and Morally Ready for a Potential War.](#)”

Though the Chinese people do not want war, Hu wrote, he warned that China faces “territorial disputes with several neighboring countries instigated by the U.S.... Oftentimes, the less we want war, the more ... Chinese society must therefore have real courage to engage calmly in a war that aims to protect core interests.” China’s strength can be transformed into a “strategic deterrence against all kinds of provocateurs.” If the outside world sees this, it could help China avoid a war, Hu says. “This is particularly true for China, because China is not the strongest power in the world. The U.S. is suppressing China. If we win on the battlefield at the expense of our international morality, we might mistakenly help the U.S. build an anti-China alliance that challenges our strategic position even more.”

Speaking of a war in the region, Hu wrote: “The key is really morality. China is a rising power that has been ideologically rejected by the US and the West. The countries that have territorial disputes with China also sympathize with each other. If China does decide to go to war with a

neighboring force, the international community will tend to favor the weaker side. ... Besides, the US will fully turn its public opinion machine against China. Therefore, we should not underestimate the complexity of a war.

“Before engaging in war with a neighboring force, China needs to do the following:”

- 1) Make it clear that it is the other side that broke the *status quo*;
- 2) Show the other side is the provocateur in a complex situation;
- 3) The international community must see that China worked hard diplomatically and politically to resolve the issue before resorting to war;
- 4) The international community must see the other side, not China, fired the first shot.

5) “...only in extreme situations, if we need to fire the first shot, we must deliver an ultimatum in advance so that a just war can be started in an upright manner.”

“During China’s rise, we need to keep a low profile, be patient, and bear all the complexities.” When dealing with small forces, Hu wrote, “we also need to win the war of opinion in addition to being decent. In terms of external conflict, one of our big problems is that we’re speaking too little and too slowly.... China must be a country that dares to fight. And this should be based on both strength and morality.... In this way, whether China is engaged in a war or not, it will win the respect of the world. One day, we will show our natural dignity and power without flexing muscles, and we will win without fighting a war,” Hu concluded.

## U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

### ***The Hill* 9/11 Column on ‘ThinThread’ Is Not a Coincidence**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—Patrick Eddington of the Cato Institute had an op-ed in *The Hill* on Sept. 11 which used FOIA releases he has obtained from the NSA to show the conscious suppression of the ThinThread electronic

counterintelligence program by the NSA's officials led by Michael Hayden (then NSA director) both before and after the 9/11 attacks. Eddington, a former CIA military imagery analyst, has worked with the authors of ThinThread—whistleblowers since Oct. 31, 2001—including former NSA Technical Director William Binney and Kirk Wiebe, who describe him as a reliable source. *The Hill's* running the op-ed just as Binney and Wiebe were appearing with Col. Richard Black on LaRouchePAC's landmark military coup warning webcast, indicates the widening impact of the national alarm set off by LaRouchePAC and those national security experts.

It is unexplained why the op-ed, "[State Sanctioned Secrecy: NSA's Criminality Shield](#)," does not name Binney or Wiebe, nor their collaborator Thomas Drake; this may have been an editorial decision by the publication. Eddington writes: "Enacted at the height of the Cold War, the NSA Act gives the agency radically sweeping powers to withhold any information from public disclosure. Specifically, Section 6 of the Act states '...nothing in this Act or any other law...shall be construed to require the disclosure of the organization or any function of the National Security Agency, or any information with respect to the activities thereof, or of the names, titles, salaries, or number of the persons employed by such agency.' ... NSA has used that blanket authority to try to keep secret details about its lethal 9/11 intelligence failure." But he adds that his more than three-year FOIA campaign has "partially punctured NSA's veil of secrecy over the cancelled Trailblazer and ThinThread digital network exploitation (DNE) programs."

Eddington characterized ThinThread as a "cheap, extremely effective, and Constitutionally compliant in-house DNE system." He says that Hayden broke the law by misusing for other purposes funds which the House Intelligence Committee had specifically appropriated for ThinThread, and completely cancelled the development three weeks before 9/11, "even though ThinThread, still in prototype development, was already producing intelligence NSA couldn't get from any of its other existing systems...."

“Hayden would squander at least \$696 million on Trailblazer between October 2001 and September 2005; the money produced exactly one failed prototype DNE system.”

“The former ThinThread team members believe to this day,” Eddington wrote, “that had their system been deployed even a few weeks before the 9/11 attacks, bin Laden’s hijackers would never have made it onto a single plane. I agree.”

### **Did Pompeo Give Branstad the Boot?**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—U.S. Ambassador to China Terry Branstad announced today that he was leaving his post “in early October.” The embassy statement indicates that he had informed President Donald Trump of his decision last week. The Chinese Foreign Ministry, however, first learned of his decision through a tweet from Mike Pompeo issued at 12:47 a.m. this morning on the day Branstad announced his resignation, in which Pompeo stated, “I thank Ambassador Terry Branstad for his more than three years of service to the American people as U.S. Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China.”

The resignation follows a major incident earlier this month, in which Branstad (perhaps under pressure from Pompeo) had to write a letter to *People’s Daily* that listed all U.S. gripes with China, including the bogus arguments used to bolster the gripes. Aside from the fact that expressing such U.S. concerns, whatever they may be, would generally be done in private conversations by the ambassador, *not* in the media, it was also out of character for Ambassador Branstad, who generally exhibited a favorable attitude toward China. In fact, the U.S. Embassy contacted *People’s Daily* on Aug. 26 and demanded that Branstad’s op-ed be published by Sept. 4 and in full, an outrageous ultimatum which bore no fruit. No reason was given for Branstad’s resignation in the statement issued by the Embassy.

### **Transition Integrity Project: Final Fallback Before Military Coup**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—In so many ways, the coup against President Donald Trump has been ongoing since before he got elected, only intensifying with

every failure. So it is with the Transition Integrity Project (TIP), the final stop before the military are mobilized, or the assassins.

On Jan. 30, 2017, then Georgetown University Law professor (with strong ties to the Pentagon), Rosa Brooks, wrote her column in *Foreign Policy*, “3 Ways To Get Rid of President Trump Before 2020.” Perhaps not (yet) willing to go as far as British, and raise the issue of actual assassination, Brooks eventually—after examining and dismissing impeachment (either by Congress or the 25th Amendment) as being too slow—comes around to the “unthinkable” idea of—a military coup.

“The fourth possibility is one that until recently I would have said was unthinkable in the United States of America: a military coup, or at least a refusal by military leaders to obey certain orders.” Although posited in the negative—as officers refusing to follow the Commander-in-Chief’s orders—the issue was now on the table, by an American journalist, a military coup against a duly-elected President. In January of 2017.

Not surprising, then, to find that this Soros-trained, State Department advisor (1999-2000), and former Counselor to Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Michèle Flournoy (2009-2011), co-founded with Nils Gilman the delphically-named Transition Integrity Project (TIP), whose July 2020 report “war gamed” post-election chaos under any condition short of a Biden landslide in November (“[Preventing a Disrupted Presidential Election and Transition](#),” Aug. 3, 2020). A July 26 article in the *Boston Globe* describes how “Brooks got the seed of the idea for the Transition Integrity Project after a dinner where a federal judge and a corporate lawyer each told her they were convinced the military or the Secret Service would have to escort Trump out of office if he lost the election and would not concede.”

Brooks partnered with “historian” Nils Gilman, who leads research at the Berggruen Institute, a new-age “think and action tank” on the West Coast and deputy editor of its publication, *Noema*. While TIP, officially headed by Zoe Hudson, has no website—and therefore no official record of who was involved in the “game”—the *Globe* article described “a slate of

players including a former swing state governor, a former White House chief of staff, and a former head of the Department of Homeland Security” all taking part in the project. While stating that the “game” was played under “the so-called Chatham House Rules—in which participants can discuss what was said, but not who was there; some participants were willing to be named,” including Bill Kristol (who reportedly played Trump), former (2008 and 2016) head of the Democratic National Convention Committee Leah Daughtry, former White House ethics czar Norm Eisen, and progressive Democratic strategist Adam Jentleson.

In a Sept. 7 article in the liberal *Nation* magazine, author Sasha Abramsky turns the situation around, 180 degrees. Under its title, “Is Trump Planning a Coup d’État?” she seeks to paint Trump as the bad guy. Not too eager to name Democrats, she reveals others involved (descriptions by author) including:

Republicans:

Charles Fried, Harvard professor and former Ronald Reagan’s solicitor general

Michael Steele, a former chair of the Republican National Committee

Tom Coleman, a former Republican representative for the Sixth Congressional District of Missouri and now a member of the National Task Force on Election Crises

Trevor Potter, ex-chairman of the Federal Election Commission and currently president of the nonpartisan Campaign Legal Center

Lawrence Wilkerson, a retired Army colonel and prominent critic of both U.S. foreign policy and Donald Trump [former chief of staff of Colin Powell, as both National Security Advisor and Secretary of State—ed.]

Democrats:

Jennifer Granholm, former Michigan governor, and Democratic operative Donna Brazile.

As Wilkerson admitted to the *Boston Globe*, “The Constitution really has been a workable document in many respects because we have had people who more or less adhered to a code of conduct. That seems to no longer to be the case. That changes everything.”

## SCIENCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

### **NASA Plans for Nuclear To Power Human Exploration Missions on the Moon and Mars**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—According to *SpaceNews* Sept. 2, NASA and the Department of Energy are requesting proposals from industry to develop “a compact nuclear power system that can support the agency’s long-term lunar and Martian exploration plans.” NASA is seeking development of a 10 kW fission power system that could be placed on the Moon as soon as 2027, comparable to plans for production of small modular nuclear reactors of 50-70 MW for economic development on Earth. The purpose is power for long-term lunar surface activities, especially during the two-week night which rules out solar panels. An Aug. 20 statement from DOE said 10 kW “will be enough to power a portion of the infrastructure and equipment needed by astronauts on the lunar surface.”

General Atomics Electromagnetic Systems reported Sept. 9: “General Atomics Electromagnetic Systems (GA-EMS) announced today that it has delivered a design concept of a Nuclear Thermal Propulsion (NTP) reactor to power future astronaut missions to Mars for a NASA-funded study. The study, managed by Analytical Mechanics Associates (AMA), explored a design space defined by key performance parameters as well as figures of merit. The GA-EMS design exceeded the key performance parameters and optimized the NTP reactor for manufacturability, the highest ranked figure of merit.”

Forget any and all of these NASA plans and projects if Joe Biden becomes President.

## **Successful COVID-19 Testing in U.S. Reaches a Landmark**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—The United States has been driving down the positivity rate of COVID-19 testing for two months now, from its peak of around 8.5%. As of this past weekend, the seven-day running average has passed below the significant 5.0% level, sitting at 4.8%. This reflects both the tamping down of the spread and a measure indicating that the testing is more successful at finding the virus that is circulating in the population. Otherwise, average new cases last week dropped from 42,000/day to 34,000/day.

## **NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER**

### **Putin Extends \$1.5 Billion Loan To Defuse Belarus Crisis, during Meeting with Lukashenko in Sochi**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—Russian President Vladimir Putin met with Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenko in Sochi, Russia, today, and agreed that Russia would provide a state credit of \$1.5 billion to financially-besieged Belarus, TASS reported. This can help diffuse a “color revolution” scenario back in Belarus which Western press are feverishly portraying. Putin stated that “We have agreed that Russia will provide a state credit [amounting to] \$1.5 billion to Belarus in this challenging situation, and we will do it,” he said, adding that both countries’ finance ministers were “addressing that issue at the professional level... I hope this will have an effect on the financial markets in a proper manner,” TASS quoted Putin.

The Russian President also suggested to President Lukashenko that efforts should be made to restore trade, which had declined, due to the pandemic: “We now have the opportunity to talk about everything in a calm manner, but first of all, we should discuss economic issues,” Putin said, noting that trade between Russia and Belarus had fallen by more than 21%, which Putin called “a significant decline.” He emphasized, “We will fight the coronavirus together, and I am sure we will overcome the current difficulties facing the economy.”

Lukashenko had said at the end of August that Belarus would negotiate refinancing of the republic's debt of \$1 billion with Russia. Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov later said that the terms and amount of the credit were discussed at the level of financial bodies. Belarusian Finance Minister Yuri Seliverstov said that Belarus is to repay a total of around \$3.6 billion of foreign exchange debt this year, of which \$2 billion has already been paid.

### **'U.S.-China Relations on Slippery Slope'**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—*China Daily* Sept. 14 ran a commentary by [William Jones](#) on U.S.-China relations, debunking U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo for falsifying both the past origin, and the current state of those relations. The op-ed maintains that although relations are now worse than ever before, the urgent need for a new world monetary and credit system could lead back from that through a process of Permanent Five and other summits.

### **Early Returns Make United Russia Party Big Winner in Election**

Sept. 14 (EIRNS)—Russia's regional elections on Sunday, Sept. 13, appear to be a major victory for the United Russia, the party most allied with Putin. (Putin ran as an independent in 2018, but had run as United Russia in 2012.) Voters were electing governors, regional legislatures, and city councils in 83 of their 85 regions. As polls closed, all of United Russia's candidates for governorships of the various regions led by large margins, based upon exit polls showing 58-85% results. Also, it appears that they will also win majorities in every one of the regional legislatures. *Izvestia* summed up with an analysis from Valery Fedorov, Director General of the All-Russia Public Opinion Research Center: "It is the ruling party that represents support for the president and the government. Vladimir Putin and Mikhail Mishustin enjoy rather high approval ratings and by voting for United Russia, people show their support for the president and the prime minister." Official results are to be announced later today.

Three leaders of Alexei Navalny's Anti-Corruption Foundation in Novosibirsk and Tomsk—the two cities in Siberia that the foundation

concentrated upon—appear to have been elected to the local city councils. United Russia appears to hold a slim majority in Novosibirsk city council, but in the university town of Tomsk, they hold only 11 out of the 37 seats, with the others distributed amongst the various parties.

First Deputy Interior Minister Alexander Gorovoy told the Central Election Commission on Sept. 13, “As of now, no public order violations capable of impacting the voting in the country have been registered.” There were 55,000 election officials, along with over 150,000 observers of the election, including the Civic Union and various political parties. The “independent” Golos website reported that they received 1,076 calls about election irregularities. The police reported that most of the calls were fraudulent. The Central Election Commission reported that there were fewer irregularities this year than other years, that they were minor, and that most all were corrected on the spot. It was asserted that none came close to affecting the results of any races. The head of the Commission, Ella Pamfilova, said, “The elections went smoothly. They were clean and decent in general.”

- Watch the [\*\*Morning Briefing with Harley Schlanger\*\*](#) on Tuesday, September 15: Every weekday morning Harley will brief you on what you need to know to start your day. Subscribe to the LaRouchePAC YouTube channel and hit the notifications button to be notified when Harley’s briefings are posted. Or you can listen to the audio file on [SoundCloud](#).