

## EIR Daily Alert Service

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## EDITORIAL

### **Wall Street's 'Recovery' Depends on a Vaccine? Recovery Depends on LaRouche's New Bretton Woods**

May 18 (EIRNS)—Clearly worried about a sustained financial crash, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell has given two major interviews in five days and will testify before the Senate tomorrow, all to say the Treasury and Congress' \$3 trillion-plus "relief" is not enough for a "recovery." The United States, Powell told the CBS News program "60 Minutes," is going into as much as a 30% collapse in GDP and 25% unemployment through the second quarter. It will not recover, he says, until the end of 2021 and not without trillions more fiscal borrowing and spending—and, not without a vaccine.

Powell knows that the coronavirus is imploding an immense “everything bubble” with corporate debt at the center: The Fed’s new Financial Stability Report 2020 anxiously says as much.

There is a deflationary collapse in demand; Powell and Wall Street are waiting for a vaccine, please, to restore it, because they have no idea of “creating” demand with credit for real physical-economic expansion or great infrastructure projects. So they keep urging Congress to give money to people, states, cities, hospitals—above everything else, to financial markets—while the economy plunges. What Wall Street and the City of London are really looking for is a new bubble, the great “Green Finance” bubble, directed by Larry Fink’s BlackRock which is directing the bailout schemes of both the United States and the European Union.

The real demand is there, and extremely urgent.

The President of Ghana on April 26 committed his country to building 88 community and regional hospitals in districts where they don’t exist starting this year, and to begin building regional hospitals in the 6 new regions that have none, to save lives from the pandemic now spreading into the developing countries. Virtually every one of them needs the like. How can Ghana and the underdeveloped world do this? Only if the leading technological powers agree to launch an international credit system designed to fund capital goods exports, and economic infrastructure, in developing countries. Tens of thousands of new hospitals are needed. Many, many millions in new productive employment is waiting—or else, millions of unnecessary deaths of COVID-19.

The Energy Ministry of South Africa asked to know where it could import a dozen small and/or modular nuclear reactors to meet its deep power deficit. It is urgent in all developing countries to fill a huge power gap to run new hospitals, and homes. More than 1 billion people in the world have no electricity access. How can that access be provided, including commercializing small modular reactors, in the midst of a pandemic and to save lives from that pandemic? By the leaders of at least

the United States, China, Russia, India meeting now to restore a credit system like FDR's Bretton Woods system.

The UN World Food Program is warning that if the loss of jobs, income and food production underway worldwide is not reversed by emergency actions, as many human beings could die of hunger per day, as have died in the entire pandemic until now. How can that be done, without a new order of self-sufficiency in food for nations, and incentives to farmers to grow all the food they can?

A New Bretton Woods, actually designed to embrace rapid industrial and agricultural development in the Global South, was designed by the late Lyndon LaRouche, who proposed it with great projects of development for decades. Now it must be created, and Helga Zepp-LaRouche has issued calls for at least the four leading powers to summit and launch it. She has commissioned an Apollo Project for a [world health system](#); and a worldwide petition for it.

Take any other approach to “recovery” than this lifeline for the entire planet, based on great-power cooperation, and Wall Street will control it and turn it into a “Green Finance” bubble.

Join the petition; demand the New Bretton Woods foreseen by LaRouche.

## U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

### Is Mike Pompeo ‘Anonymous’? The Case for Why He Might As Well Be

May 18 (EIRNS)—Although moments in the coup against President Donald Trump often fade, one into the next, few can forget the outrageous “Anonymous” post in the *New York Times* on Sept. 5, 2018. “Anonymous” claimed to be a prominent official in the Trump Administration, working with the Resistance to save the country from the President. While the shoe might not fit perfectly, [Max Blumenthal](#), in an explosive article at the Grayzone on May 14, lays bare why Pompeo may as well be that traitor.

Blumenthal details the spying operation conducted at the Ecuadorean Embassy in London against Julian Assange. Assange had been granted asylum there by President Rafael Correa of Ecuador.

Blumenthal lays the entire ugly spying operation on Pompeo's doorstep. By Blumenthal's completely documented account, Mike Pompeo's CIA recruited the security firm hired for the Embassy, UC Global, using Sheldon Adelson's Sands Hotel private security force as a cutout to spy on everything Assange did and everyone who visited him.

Blumenthal does not address the British side of the story, although such an operation could not be run without having explicit British permission and involvement.

The exposé sheds big light on why Pompeo covered up what former NSA Technical Director Bill Binney had told him on Oct. 24, 2017. President Donald Trump had asked Pompeo to meet with Binney, who had demonstrated, with actual forensics, that the purloined Democratic National Committee documents which WikiLeaks published were not the result of a Russian hack over the internet but were, instead, consistent with an internal leak. The "Russians hacked the DNC" hoax is the foundation for the entire Russiagate operation run against the Trump Presidency.

Mike Pompeo, unbeknownst to Donald Trump, was, at the time of the Binney meeting, fully engaged in perpetuating the Russia election interference hoax as head of the CIA, an operation which includes the elimination of one of the few people capable of actually saying what happened, WikiLeaks' Julian Assange. Blumenthal's account makes clear that plans floated in this escapade included poisoning or kidnapping Assange. Right now, Assange is sitting in London's notorious Belmarsh prison, under U.S. indictment for espionage. In the lovely language of our intelligence community regarding Lyndon LaRouche, Assange is to be eliminated, under legal guidelines or otherwise.

In his first public speech as CIA director, on April 13, 2017, Blumenthal writes, Pompeo went on a rant against Assange and WikiLeaks, calling them a non-state "hostile intelligence operation" aided and abetted by the

Russians. WikiLeaks, the famously bellicose CIA director proclaimed, needed to be wiped out. Next, Blumenthal references that Pompeo's declaration of war immediately followed WikiLeaks' exposure, in March 2017, of the CIA's Vault 7 cyberweapons tools, including the Marble Framework tools making false-flag cyberwar possible. Many analysts, including Bill Binney, believe that the CIA and its Vault 7 tools may be responsible for the evidentiary trail claimed in the DNC's computers and with the fake internet persona Guccifer 2.0. That so-called evidence has been used to claim that the Russians attacked the DNC and John Podesta's emails, and weaponized the information against Hillary Clinton's campaign.

Blumenthal's exposé goes on to document that Sheldon Adelson's personal security guard, Zohar Lahav, recruited UC Global and its owner David Morales to spy on Assange, under a contract UC Global had with the Ecuadorean government to provide security at the London embassy. Blumenthal's story is based on court documents from Spanish High Court proceedings where Morales was indicted for his actions against Assange in October 2019.

### **A Vast COVID-19 Vaccine Effort Underway Around the World**

May 18 (EIRNS)—There is a vast global effort to develop vaccines for COVID-19. In the United States, President Donald Trump announced an initiative on May 15—"Operation Warp Speed"—which is aimed at speeding up vaccine development, developing an infrastructure for rapid manufacture, and preparing the U.S. Army to ensure speedy distribution. With military cooperation under General Gustave F. Perna, current commander of the Army Matériel Command, Operation Warp Speed will facilitate distribution—"by every plane, truck, and soldier," to use Trump's phrase—of the vaccine.

International cooperation has been stressed by the Presidents of both China and the United States in the recent few days. On May 15, Trump stated that "We have no ego. Whoever gets it, we think it's great. We're going to work with them. They're going to work with us. Likewise, if we

get it, we're going to be working with them." He was asked whether the United States would have access to a vaccine if it were first developed by China. Trump replied, "Yes. The answer would be yes." President Xi Jinping made this clear on May 18 in his remarks to the annual World Health Assembly of the 194 members of the World Health Organization, in which he stated that any vaccine developed in China would be a global public good, available to all.

Moncef Slaoui, PhD will serve as chief scientific adviser to Warp Speed, leading its vaccine program. Slaoui, as chief of vaccine programs at GlaxoSmithKline, oversaw the development of 14 vaccines.

Operation Warp Speed will now coordinate the public-private partnership, Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines (ACTIV), with the ongoing work by Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). With ACTIV, the U.S. NIH has been working with some of the world's largest pharmaceutical firms to create a master plan so each potential vaccine is tested the same way, using the same database, instead of each company devising its own methods. ACTIV is compared to an umbrella, "where vaccine makers can sign on when they're ready to start enrolling." Included are 16 drug makers, including Pfizer, Amgen, Bristol Myers Squibb, and GlaxoSmithKline. The European Medicines Agency is also included. Through BARDA, the U.S. government is also funding manufacturing build-outs by private drug makers through grants.

Indicating how non-linear this effort is, on May 17 "more than three dozen asset managers, pension funds, and insurers" came out, holding the feet of the pharmaceutical industry to the fire. They demanded that Big Pharma cooperate in the fight against COVID-19, "by sharing research data and providing affordable worldwide access to medicines, diagnostics, and vaccines." Vaccines are not necessarily big money makers for pharmaceutical companies, which is why there are periodic vaccine shortages. Today only four companies make vaccines for the U.S. market,

down from 27 in the 1950s and 18 in 1980. Everything has to be increased, rebuilt, or both!

There is a worldwide drive to develop vaccines and therapies:

- China now has five potential COVID-19 vaccines in human clinical testing, with 2,036 volunteers already dosed at the phase 2 stage, Zeng Yixin, vice minister of China's National Health Commission, said at a press briefing May 15. The plan is that these efforts "will complete the second phase of clinical trials in July this year," Zeng said.

- Harvard University and other researchers are continuing their collaboration in ongoing COVID-19 vaccine efforts with Chinese researchers, utilizing teleconferencing and other tools. This outbreak is not something any organization can face independently, and only cooperation can better combat the pandemic, said George Q. Daley from Harvard Medical School, part of such a team. China's top respiratory expert Zhong Nanshan is also a part of this team.

- A research team at the Institut Pasteur Korea has reported that pancreatitis drug nafamostat appears to be much more effective than remdesivir. Previously, a team at the University of Tokyo in Japan found the drug could effectively block the viral entry process of the new coronavirus. A clinical trial of the drug started in April, according to the [NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine](#).

- In France, Sanofi Pasteur, the vaccines global business unit of Sanofi, writes that it is leveraging previous development work for a vaccine for the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS—caused by a coronavirus) as it works to develop a COVID-19 vaccine (which virus is known as SARS-CoV-2). Sanofi is collaborating with BARDA, with which they have had a longstanding partnership.

- On May 13, Russian Health Minister Mikhail Murashko told the State Duma, the lower house of Russia's national legislature, that the first batch of possible vaccines may be available by late July, following clinical trials

in June. In March, Russia had announced that it had already started testing six types of vaccines against COVID-19.

- In the U.K., investigators from the University of Oxford announced on April 23 that they have begun testing a potential vaccine in 1,100 volunteer patients, and anticipate results in two to six months. Investigators will be assessing a vaccine based on an adenovirus vaccine vector and the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, said a statement from Oxford. The adenovirus vector is made from a weakened version of an adenovirus shown to cause infections in chimpanzees.

## SCIENCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

### Russia Responds to NASA's Offer for Cooperation on Moon Projects

May 18 (EIRNS)—In response to a statement by NASA concerning potential Russia participation in the Deep Space Gateway and Lunar Orbital Platform-Gateway project and the proposed Artemis Accords on April 15, Deputy Director General for International Cooperation at Roscosmos Sergey Saveliev made a statement to TASS the following day.

“Ambitious projects related to exploration of the Moon could become a serious factor in cooperation of the two countries in difficult times,” Saveliev said, according to a Roscosmos statement.

He said that Roscosmos has invited the top officials of NASA to visit Russia to discuss a wide range of projects and is looking forward to a positive response. “We formally invited the top officials of NASA to come to our country, but we have received no reply so far. I hope that we will receive it and that it will be positive,” Saveliev said. He recalled that the space agency’s delegation had been invited to the United States; but the invitation from NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine was eventually withdrawn, due to senators’ pressure.

The statement to which Saveliev responded was made by Acting Associate Administrator for NASA’s Office of International and Interagency Relations Michael Gold, in which he countered media reports

that the United States was not willing to include Russia in its draft agreement on Moon exploration as incorrect. “I think it’s unfortunate that there were a lot of media leaks that did not properly describe what the Artemis Accords were, so I’m not surprised for some of those reactions,” Gold said.

In answer to a TASS question on whether Russia was seen as a partner in Moon exploration and could count on signing an agreement within the framework of Artemis Accords if it wants to, Gold said, “I think in many ways Russia already has. As you know, Russia is a signatory to the [1967] Outer Space Treaty,” he said. “That’s why I’m very hopeful that now that we come out and have described what’s in these accords and that they are grounded on the Outer Space Treaty, that Russia will be able to take a hard look at this kind of thing now.”

“As we look at the Russian cooperation on Artemis, I expect a great deal of it,” he concluded. “It may center around the Gateway. That may be a precursor, possibly, to Artemis Accords agreements, because Russia already expressed interest in participating in the Gateway program. There is nothing in the Accords, we would hope, that Russia would object to.”

Britain’s Reuters news agency had earlier reported that the Artemis Accords would not include Russia in the earlier stages.

## **A Leading Vaccine Candidate Shows Successful Trial Result**

May 18 (EIRNS)—One hopeful vaccine-trial result feeding into the Trump Administration’s “Project Warp Speed” was announced this morning by Massachusetts-based Moderna Corp. It has a vaccine candidate already in the second part of a Phase 1 trial—following a safety trial—in which certain elements or “endpoints” of efficacy are tested and the optimum dosage is determined by “dose-scaling.” The company said that all four dosages used, including the lowest, 25 micrograms, produced antibodies to COVID-19 in all 45 subjects, equivalent to the antibody strength of recovered patients.

This trial is being conducted in cooperation with the National Institutes of Health, one of the government agencies now working in the “Warp Speed” project.

“These interim Phase 1 data, while early, demonstrate that vaccination with mRNA-1273 elicits an immune response of the magnitude caused by natural infection starting with a dose as low as 25 µg,” said Moderna chief medical officer Dr. Tal Zaks. “When combined with the success in preventing viral replication in the lungs of a pre-clinical challenge model at a dose that elicited similar levels of neutralizing antibodies, these data substantiate our belief that mRNA-1273 has the potential to prevent COVID-19 disease and advance our ability to select a dose for pivotal trials.”

## THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMIC ORDER

### **Belt and Road Traffic Rose During Coronavirus Crisis, Reports Danish Daily**

May 18 (EIRNS)—The major Danish daily *Jyllandsposten* reports on the growth of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) rail traffic between China and Europe, as the lead item on its website. The coronavirus crisis has set a record in the number of freight trains and containers, at the expense of airfreight and oceangoing shipping. Here is a summary:

After two months of lockdown, the first train left Wuhan for Duisburg in Germany at the end of March. This was a signal for the following tendency: More and more goods from China to Europe—and vice versa—are transported on rails. Since its first beginning in 2011, the network of freight routes has been developed year by year as part of the Chinese BRI project, also called the New Silk Road. New cities are connected almost on a monthly basis, and with new routes added to an increasingly fine-mesh network, transport time has been significantly shortened.

China has just released the latest traffic figures for the first months of the year, telling the story of a significant shift in the way it services European markets. Today, there are at least 70 direct freight rail links

between Chinese and European cities. In the first quarter of the year, the number of freight trains and containers both increased by about 25% compared to the previous year. The April figures, with China opened and Europe closed, were even more significant. There were 979 freight trains, the largest number ever in a single month, and an increase of 46% over April 2019. Similarly, the number of containers was 88,000, an increase of 50%.

The figures reflect a general boom compounded by the coronavirus crisis. With closed borders and air routes, partially closed airports, and in many places problematic procedures in the ports, the open rail lines have been a lifeline for the freight of Chinese-produced goods to Europe. Previously, it was primarily electronics, components, clothing and appliances, but in the past month also medicine and medical equipment.

Railways have proven a stable and reliable transportation means in a time of dysfunctional supply chains. The early routes traveled north across the Black Sea through Asia before reaching Poland, the Czech Republic, and Germany; later they were extended to Milan, Madrid, and London; and since November, networks have also been opened through Turkey with connections up through the Balkans. This development has been made possible through enhanced international cooperation between China, Russia, the Central Asian republics, and Europe. This has meant that the trip from Xi'an to Prague, through Turkey, now takes 18 days, as opposed to a month before. The gigantic Danish shipper Maersk has also established a line through Turkey.

## COLLAPSING WESTERN FINANCIAL SYSTEM

### U.S. Unemployment 'Churned' after Mid-April but Still 50 Million

May 18 (EIRNS)—The May 14 Labor Department report on new and continuing unemployment claims indicate a return to work by a small portion of the laid-off. New claims were 2.981 million, bringing the eight-week “corona period” total to 36.5 million. “Continuing claims”—meaning the number of people remaining on unemployment benefits as of two weeks

earlier, April 30—were 22.9 million; adding that to the two weeks' new claims through May 14 (3.36 million + 2.981 million) gives about 29.2 million people on benefits now.

This implies that 7 million Americans have been able to go back to work, or find some other way of working, or been disqualified for some other reason, since the beginning of March. In fact, 5.2 million people became “new hires” in the period, according to the Labor Department's report called JOLTS (job openings and labor turnover survey), which also showed the larger number of 6.9 million became “separations” (lost their jobs) in that same period.

In any case, the 29.2 million on benefits are by far not all of the unemployed and underemployed.

Only 31 states now claim to be “caught up” with all backlogged applications for unemployment benefits, and there are still obviously several million people who have been unable to apply successfully, or have been told, or believe, that they are ineligible for unemployment benefits from their “gig(s).” And at last count, in the third week of April, 11.5 million Americans were already on forced part-time work; another 1.6 million were “discouraged” and not seeking work; and another 5 million were far out of the labor force, not having sought a job for more than a year.

The real number of unemployed/underemployed Americans stayed, then, at just about 50 million through the middle of May, which is when Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin started to express pessimism on the subject and Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell and his staff became seriously alarmed, as we report in this issue.

**STRATEGIC WAR DANGER*****Global Times* Warns West Not To Abuse World Health Assembly To Blame China for Pandemic**

May 18 (EIRNS)—*Global Times* ran an editorial headlined “Virus Investigation Must Be Fair, Scientific: *Global Times* Editorial,” yesterday, in which it warns the China-bashers primarily in London and Washington against trying to get today’s WHO annual meeting of its 194 members in the World Health Assembly to blame China for the origination of the coronavirus. The warning came after reports arose that the “EU is putting forward a motion for the assembly, requesting an independent inquiry into the origin of the coronavirus, a proposal supported by countries such as Canada and Australia. As the U.S. and some other countries are also urging international support for Taiwan’s participation in the assembly as an observer, some Western media outlets claimed that China is facing unprecedented pressure during this year’s conference and will be isolated,” wrote *Global Times*.

The board of editors ask: “Will China oppose scientific research into the virus’ origin? No, because it is a necessary move to fight COVID-19 in a scientific way and conducive to prevention measures and development of vaccines and medicines. Washington’s smear that a Wuhan lab was the virus origin has been universally opposed by scientists, but the U.S. is still irrationally calling for an investigation. It is obviously an unfair and unscientific appeal that China will never accept....

“A scientific investigation should be carried out. But first of all, it should be led by WHO rather than any country or regional organization. Second, the investigation needs to be scientific and fair. Not only China-related factors, but also those related to the U.S. and other countries need to be included. Earlier confirmed cases than the previously known first infected case have continuously been found in the U.S. Among those diagnosed as having flu last winter, how many were coronavirus infections? All these clues shouldn’t be missed.”

- Watch the [Morning Briefing with Harley Schlanger](#) on Tuesday, May 19: 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](#).