

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

British Empire Escalates Drive for U.S.-China Military Confrontation

May 4 (EIRNS)—The British imperial apparatus has increasingly dropped any pretense of “neutrality” regarding China, and in classic imperial style,

are demanding in messages to the U.S. that “you and him” have got to go to war. The Henry Jackson Society—the British “neocon” partner of Washington’s Atlantic Council—demanded a “consortium” of Western nations to stop any Chinese investments in Europe, neither the Huawei 5G networks nor Chinese purchases of European productive capacity at the current depressed prices, regardless of those companies’ desperate need for investments. Niall Ferguson, Britain’s leading proponent of a return to the era of the British Empire, to impose their policies around the world, launched a Goebbels’ “Big Lie” that China had sent airliners out of Wuhan to the rest of the world even while preventing people from Wuhan to fly elsewhere within China. This has now been proven, by an associate of Ferguson, to be not only false, but knowingly so, and yet President Donald Trump has been pumped up with this lie so much that he repeated it Sunday night in a virtual Town Meeting sponsored by Fox News. Reuters, meanwhile, reported a leaked Chinese document which they claim calls for China to “prepare for armed confrontation between the two global powers,” as if this were an aggressive policy of China’s rather than a response to the massive escalation of anti-China threats and fairy tales. China, Reuters claims, is ramping up to “win a modern war.” The China-China-China hysteria has surpassed even the MI6-directed Russia-Russia-Russia campaign, which was intended to remove Trump from office on the Big Lie about Russian collusion.

Although the Russiagate coup attempt was defeated, the intent of the British operation—to break Trump from his friendship and cooperation with President Vladimir Putin—has had a lasting impact. This coming Saturday is the 75th anniversary of the U.S. and Soviet troops meeting at the Elbe, preceding the final defeat of the European fascist movement by their combined forces. The pandemic has postponed the planned celebration in Moscow, at which President Xi Jinping intended to attend, and to which President Trump had been invited. Such a meeting of these three leaders was strongly promoted by Helga Zepp-LaRouche and *EIR*, as the necessary combination to stop the rush for war and to begin the joint

cooperation needed to address the pandemic and the financial disintegration threatening the Western banking system.

And yet, on this historic day, there are virtually no serious events or celebrations being planned in the United States, other than the Schiller Institute event Saturday afternoon at 2:00 EDT (18:00 UTC), to which you are all invited: [“Conference May 9 — 75th Anniversary of V-E Day: Commemorate the Victory Against Fascism with a New Bretton Woods System.”](#)

Where is the respect for America’s veterans? Those veterans still alive who fought in World War II are among those now dying in nursing homes and long-term facilities. Have we forgotten their service in defeating fascism? Are we not facing the threat of fascism again today, again spawned by the British Empire?

Join us this Saturday, and, if you have not already, take the time, while many of us are confined to our homes, to watch the historic Schiller Institute Conference from April 25-26, demonstrating that leaders from America, Russia, China, Africa and South America can come together in cooperation to address solutions to the existential crisis facing us all today.

U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

Tucker Carlson in a Frenzy, Our Constitution Is Being Destroyed with ‘Chinese-Style Authoritarianism’

May 4 (EIRNS)—After ranting that China, in Wuhan, had the “secret police kidnapping citizens off the street, authorities locking people in their apartments from the outside until they starve to death—just look at the results,” FOX News host Tucker Carlson on May 1 then attacked President Donald Trump (but naming only governors) for destroying the Constitution.

Denouncing the President’s policy of preventing public events, in order to stop the spread of COVID-19, Carlson hysterically melted down:

“Where exactly do they get that right? That’s a good question—a question we are strongly discouraged from asking.

“Never in American history have politicians been more powerful than they are now. Effectively, they are God. In the state of Maine, Gov. Janet Mills now has the power to suspend any law she doesn’t like. She can seize any state resource she feels like seizing.... There is virtually nothing Janet Mills can’t do. Many governors now have these powers.”

Tucker proceeded to attack the administration and the Constitutional promotion of the common defense and the general welfare: “For 250 years, Americans have enjoyed the unfettered right to practice their faith as they choose. Now they don’t. It happened overnight. Last month, Christians across the country were legally prohibited from celebrating Easter in their own churches.... Politicians have no right to do any of this. They can’t make it illegal for people to go to religious services. The Constitution of the United States expressly prohibits that. The words couldn’t be clearer. The First Amendment explicitly prevents government from making any law that inhibits the exercise of religious faith. It’s a cornerstone of our history and our law.

“Where did politicians get the authority to do all this? Because some elderly, power-drunk doctor told them to? That’s not how our system works, or can work.... Our rights are gone. No one has explained how politicians are allowed to do this, to override the Constitution. No one seems to care. They’re too afraid.

“As it stands, politicians won’t let people worship, or work, or go to school, or see their aging parents. They’ve placed the nation under house arrest. That’s happening today, right now. But let’s say we all get more afraid. What then? What couldn’t they start doing? Could they intern people? Seriously.”

The real question is, what will the British Empire and their assets in the U.S., including Rupert Murdoch’s FOX News, not do to promote mass death, and to bring down the President—and the Constitution—in the process?

Michael Moore Film Peddles Profound, Malthusian Evil

May 4 (EIRNS)—Consumer warning: No one need watch this rotten film, nor recommend it to anyone. Moore’s so-called documentary, “Planet of the Humans,” released on April 21, the eve of Earth Day, is described in press as an anti-environmentalist film. It seems to start in the right direction, showing the fraud of the current green movement, but that’s the bait in the trap. The film, written and directed by Jeff Gibbs, attacks windmills and solar because they could not have been built without relying on our current energy sources—which is true—but his argument is not that it is an inefficient or negative abuse of our industrial potential, but that industry itself is bad.

It gets uglier as it goes along, and all soaked in the very axiom underlying environmentalism that there is a limit to growth, and we’d better get used to it.

Then comes the Satanic, religious-toned remedy in the final ten minutes, at 1:29:19: “There is a way out of this. We humans must accept that infinite growth on a finite planet is suicide; we must accept that our human presence is already far beyond sustainability, and all that that implies; we must take control of our environmental movement, and our future, from billionaires and their permanent war on planet Earth, they are not our friends; less must be the new more, and instead of climate change, we must at long last accept that it’s not the CO2 molecule destroying the planet—it’s us. It’s not one thing, but everything we humans are doing, a human-caused apocalypse.”

Andrew Wakefield Sets Up His Deadly British Anti-Vaccine Campaign in U.S.

May 4 (EIRNS)—The current pervasive conspiracy theory that the COVID-19 mitigation effort is part of a vast conspiracy by Bill Gates, Big Pharma, the World Health Organization, and the Chinese Communist Party was launched (no surprise) by a former British doctor, Andrew Wakefield, in 1998 with an article published in *The Lancet* claiming the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine caused autism in children. He was

eventually exposed for falsifying data, getting paid £400,000 by lawyers recruiting mothers of autistic children to sue the producers of the vaccines, and other shady operations. He was barred by the General Medical Council from practicing medicine in the U.K. in 2010.

He had already moved to the U.S., where he set up an anti-vaccine movement, formed several institutions to peddle his deadly lies. He is still active, and at the center of the current conspiracy hysteria which is diverting attention from the urgent need to unite the world against the novel coronavirus, and from the real cause of the pandemic—the takedown of public health by the Wall Street financial vultures who turned healthcare delivery into a source of speculative profits when the medical care was privatized under Richard Nixon and George Shultz.

Readers will recall that a measles outbreak of 654 cases in Brooklyn last year, although it had been entirely eliminated in this country since 2000; it was the largest number of cases in New York City in 30 years; 73% of the cases were among people who had never been vaccinated. Worldwide, there was a huge upsurge in cases to about half a million, with severe epidemics in some countries.

Because measles (rubeola) is so highly contagious, one initial case can spark an outbreak, has happened in New York last year, spreading rapidly among children whose parents have been duped by the anti-vaccine movement into leaving their children without necessary medical protection. The risks from the disease are severe: About 20% of unvaccinated measles cases require hospitalization, and roughly 1 in 20 children contract pneumonia, which is the most common cause of measles deaths in young children. About 1 in 1,000 children suffer encephalitis, which can lead to convulsions and cause permanent sequelae including deafness and intellectual impairment; 1-3 children in 1,000 die of neurologic complications from measles. Unvaccinated pregnant mothers who contract measles can undergo spontaneous abortion or have a low-birth-weight baby.

STRATEGIC WAR DANGER**CSIS Lunatics Advocate Deploying Privateers against China's Commerce**

May 4 (EIRNS)—The depths of sheer lunacy to which the anti-China war party is descending is demonstrated in a pair of articles that were published in the April issue of the U.S. Naval Institute's *Proceedings* advocating the resurrection of privateering—seizing China's merchant ships—as a weapon against China, even in peacetime! The first article in April is by Col. Mark Cancian (USMC, ret.) and Brandon Schwartz, both associated with the Center for the Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. The second article, by Schwartz alone, argues that privateering is legal under both U.S. law and international law. “Privateering, authorized by letters of marque, could offer a low-cost tool to enhance deterrence in peacetime and gain advantage in wartime,” Cancian and Schwartz opened the first article. “It would attack an asymmetric vulnerability of China, which has a much larger merchant fleet than the United States. Indeed, an attack on Chinese global trade would undermine China's entire economy and threaten the regime's stability.”

Cancian and Schwartz's make clear their objective is to have the capability to destabilize China and its population of 1.5 billion people. “China has aggressively expanded its global economic and diplomatic influence through its Belt and Road Initiative, but this expansion creates a vulnerability, as these investments must be protected. Chinese vulnerability goes deeper. China's economy has doubled in the past 15 years, driven by exports carried in Chinese hulls. Thirty-eight percent of its gross domestic product comes from trade, against only 9% of U.S. GDP. Chinese social stability is built on a trade-off: The Chinese Communist Party has told the people they will not have democratic institutions, but they will receive economic prosperity.”

China's merchant fleet, they report, is about nine times larger than that of the U.S. “This asymmetric vulnerability gives the United States a major strategic advantage. The threat privateering poses to the Chinese

economy—and hence the Communist Party—could provide the United States with a major wartime advantage and enhance peacetime deterrence, thus making war less likely.” Like many U.S. so-called strategists these days, they ignore the old military maxim that the enemy gets a vote, and the Chinese would certainly respond in some way were the U.S. to actually adopt such a policy.

Indeed, the Chinese Defense Ministry has taken note of these articles. Ministry spokesman Senior Col. Wu Qian, in a May 1 news release called the idea “an act of piracy.... These actions are criminal activities explicitly prohibited under international laws, and will absolutely receive joint opposition and a severe backlash from the international community,” he said. Wu said that publicly endorsing piracy had exposed the authors’ hegemonic ideas and law-of-the-jungle mentality, “and the international community should be on guard against these thoughts.”

ECONOMY

Argentina Warns Bondholders’ Latest Rejection Front, ‘We Are the Face of All Debtor Nations’

May 4 (EIRNS)—Argentina’s bondholders apparently think if they just raise their voices, the Alberto Fernández government might give up on its proposal to restructure over \$65 billion in debt. After having individually rejected the offer announced on April 16, which includes a three-year moratorium on principal and interest payment, and a 62% reduction in interest, the three major bondholder groups today teamed up to issue a joint statement.

The Ad Hoc Bondholder Group, the Argentina Creditor Committee and the Ad Hoc Group of Argentina Exchange Bondholders stated they cannot support the Argentine offer, and “will not tender their bonds in such an offer” because the offer requires them to “bear disproportionate losses that are neither justified nor necessary.” They will, of course, “constructively engage with Argentina when its government is ready to do so,” they said.

Finance Minister Martín Guzmán made clear in an opinion piece May 3 in the City of London's *Financial Times* that there will be no change in the restructuring offer. "The time for illusions is over," he warned. "In the new COVID-19 world, we cannot continue to spend 20% of government revenues or more on debt payments.... It is simply impossible." And, he stressed, while these are "enormously trying times for bondholders," Argentina "is a preview of what's to come for struggling debtor nations across the globe.... Unaffordable debts cannot be paid in Argentina or anywhere else." Creditors need to face reality: "This isn't a game of spreadsheets. At stake is the economic fate of 45 million Argentine citizens.... No democratic government can impose still more hardship or be asked to put bondholders ahead of economic policies designed to palliate the catastrophic effects of the pandemic."

May 8 is the deadline for bondholders to reply to Argentina's restructuring offer. And, after the government failed to make a \$506 million payment on global bonds on April 22, it was given a 30-day grace period until May 22, after which it will be formally declared in default. Bondholders are salivating over court action they are already planning. One enthusiastic New York hedge fund manager told *La Política Online*, "ministers change but court cases persist."

Polio Outbreaks Stalk African Nations in Wake of Coronavirus Lockdown

May 4 (EIRNS)—As Lyndon LaRouche identified in 1974, a global breakdown of the world physical economy would see not just the outbreak of new diseases, but the resurgence of old ones as well. Just that situation is playing out in Africa, as the highly infectious disease of poliomyelitis threatens to break out in the wake of the COVID-19 lockdown suppression of immunization activity.

The current outbreak in Niger, as with outbreaks in 14 other African countries are "vaccine-derived," according to the World Health Organization release on April 24

The WHO reported: “ ‘Niger stopped the previous polio outbreaks by mounting high-quality mass vaccination campaigns in 2019. Unfortunately, that will not be possible now as we have suspended the polio mass vaccination campaigns due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic responses that requires global standards for social distancing and hand washing hygiene practices,’ said Dr. Pascal Mkanda, Coordinator of Polio Eradication Program in the African Region.

“ ‘The poliovirus will inevitably continue to circulate and may paralyze more children as no high-quality immunization campaigns can be conducted in a timely manner,’ said Dr. Mkanda.” So far, two cases have been identified in Niger, with one resulting in paralysis.

Vaccine-derived polioviruses are rare, the WHO report states, but these viruses affect unimmunized and under-immunized populations living in areas with inadequate sanitation and low levels of polio immunization. When children are immunized with the oral polio vaccine, the attenuated vaccine virus replicates in their intestines for a short time to build up the needed immunity and is then excreted in the feces into the environment where it can mutate. If polio immunization coverage remains low in a community and sanitation remains inadequate, the mutated viruses will be transmitted to susceptible populations, leading to emergence of vaccine-derived polioviruses.

“Mass immunization activities across the region have been postponed until further notice,” the WHO report said. “However, the polio eradication program in the African Region strives to sustain essential disease surveillance functions as well as planning for a rapid scale-up in immunization activities once the COVID-19 situation permits.”

The report stated that no wild poliovirus has been detected anywhere in Africa since 2016. “This stands in stark contrast to 1996, a year when wild poliovirus paralyzed more than 75,000 children across every country on the continent.”

In order for the disease to be considered “eradicated,” at least 90% of children must be vaccinated. The original target set by the WHO had been

to have that done by 2000, but something always seemed to get in the way—like the British Empire.

J.Crew Group Major Fashion Retailer Files for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy

May 4 (EIRNS)—Fashion retailer J.Crew Group, which operates J.Crew clothing and apparel stores, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy today, meaning it will reorganize to pay off its debts. The clothing retailer, which filed the motion in the federal bankruptcy court in the Eastern District of Virginia, is looking to stay open amid its restructuring and emerge from the process as a profitable company, CEO Jan Singer said. J.Crew’s lenders have agreed to convert \$1.65 billion of the company’s debt into stock. The company also received \$400 million in financing. It will continue e-commerce sales and still plans to reopen stores as lockdown restrictions are lifted, according to BuzzFeed.

As of today, the company had 181 J.Crew retail stores, 140 Madewell locations and 170 factory stores in addition to its websites. The retailer had about 13,000 employees before the pandemic began. The company, which leases all of its stores, disclosed in a court filing that it had hired a real estate consultancy and liquidator to help it evaluate its leases and negotiate rent relief. Permanent store closings are possible.

More retail bankruptcies are expected in coming weeks with thousands of stores still shuttered, though states have begun a staggered restart of their economies. March sales at stores and restaurants had their most severe plunge on records dating back to 1992. Clothing sales fell more than 50% that month and, in the timeline of a pandemic, those may have been the good days, AP reported.

NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER

Daniel Bell Briefs *Global Times* on Debate with Niall Ferguson over Lies That China Spread Coronavirus

May 4 (EIRNS)—“The recent political debate between Daniel A. Bell, a Canadian political theorist and dean of the School of Political Science and

Public Administration, Shandong University, and Niall Ferguson, a leading British historian, has caught intellectual attention,” China’s *Global Times* drily noted in introducing its own May 2 interview with Bell.

Ferguson’s article in the April 5 *Sunday Times* of London had started the claim that on Jan. 23 China had shut down flights from Wuhan to other parts of China, but allowed continued travel from Wuhan outside the country, to support the vicious lies that China was interested in beating the disease at home, but hoped that it would spread abroad.

Bell’s investigation into air schedule records showed that Ferguson’s allegations were totally baseless. As is otherwise known, even the U.S. had to take special measures to provide air transport for Americans who wanted to leave Wuhan because of the total shutdown of general traffic from the city.

In his interview with *Global Times*, Bell reflects on the cultural differences between China and the West which he says allowed China to take the required measures. “The shared Confucian heritage in East Asia also played an important role,” he said. “Partly, it’s because of respect for political hierarchies that serve the people and respect for upright professionals (*junzi*) such as Dr. Zhong Nanshan [President of the Chinese Medical Association from 2005 to 2009 and currently the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Thoracic Disease*]. More specific Confucian values also help to explain success. The Confucian value of filial piety, or reverence for the elderly, helps to explain why East Asian countries took such strong measures to protect people from a disease that is particularly dangerous for the elderly. In contrast, countries that venerate the young such as Sweden opted for an approach that *New York Times* columnist Ross Douthat has termed ‘let the old die for herd immunity’ approach. Relatively distant hierarchical ‘greeting practices’ such as bowing in East Asian countries helped to minimize contagion compared to, say, the kissing and hugging common in Italy, Spain and France.”

He went on: “The respect for expertise is widely shared among the population, perhaps as a legacy of Confucian respect for *junzi*,” so that

“when 82-year-old Dr. Zhong Nanshan warned of the severity of the coronavirus on Jan. 20, the whole country listened and prepared for the worst. In countries with a more anti-elitist ethos, such as the U.S., intellectuals renowned for both their expertise and compassion do not exert the same level of social influence.”

Bell also attacks the demonization of China in the U.S. as a cheap tactic to garner votes, and which he characterizes also as a particular weakness in democratic societies. Bell further laments the fact that, given the present anti-China climate, the Western countries are less inclined to follow China in those areas of fighting the epidemic which the Chinese have proven most successful.

SCIENCE

U.S. Virologist Who Worked at Wuhan Lab Debunks the Lie that It Was Source of COVID

May 4 (EIRNS)—Jonna Mazet, a professor of epidemiology at the University of California, Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and Executive Director of the UC Davis One Health Institute, who has worked with and trained researchers from the Wuhan Institute of Virology in the past, discards the possibility that the Wuhan lab would have been the source of the novel coronavirus. Speaking to news site Business Insider, May 2, she explained: Firstly, the lab’s samples don’t match the novel coronavirus; secondly, there are rigorous security protocols at the Wuhan lab; thirdly, coronavirus is the last in a long line of zoonotic diseases that are known to jump from animal to human; and fourthly, it is more likely that an ordinary person and not an experienced lab worker would catch the virus.

“Even if researchers stumbled across the virus, they would be very unlikely to get infected. When researchers collect samples, they take extraordinary precautions to avoid infecting themselves in the field,” Mazet told National Public Radio in an April 23 broadcast. “Scientists working with wild bats wear N95 respirator masks, Tyvek suits, goggles and gloves.

Samples of bat blood, urine, saliva and feces are immediately plunged into nitrogen to freeze them on the spot.”

Moreover, when they do begin to work with them, they are deactivated, a chemical process that breaks apart the virus without disturbing its genetic material. “These protocols are used by scientists all over the world, including in China,” she explained. Mazet says that the staff at the Wuhan Institute of Virology, where much of the suspicion has been focused, has been trained by U.S. scientists as part of the PREDICT program, a global project to watch for emerging viruses, which Mazet heads up. “Scientists working there follow the rules,” Mazet says.

Mazet says researchers at the Wuhan institute were so good, they actually helped to shape the protocols. “They were not only completing all of those trainings, but they were also weighing in and helping us to make those trainings very strong from a safety perspective.”

OTHER

Out-of-Control COVID-19 Cracks Brazilian Institutions, with Government Crisis Underway

May 4 (EIRNS)—Brazil now has the greatest number of diagnosed COVID-19 cases of any developing country. The official count is closing in on 110,000 cases, but the country’s testing level is an abysmal 1,600 per million people. A study published yesterday by the University of São Paulo estimates Brazilian cases since the start of the epidemic in the country may be as many as 1.6 million cases, the highest in the world. Brazil is “already the global epicenter of the coronavirus,” in the estimation of Dr. Domingo Alves, from the Health Intelligence Laboratory at the USP’s Medical School, which produced the study.

The Health Secretary for the third most populous state in Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, Edmar Santos, warned last week that a big rise in deaths is coming in the country, which will look like Italy, Spain and the U.S., in the next three to four weeks. The city’s morgues are already in a crisis. The waiting list for an ICU bed for COVID-19 in his state is 360 patients long, he

reported. As of today, health officials reported that there were *no* acute care beds with staffing available for COVID-19 patients in the public health system of the state capital, Rio de Janeiro. The city (with a population of at least 6.7 million) hopes to open 500 beds in a field hospital, pending hiring of new health professionals and the expected arrival later this week of equipment from China.

The horror in Manaus, the capital of the state of Amazonas, is worsening. People are being buried in mass graves, as burials are running over a hundred more a day than the average daily deaths before COVID-19 hit. Now, coffins are running short. Mayor Arthur Virgilio issued an urgent plea to the federal government last week to send them some. He urged fellow mayors and governors to do what he had failed to do: Convince people to stay home. The mayor ripped into President Jair Bolsonaro, who is *demanding* states rescind their restrictions on public activities, in the name of “freedom.” “He is offering freedom, but it is a false freedom that could represent a kind of genocide,” Virgilio told the London *Guardian*.

President Bolsonaro has hardened his commitment to the “herd immunity” policy, firing his Health Minister two weeks ago for insisting on implementing public health measures. Videos of Bolsonaro’s cavalier response, “So what? What do you want me to do? I am not a messiah,” when asked last week about official COVID-19 deaths crossing the 5,000 mark, went viral, sending his popularity below 30% for the first time.

The unfolding catastrophe has opened a free-for-all for control of the government, with both patriotic and British-allied establishment forces positioning themselves to seize control as chaos develops. One military grouping in his cabinet announced an infrastructure program for rebuilding the country on April 24; Wall Street’s man in the cabinet, Finance Minister Paulo Guedes, let it be known he opposed it. Simultaneously, London’s key controller in the government, the “Lava Jato anti-corruption” Justice Minister Sergio Moro resigned, and began a war against Bolsonaro for “corruption,” in what is widely viewed as a bid for his own rise to power.

- **Watch the Morning Briefing with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday, May 5:** 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.