

## **EIR Daily Alert Service**

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## **EDITORIAL**

### **‘Digital Dictatorship’ Can Make Us Tolerate Destruction of Civilization—Defeat It!**

March 1 (EIRNS)—A social media ban has been clamped down on criticisms of the Nov. 3, 2020 “perfect” U.S. general election. The next target is emerging: stating the wrong conclusions about “climate” and energy technologies.

A Feb. 23 article in the *Washington Post* amplified an attempt by the German Marshall Fund in Washington to call out for censorship, any statements that the failure of frozen-up wind turbines in Texas triggered the calamitous loss of power and heat by 10 million people and 40 deaths in the state.

The Fund hooked up with the *Post* to identify, in particular, Fox News' Feb. 17 interview of Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, who said that the failure of nearly all the wind power in the state caused the blackouts to begin. Like other elected officials in the parts of the country most affected by the polar vortex, Abbott called for more coal-fired power plants. This, the think-tank found, was widely followed and approved on Facebook and YouTube. The paper complained: "The recent explosion of falsehoods related to the Texas power outages highlights how climate science and related topics like renewable energy are a ripe target for online propaganda. Tech companies have not been aggressive in stepping up their defenses against climate disinformation, despite increasing public pressure from environmental activists to do more."

The Marshall Fund speech police and the *Post* bluntly advertised their completely political motives front and center: "Researchers [from the think-tank] are especially concerned about the wind turbine claims because they weren't completely fabricated.[!] Instead, they were manipulated to serve the political goal of undermining Democrats' efforts to fund renewable energy sources.[!!] 'This kind of manipulative content can be even more pernicious because it maintains an element of truth,' " wrote Adrienne Goldstein and Eli Weiner of the Fund.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) was quoted threatening Facebook for allowing such statements as Abbott's: "The future of our planet is at stake, and there should be no company too big, too powerful and too opaque to be held accountable for its role in the climate crisis. Facebook is no exception."

In an astonishing slip, the *Washington Post* published a chart *two days later*—"Source, Energy Information Administration"—which showed, day

by day, what happened to electricity generation in Texas from Feb. 8-20. They were *exactly* the facts the paper had just demanded be *censored on social media as “climate disinformation”* when uttered by elected officials or others. Those facts were also presented in the Feb. 23 *EIR Alert Service* and are in the March 5 *EIR*. The EIA chart, “Power Generation on the Electric Reliability Council of Texas Grid,” shows nuclear and coal-fired power (GW-hours/day) essentially constant for the entire period; wind power dropping away to near zero from late on Feb. 14th through the 15th—when the blackouts began—and remaining there until the 17th; gas power ramping up on the 14th and part of the 15th to replace the missing wind power, then dropping sharply through the 17th. The disappearance of wind turbine power triggered the Texas disaster; no other conclusion is possible from this chart, or from the one like it (from a private data analysis firm) described in the Feb. 23 *EIR Daily Alert*.

Will we, then, soon learn that we cannot repeat these facts or present anyone else stating them, without losing access to social media communication? There is already a comprehensive ban on any questioning of the conduct or results of the 2020 general election. Will this be extended to reasoned debate on energy and other carbon-based technologies—the very basis of modern agro-industrial economy and civilization—so that opponents of the Green New Deal are banned from public speech on that subject as well?

No, the entire double standard of the media, social media, and some governments, which accuse their political opponents of doing precisely what they themselves are doing, must be exposed and reversed. At issue is not only stopping the “Great Reset” or “Green Deal”; the vilification of Russia and China and the threat of global war which comes with it are based on this “double-speak.” Will the words “Belt and Road Initiative” be banned from British and U.S. media?

The Schiller Institute will take this on as a major target of its full-day conference March 20, otherwise presenting cooperation for development among nations as the unique road to peace.

**UNITED STATES POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC****Deadlock Between Biden and Iran Continues**

March 1 (EIRNS)—Iran has rejected European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs Josep Borrell’s proposal for an informal meeting of the current signers of the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran plus America, because the timing is “inappropriate.” Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said on Feb. 28, that due to the recent positions and actions of the United States and three European countries, the Islamic Republic considers the time of the meeting as inappropriate, reported Mehr News. “The Biden administration still follows the failed policy of maximum pressure and the U.S. has not yet voiced its readiness to fulfill its obligations under the JCPOA and Resolution 2231,” Khatibzadeh said, and that necessary negotiations were held five years ago. “The path is clear. The United States must end its illegal and unilateral sanctions and return to its commitments. This does not require negotiation or a resolution in the Board of Governors.”

“While we are disappointed at Iran’s response, we remain ready to re-engage in meaningful diplomacy to achieve a mutual return to compliance with the nuclear deal commitments,” a White House spokesman said. “We will be consulting with our P5+1 partners on the best way forward,” the spokesman stated, referring to the other parties to the nuclear deal: Germany, plus the four other permanent UN Security Council members, China, Russia, France, and the U.K.

Khatibzadeh this morning reiterated Iran’s demand that the United States lift sanctions first. “President Joe Biden’s administration should change Trump’s maximum pressure policy towards Tehran.... If they want talks with Iran, first they should lift sanctions,” he said. “The new U.S. administration’s refusal to return to the deal is a historic mistake,” he continued, saying Tehran would continue to work with the UN nuclear watchdog despite scaling back cooperation.

## Trump Plans No New Political Party

March 1 (EIRNS)—Former President Donald Trump announced to thousands of his supporters attending the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) in Orlando, Florida yesterday, and millions of supporters watching on national TV: “We’re gathered this afternoon to talk about the future of our movement, the future of our party, and the future of our beloved country. For the next four years, the brave Republicans in this room will be at the heart of the effort to oppose the radical Democrats, the fake news media, and their toxic cancel culture.... And I want you to know that I’m going to continue to fight right by your side. We will do what we’ve done right from the beginning, which is to win. We’re not starting new parties. They kept saying, ‘he’s going to start a brand new party.’ We have the Republican party. It’s going to unite and be stronger than ever before. I am not starting a new party. That was fake news, fake news.”

## LaRouche Insisted, U.S.-Mexican Relations Must Be Based on Real Economic Growth for Both Nations

March 1 (EIRNS)—The outcome of the first formal meeting between Presidents Joe Biden and Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO), held virtually this afternoon was still unknown, as of 5:30 p.m., but both governments had put ideas for policy on immigration, energy policy and climate change on the agenda in advance. On immigration: AMLO announced two days ago that he would propose to Biden that their governments reach an agreement to legalize migration for Mexican and Central American workers whose labor is needed in the U.S. economy, in a way which benefits both nations.

His proposal harks back to the way migrant labor between the countries was handled under the “*bracero*,” or guest-worker, program which functioned during World War II and several decades afterwards. “Let’s look at this: You are going to need Mexican and Central American workers to grow, to produce.... Without Mexican labor power, how can an increase in production in the United States be guaranteed? That’s why we are proposing an agreement,” López Obrador said, estimating that the U.S.

needs around 600-800,000 such workers a year. So, he suggested, “let us order the migratory flow better, legalizing it, providing guarantees for the workers, so that they do not risk their lives, and their human rights are protected.”

For decades, American statesman Lyndon LaRouche insisted that just such a government-to-government agreement is required and will work—provided that it is premised “on establishing economic accords with Mexico around the idea of trading oil for technology, measures which will guarantee economic boom conditions on both sides of the border.” That policy was elaborated in an April 13, 1981 statement issued by LaRouche’s National Democratic Policy Committee titled bluntly: “No Migrant Law Will Work without a Growth Approach.”

In an April 27, 2006 webcast discussion on with U.S. constituency leaders, LaRouche again called for migration to be “regularize[d]” by negotiating migration status, “government to government, through the appropriate institutions,” in the context of an international program to develop both sides of the border. Developing Mexico’s national oil industry is key to such development, LaRouche insisted again, but with the understanding that it be done as a means to develop the nuclear industry needed in Mexico to efficiently overcome shortages of power and water.

Last Friday, Feb. 26, however, Secretary of State Antony Blinken signaled in his preparatory talks with Mexico’s Foreign and Economic Ministers, that the Biden administration instead intends to pressure AMLO’s government to capitulate to the predatory demands of Wall Street’s climate mafia and private energy multinationals, and give up its fight to reestablish energy sovereignty—something President Donald Trump had refused to do. Acting Assistant Secretary of State Julie Chung told reporters that Blinken would raise “private sector concerns” about AMLO’s proposed Electricity Law, which would rebuild Mexico’s sovereign energy capacity and limit “renewables” profiteering. The threat to cut foreign investment in Mexico unless it capitulates was clear in Chung’s statement: “We encourage Mexico to listen to the stakeholders, to

listen to the private sector companies and really provide that culture, the atmosphere of free investment and transparency so that companies will continue to invest in Mexico.”

## STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

### U.S./Israeli Air Strikes Hit Syria, ISIS Escalates Violence in Iraq

March 1 (EIRNS)—The pattern of U.S./Israeli attacks on Syria allegedly aimed at Iran, and a series of ISIS attacks in Iraq, point to an increasingly precarious situation in both countries. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov last week referred to information that Russia has been receiving from various sources that America is in the process of making a decision never to leave Syria and even break the country up. At the same time, Iraq has seen an escalation of violence perpetrated by the Islamic State, particularly in the region along the frontier between the Kurdish administered region and that under the jurisdiction of the government in Baghdad. ISIS bragged last week that it had conducted 15 operations over Feb. 18-25 including several attacks on the Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF), including an attack on Feb. 2 which killed 5 PMF members and another on Feb. 4 which killed 11, the Kurdish news service Rudaw reported yesterday.

Following the Feb. 25 U.S. air strike in Syria near the border with Iraq, another air strike, presumably launched from Israel, hit targets near Damascus on the evening of Feb. 28. Israel usually doesn't take credit for its strikes in Syria, but the latest one came only hours after Israeli Defense Forces Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Aviv Kohavi hinted that Israel would be retaliating for what it now believes was an Iranian attack on the Israeli-owned cargo ship *MV Helios Ray* in the Gulf of Oman on Feb. 25. “Just over the weekend we got a reminder in one of these theaters of one of the greatest threats in the region, Iran, and we got a reminder that Iran not only is a nuclear threat, but that it spreads and carries out terror and operations against civilian targets,” Kohavi said, according to the *Times of Israel*.

“This is the place to reiterate that the IDF acts and will act against the threats that endanger [Israel], near and far.”

So it seems that for both the United States and Israel, the response to alleged provocations from Iran is to bomb Syria!

## COLLAPSING WESTERN FINANCIAL SYSTEM

### Contradictory Lies Told About the U.S. Economy

March 1 (EIRNS)—If one believes the financial analysts of various Wall Street banks—which have been made very fat with Fed food during the past lean year—the American economy is roaring through the first quarter and is going to grow by 8 or 9%. The Fed itself, which one would think could also see such wonders happening, has nonetheless re-spiked its punch bowl by adding \$500 billion to its printed bank reserves in January and February. It has even restarted buying mortgage-backed securities from the banks, at \$25 billion or so a week. Meanwhile Biden and his Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen insist the economy and American people are in deep crisis—*but*, there will be full employment by the end of the year if only the \$1.9 trillion relief bill is passed!

But the Fed is reacting to the very real combined threat of inflation and rising long-term interest rates—which its own money-printing, and \$2.6 trillion going on \$4.5 trillion of Treasury “relief” borrowing, has created. The inflation is not only in food and housing. The [Associated General Contractors of America](#) (AGC) wrote a press release on Feb. 17 in which it said warned the Biden administration of recent increases in materials prices. The AGC said the cost of materials such as lumber and steel have reached “record-setting levels” and contractors face long delivery times for materials. “A government index that measures the selling price for materials and services used in new nonresidential construction increased 2.5% from December to January and 10.7% since April,” said the release.

The \$1.9 trillion “COVID relief” bill just passed by the House allocates will intensify the inflationary pressure. To the Fed’s hyped-up money

printing for bank reserves—now at \$4 trillion in 18 months—it will add another trillion in household spending income to \$2 trillion already borrowed by Congress.

And once again, the bill is not even intended to create any *productive* employment whatsoever.

### **South Africa's Unemployment Rate Hits Record Levels**

March 1 (EIRNS)—The official unemployment rate in South Africa reached 32.5% in the fourth quarter of 2020, an increase of 1.7% from the previous quarter, and now the highest since statistics were first published, beginning in 2008.

Interestingly, as the government Statistics SA office reports in its Quarterly Labor Force Survey, the number of employed persons actually increased in the fourth quarter by 333,000 to 15 million. However, the number of unemployed persons increased by twice that much, 701,000 to 7.2 million.

The full picture takes this from “depression” levels, to that approaching total breakdown. Including the “discouraged” workers, which increased by 235,000 and the number of people who were not economically active for other reasons (together called “expanded definition”), Statistics SA points out that the real unemployment rate reached 42.6% in the fourth quarter.

## **GREAT RESET / GREEN NEW DEAL**

### **Biden Drops a ‘Green’ Hammer on American Industry**

March 1 (EIRNS)—The Biden White House on Feb. 26 announced that it would multiply the “price of carbon” by more than seven times, to \$51 per ton of CO<sub>2</sub>, for all cost-benefit analyses of industrial technologies—and was likely to more than double that again after “further analysis.” The “carbon price” set by the federal government since the Bush 43 Administration in 2004 is not a purchase price but rather the price assumed for all use of carbon in materials—energetic, chemical, industrial, agricultural—whose use can form CO<sub>2</sub>, and is supposed to govern the

valuation of bids for government contracts of all kinds. Obviously it would also then affect the valuation of industrial and agricultural products and even the valuation of capital goods and/or entire companies for investment.

The Biden Administration's proposed price announced by the Department of Energy under new Secretary Jennifer Granholm is supposed to be the price that greenhouse gas emissions impose on society. The \$51/ton of CO<sub>2</sub> is not only seven-plus times the Trump Administration's "price," but double that of the Obama Administration. And it is likely soon to be adjusted to the "price" the Andrew Cuomo government of New York State adopted in 2020, which is a range of \$79-125/ton.

UC Santa Barbara Environmental Economics Professor Tamma Carleton responded giddily, "A new social cost of carbon can tip the scales for hundreds of policy decisions facing the federal government. Any policy, project or regulation that lowers emissions will now have a higher dollar value..." And any decision to use carbon products, a lower one. This will hit all industries, not just the energy and power production sector.

### **U.K. Proposes Climate Change Have UNSC Veto**

March 1 (EIRNS)—In typical "snow is black" fashion, the United Kingdom is attempting to declare the "fake news" climate change hoax as the biggest threat to global security, today. To argue their case, London resurrected the 90-year-old serial Malthusian Sir David Attenborough, who addressed the UN Security Council on Feb. 23. Although the virtual meeting was opened with a keynote by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, it was clearly organized by the U.K.—which held the rotating chair of the UNSC during February—and was intended as a primer for the COP26 UN Climate Change Conference, now scheduled to take place in Glasgow in Nov. 1-12, 2021.

Chaired by Boris Johnson, who presented the issue as "a matter of when, not if," the central feature was an 8-minute video by Attenborough, who—speaking as a member of the "public"—likened the crisis to that of World War II. Unlike World War II, however, this crisis is one "which should unite us," said the voice from the crypt, since the threat is not rising

global fascism, but “rising global temperatures”! Growing threats of wars, collapsing food supplies (from both land and sea), all were the product of our species’ failure to address climate change. “No matter what we do, it’s too late ... and the poorest among us are now certain to suffer,” Sir David told the assembled global security representatives. Climate change is, he said, “the biggest threat to security that modern humans have ever faced” and only by recognizing this can we unite to avoid the worst.

Also addressing the ministers was young Sudanese “activist” Nisreen Elsaim, who has been chosen as chair of the UN Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change. A very well-briefed Elsaim gave “on the ground” affirmation to the destruction that the elders had warned of.

## COVID-19 AND FAMINE

### First COVAX Vaccines Arrive in Ghana

March 1 (EIRNS)—Western media headlines were bubbling Feb. 24 with the news that 600,000 AstraZeneca vaccines arrived in Ghana from the West that day. Of course, none of them mentioned what they all knew: That Chinese vaccines had been unloaded at the continent weeks earlier.

“The arrival of 600,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine in the West African country marks the beginning of the largest vaccine procurement and supply operation in history,” heralded *Time* magazine. Some 92 countries are set to get free vaccines in the next weeks through COVAX, the program led by the WHO; Gavi (formerly the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization); and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations.

As laudatory as the headlines were, however, the articles could not avoid the reality of the failures of COVAX— that development delays, combined with Western “vaccine hoarding” had forced dozens of countries to “go it alone,” turning to China or Russia for supplies, and leaving COVAX with “binding agreements” for a mere several hundred million shots, where they were hoping to have 2 billion immunized by the end of

this year. With the alternatives being China or Russia, this failure has now acquired a geopolitical dimension, as well.

Of African countries, Ivory Coast is said to be next on the list, with Nigeria also expecting 4 million doses on March 2. As for Senegal, a recipient of the Sinopharm vaccine on Feb. 17—AfricaNews reported Feb. 23 that they have offered to share 10% of their 200,000 precious free vaccines with neighboring Guinea Bissau and Gambia, in true “win-win” spirit. Senegal expects to receive another 1.3 million doses from COVAX this month and has also paid for some Sputnik V from Russia.

### **Donors Conference Hopes To Raise Nearly \$3.85 Billion To Prevent Famine in Yemen**

March 1 (EIRNS)—Today, the donors conference on Yemen sponsored by Sweden and Switzerland convened virtually. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres will appeal for \$3.85 billion in relief aid this year though the UN does not expect to meet that goal. Its Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, said the risk of large-scale famine in the Arab world’s poorest country “has never been more acute,” and that the years-long conflict, economic decline, and institutional collapse created enormous humanitarian needs in all sectors, reported AP on Feb. 28.

For this conference, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken declared: “Today, I announced nearly \$191 million in additional humanitarian assistance at the virtual 2021 High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen. Combined with the nearly \$160 million we provided at the end of last year, the United States has provided more than \$350 million since the beginning of Fiscal Year 2021. In total, the United States has provided more than \$3.4 billion to alleviate the suffering of the people of Yemen since the crisis began six years ago.

“The assistance announced today ... contributes to international partners’ efforts to assist the 20 million people who rely on humanitarian assistance such as food, health, water, sanitation, hygiene, shelter, protection, and education for internally displaced and conflict-affected Yemenis as well as for refugees and asylum seekers in Yemen.... [It] is vital to saving lives and

reducing suffering, but it must be able to reach the people who need it most. We again call on the Houthis to cease interference in aid operations to ensure assistance is reaching its intended recipients.”

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday, March 2, 2021: Every weekday morning on [The LaRouche Organization](#) website, Harley will give you the strategic briefing on what you need to know to start your day.