

## EIR Daily Alert Service

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## EDITORIAL

### Trillions for War—Nothing for Life

April 23 (EIRNS)—There can be no denying the fact that the Biden Administration and the Boris Johnson Administration are preparing for war with Russia and China. Nor do they deny it themselves. The Pentagon has issued a call to all defense contractors “from across industry” for information on their capacity to produce weapons of various sorts, including “appropriate target types.” The White House announced that they have created a position of “coordinator of military aid to Ukraine,”

recalling retired Army Lt. Gen. Terry Wolff, to expand the surrogate war with Russia being conducted in Ukraine in league with the neo-Nazis driving that war, preventing a resolution. The atrocities by those U.S. and British trained Nazis are totally public and obvious to anyone other than those so self-deluded as to believe the information warriors in London, Washington and the media blaming the atrocities on Russian forces. Boris Johnson, who is barely clinging to his position, bragged on Thursday that the U.K., like Canada, is training the Nazis both within the U.K. and in Poland, while special forces troops are training them within Ukraine, in methods of sabotage and guerrilla warfare, according to Russian officials.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin will be at the Ramstein Airbase in Germany on April 26, meeting with defense representatives from both NATO and non-NATO nations to assess “how countries can energize the defense industrial base to continue the steady flow of weapons to Ukrainian forces and a larger view of Kyiv’s defense needs stretching beyond the current war with Russia,” according to a Pentagon spokesman.

Meanwhile, the global supply chain for energy and food is crumbling under the illegal and deadly sanctions imposed on Russia, feeding the speculative frenzy by the Western bankers profiting off the contrived shortages. Sri Lanka is the first nation to default on its foreign debts in order to maintain energy and food to its people, but Bloomberg Economics, reporting on behalf of the bankers holding credit default swaps, pointed to Tunisia, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Ghana and El Salvador as the next likely financial carrion for the vultures of Wall Street and the City of London, with Turkey and Egypt on the close-watch list. The World Bank calculates that 60% of low-income countries are in debt distress already. How many will die in this process, if it is not immediately reversed, is a question of no interest to the fascist economists running this disintegrating Western financial system.

There are mounting calls for peace, from UN-connected professionals and academics, from Pope Francis, and others, warning that the war is

threatening to escalate to a global war, possibly a thermonuclear war of horrendous consequence.

But calling for peace without posing a solution to the ongoing disintegration of the entire Western financial system, and the deadly consequences of that disintegration to the more than 1 billion people facing death by starvation and disease in the immediate months ahead, is a futile exercise. The major powers must meet to resolve the security dilemma for all nations, including Russia and China, but they must also concur on the creation of a new international economic order which puts the approximately \$2 quadrillion in outstanding speculative debt through bankruptcy reorganization, using the same method as Franklin Roosevelt in dealing with the bankrupt U.S. banking system when he took office in 1933.

The Schiller Institute has re-issued its petition, “[Convoke an International Conference to Establish a New Security and Development Architecture for All Nations](#),” updated to reflect the impact of the April 9 Schiller Institute Conference on the same theme, and the thousands who have already signed from over 65 countries. The [Conference](#), available on the Schiller site, demonstrated that leaders of Russia, China, India, South Africa, Ibero-America, Europe and the United States can be brought together to address the existential crisis facing mankind, and to overcome the divisions fostered by the dying remnants of British geopolitics and imperial thinking. This must now be replicated in a new Peace of Westphalia among all nations.

If you have not already, sign the petition and circulate it to everyone you can.

- Watch [Harley’s Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Monday April 25, 2022: Every weekday morning on [The LaRouche Organization](#), Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

## STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

### **Pentagon Wants More New Weapons from the Military-Industrial Complex**

April 23 (EIRNS)—The Defense Department posted a broad request for information from industry on the federal contracting ([System for Award Management](#)) website, reported *Defense News*. The Rapid Fielding Initiative (RFI) on behalf of the new undersecretary of Defense for Acquisitions and Sustainment Bill LaPlante is seeking input “from across industry” about air defense, anti-armor, anti-personnel, coastal defense, counter battery, unmanned aerial systems, and communications equipment, such as secure radios and satellite internet gear. To that end, the DOD asks that responding companies describe their weapon, product or system in 100 words or less, and—in the case of munitions—check off “appropriate target type(s),” such as area, fixed, airborne/missile, maritime, mine, moving, hard or soft. The RFI says information received will be used to develop requirements for an actual solicitation at a later date.

The White House announced on April 21 that retired Army Lt. Gen. Terry Wolff has been appointed as the coordinator of military aid to Ukraine. “The NSC recently brought on Terry Wolff to help coordinate the security assistance the U.S. and our partners are providing to Ukraine, which they are using every day to defend their country,” a National Security Council spokesperson said.

### **Japan’s Shinzo Abe Insists U.S. Must Declare Military Defense of Taiwan**

April 23 (EIRNS)—Former Japanese Prime Minister [Shinzo Abe](#) broke a fundamental agreement between Japan and China in an April 12 article in *Project Syndicate*, calling for the U.S. to openly pledge to militarily defend Taiwan in the case of a mainland military move to achieve reunification. While not official, Abe is still a spokesman for Japan, and indicates a dangerous tendency within Japan.

Abe claims the U.S. policy of “strategic ambiguity” about its willingness to defend Taiwan in a military situation must be replaced due to

Russia's action in Ukraine. Appealing to the tired saws of the "unipolar" world on Anglo-American supremacy, Abe wrote:

"Given the change in circumstances since the policy of strategic ambiguity was adopted, the U.S. should issue a statement that is not open to misinterpretation or multiple interpretations. The time has come for the U.S. to make clear that it will defend Taiwan against any attempted Chinese invasion.... The human tragedy that has befallen Ukraine has taught us a bitter lesson. There must no longer be any room for doubt in our resolve concerning Taiwan, and in our determination to defend freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law."

### **U.S. Preparing Regime Change in the Solomon Islands**

April 23 (EIRNS)—The U.S. delegation to the Solomon Islands led by National Security Council Indo-Pacific Coordinator Kurt Campbell issued threats yesterday against Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare in an obvious effort to get him to break the security agreement he just signed with China. "The two sides engaged in substantial discussion around the recently signed security agreement between Solomon Islands and the People's Republic of China," the White House readout, issued after a 90-minute meeting, reported. "Solomon Islands representatives indicated that the agreement had solely domestic applications, but the U.S. delegation noted there are potential regional security implications of the accord, including for the United States and its allies and partners. The U.S. delegation outlined clear areas of concern with respect to the purpose, scope, and transparency of the agreement.

"If steps are taken to establish a de facto permanent military presence, power-projection capabilities, or a military installation, the delegation noted that the United States would then have significant concerns and respond accordingly," the U.S. side bluntly warned.

A report in the *Solomon Star News* proclaims that is the latest in a flurry of joint diplomatic activities aimed at forcing Solomon Islands to abandon the security pact, falsely claiming China was going to use the agreement to build military bases in Solomon Islands.

The U.S. delegation's visit followed that of Australian Minister for International Development and the Pacific Zed Seselja, last week, which apparently did not go well. "The resentment was quite obvious," conceded one insider after the meeting.

The *Solomon Star News* analysis states that Washington believes a "free and fair election could result in a new government that not only abrogates the security deal (with China) but switches back to Taiwan." The U.S. Administration also believes such an outcome would be a "serious loss of face for Xi Jinping, giving ammunition to his domestic enemies, and could lead to a politically weakened Sogavare being more exposed to prosecution," according to Reuters and the *Sunday Guardian* newspaper (I did not find the Reuters report but the *Sunday Guardian* article is here).

The *Star News* quotes a former Foreign Minister and Prime Minister Danny Philip as making two points: One is that the U.S. for the most part has ignored the Solomon Islands for most of the past 80 years, after leaving behind tons of unexploded ordnance and hazardous materials left over from the vicious battles fought there during World War II. Secondly is a volatile combination of cultures and belief structures within the population that make governance difficult. Philip stressed that the need for establishing a strong and effective internal security apparatus and system to underwrite and guarantee economic development as national assets is important. "This alone is the basis for the expanded scope of security arrangement between Solomon Islands and China," he said.

### **Chinese Video Unveils America's 'Seven Masks' of Evil**

April 23 (EIRNS)—*Global Times* posted a 4:39 minute video April 22, in Chinese with English subtitles, titled "[Unmasking the Superpower.](#)" Accompanied by an obnoxious pounding beat from a synthesizer, the cartoon portrays an American soldier in various masks waging wars, color revolutions, chemical weapons attacks and so on.

The blurb for the video reads: "Ukraine crisis instigator, instability brewer, 'vampire' in the war, Cold War conspirator, poison disseminator,

human rights destroyer, ‘Voldemort’ of global order.... We show you how the U.S. abuses its superpower status by creating trouble in the world.”

The seven masks are: peace, security, unity, science, humanity, and global order.

### ***Canard Enchaîné* Reports, U.S. Will Deploy Latest Model of Tactical B-61 Nuclear Bombs on European Soil**

PARIS, April 23 (EIRNS)—Claude Angeli, Editor in Chief editor of the French satirical weekly *Le Canard Enchaîné*, a conduit for publishing “leaks” from French military intelligence, this week covers “New U.S. Nuclear Weapons in Europe.” On April 12, reports Angeli, French military attachés stationed in Washington attended a closed-door seminar of the Advanced Nuclear Weapons Alliance Deterrence Center. Its main speaker was Jessica Cox, director of the Nuclear Policy Directorate at NATO HQ in Brussels. The new orientations outlined by Cox were confirmed to the French delegates by the Pentagon and transmitted via the chiefs of staff to the Elysée. Too bad for Macron who dreams of European defense. The new version (model 12) of the B-61 nuclear bombs will “very soon be stored on European soil and, progressively (between now and 2030), countries that bought American F-35 jets will be able to deploy them against an aggressor, under strict control of the Pentagon.”

The B-61 nuclear bomb is the U.S.’s primary thermonuclear gravity bomb in the U.S. Enduring Stockpile following the end of the Cold War. It is considered a “low- to intermediate-yield strategic and tactical nuclear weapon” and therefore extremely destabilizing.

First, confirms Angeli, the new B-61 bombs will replace its preceding model already present in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Italy. Then, they will be deployed in the U.K., and “depending on how the situation evolves,” they will be proposed to Poland, Denmark and Norway. The Pentagon already committed \$484 million to prepare their safe storage in these countries. The U.S. decision, notes Angeli, “adds up to the recent decision to create military bases in three Baltic states as well as in Poland, Romania, Hungary and Slovakia.”

In January, the National Nuclear Security Administration of the U.S. Department of Energy announced that large-scale production of the B-61-12 will begin in May. The program foresees the construction of 500 bombs at a cost of about \$10 billion (each bomb costing twice as much as if it were built entirely of gold). The actual number, however, remains secret as is its geographical location is largely secret.

Taking up the same issue, on January 2022, Manlio Dinucci, writing in Italy's *Il Manifesto*, reported that "It is not excluded that the new nuclear bombs can also be deployed in Asia and the Middle East against China and Iran." Dinucci recalled the fact that the five nuclear weapons powers, which are also the permanent members of the UN Security Council—the United States, Russia, China, France, and the United Kingdom—affirmed on Jan. 3, 2022 in a joint declaration that "nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought" and that they remained "committed to pursuing negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament. The U.S. should therefore commit not to deploy the new B-61-12 nuclear bombs in other countries, even better not to produce them at all," concluded Dinucci.

## NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

### Open Letter in Germany To Replace Logic of War by Logic of Peace!

April 23 (EIRNS)—Academicians, artists, churchmen and journalists appealed to the German Chancellor not to deliver weapons to Ukraine and thereby prolong the war, but instead take the lead for an initiative to have a ceasefire and begin serious talks on a peace agreement. The letter warns in strong words against a bigger war, potentially a nuclear one, to grow out of a prolonged war in Ukraine.

Here are excerpts from the letter, published today in *Berliner Zeitung*. Signers include Hans-Christof Graf von Sponeck, former Assistant Secretary General of the UNO, and Dr. Antje Vollmer, former Vice President of the German Bundestag:

“Dear Chancellor Scholz,

“We are people of different backgrounds, political attitudes and positions towards the policies of NATO, Russia and the German government. We all deeply condemn this war of Russia in Ukraine, which cannot be justified by anything. We are united in warning against an uncontrollable expansion of the war with unforeseeable consequences for the entire world and in opposing a prolongation of the war and bloodshed with arms deliveries. By supplying weapons, Germany and other NATO countries have de facto made themselves a party to the war. And thus Ukraine has also become the battleground for the conflict between NATO and Russia over the security order in Europe, which has been escalating for years.

“This brutal war in the middle of Europe is being fought on the backs of the Ukrainian population. The economic war now unleashed is at the same time endangering supplies for the people of Russia and many poor countries around the world. Reports of war crimes are mounting. Even if they are difficult to verify under the prevailing conditions, it can be assumed that in this war, as in others before, atrocities are being committed and the brutality increases with its duration. All the more reason to end it quickly.

“The war carries the real danger of an expansion and uncontrollable military escalation—similar to that in the First World War. Red lines are drawn, which are then crossed by actors and hazards on both sides, and the spiral is once again one step further. If responsible people like you, dear Chancellor, do not stop this development, we will end up with another big war. Only this time with nuclear weapons, widespread devastation and the end of human civilization. Avoiding more and more casualties, destruction and further dangerous escalation must therefore have absolute priority.

“We therefore call on the German government, EU and NATO countries to stop supplying arms to Ukrainian troops and to encourage the government in Kyiv to end military resistance—in exchange for assurances of negotiations on a ceasefire and a political solution.

“Negotiations on the rapid withdrawal of Russian troops and the restoration of Ukraine’s territorial integrity should be supported by NATO countries’ own proposals regarding legitimate security interests of Russia and its neighbors.

“In order to stop further massive destruction of the cities as quickly as possible and to accelerate ceasefire negotiations, the federal government should suggest that the cities currently under siege, most at risk and so far largely undestroyed, such as Kyiv, Kharkiv and Odesa, become ‘undefended cities,’ under the First Additional Protocol to the Geneva Convention of 1949. Thanks to the concept already defined in the Hague Convention on Land Warfare, numerous cities were able to prevent their devastation during the Second World War.

“The prevailing logic of war must be replaced by a bold logic of peace, and a new European and global architecture of peace must be created, including Russia and China. Our country must not stand on the sidelines here, but take an active role.”

### **Pakistan’s New Prime Minister Wants To Accelerate China-Pakistan Economic Corridor**

April 23 (EIRNS)—The April 20 issue of *South China Morning Post* explores the policy orientations of the incoming Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif (not to be confused with his brother Nawaz Sharif, who was three times prime minister). Contrary to initial fears, the ousting of Imran Khan, who irritated London and Washington for his cooperation with both China and Russia, will not affect China-Pakistan cooperation, and may even bolster it.

“Within minutes of being declared Pakistan’s new PM,” writes Hong Kong’s daily *SCMP*, “Shehbaz Sharif made clear his intention to breathe new life into the estimated \$60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). It was no coincidence that a Chinese embassy delegation was among the first callers on Sharif.”

CPEC, one of the early pillars of the Belt and Road Initiative, was announced by President Xi Jinping when he visited Islamabad in April 2015. At that time, Zhao Lijian, currently a Foreign Ministry spokesman, was the deputy chief of mission at the Embassy in Islamabad. Zhao is well-acquainted with Sharif, who, as then Chief Minister of Punjab province, was deeply involved in negotiating which infrastructure projects would be built there during the “early harvest” phase of the 15-year CPEC scheme. Zhao and Sharif went on to attend dozens of meetings on the CPEC over the three years up to 2018. (The CPEC corridor roughly extends from China’s Xinjiang Province near the Pakistan border, south through Peshawar, and on southward to the Arabian Sea port of Gwadar.)

According to *SCMP*, “despite pressure from both Beijing and the Pakistani establishment, Khan and his PTI-led government never embraced the CPEC during its three and a half-year rule.” Even worse, “Activity under the Chinese-funded program slowed to the point that most under-construction projects fell far behind schedule, while no new major projects were launched.”

China also became angry after nine of its nationals working for the China Gezhouba Group Corp. were killed in an unclaimed vehicular suicide bombing in July 2021. Speaking at the public opening session of the committee in September 2021, the vice-chairman of China’s National Development and Reform Commission Ning Jizhe sternly reminded Pakistan that the security of its nationals was the “precondition” for all Chinese economic investment. He also listed Beijing’s complaints about Islamabad’s handling of the CPEC. “No new projects were announced and, despite the Khan administration’s best efforts, China did not make funding available for a \$6.8 billion overhaul of Pakistan’s crumbling railways network,” writes *SCMP*.

Now with Shehbaz Sharif as new Prime Minister, the CPEC project is expected to gain steam. “Inaugurating a metro bus line connecting Islamabad with its new Chinese-built international airport on Monday, Shehbaz publicly appealed to President Xi Jinping to fund the revival of a

mass transit railway system in the populous port city of Karachi by adding the project to the CPEC. CPEC also figured prominently in Shehbaz's appointment of Ahsan Iqbal as the minister for planning and development." (Iqbal was key in the early phases of CPEC.)

Giving new vigor to the CPEC project already worries the Anglo-American camp. "Today, as Pakistan [with Chinese support—ed.] eyes expanding the pact to Afghanistan and Iran, there are concerns by the U.S. and India that Beijing may use the CPEC to deepen its military ties with Islamabad, observers say."

Probably just as worrying, if not more so, is that such expansion will give land-locked Central Asia wide access to the Pacific, via Gwadar in Pakistan; Chabahar port in Iran not far over the border with Pakistan; and the older port of Karachi in Pakistan.

### **Beijing Takes on World Bank Chief for Anti-China Ops**

April 23 (EIRNS)—World Bank President David Malpass on April 20 said the Bank would find a new means for restructuring developing nation debt in order to "avoid" any money going to repay debt to China, claiming a "lack of transparency relating to the amounts they owe to China," according to Bloomberg. He also said it would be "probably good for everyone."

*Global Times* responded today that the World Bank's "dancing to Washington's tune and parroting groundless accusations targeting China's loan agreements with other countries does not help any country in any way. Providing financial support to help developing countries through multilateral mechanisms is why the World Bank was established. Therefore, the multilateral lender should not be a place for geopolitical calculations of certain members."

The former World Bank Chief Economist Justin Yifu Lin told the April 9 Schiller Institute Conference, and in an interview with *EIR* to be published this week, that he had concluded that the World Bank and the IMF methods had failed to lift developing countries out of poverty since

they refused to build basic infrastructure, but only gave aid, leaving the countries undeveloped and poor. That is why China's Belt and Road Initiative, Lin said, emphasizes infrastructure, and is also why so many countries support China's approach.

The *Global Times* notes: "As for China's loans and investments overseas, if anything, the 'lack of transparency' rhetoric only reflects the West's concern and nervousness about China's smooth development of economic and trade cooperation with other developing countries.... China has the same experience as other developing countries and has the best understanding of what they need the most to upgrade their economies. Therefore, the past years have seen great progress in cooperation between China and other developing countries, especially in the field of infrastructure construction."

### **China-Vietnam Trade Doubles, 'Secure Supply Chain' for Southeast Asia**

April 23 (EIRNS)—The launching of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) by 15 of the Asia-Pacific nations on Jan. 1 showed its impact in a doubling of China-Vietnam rail trade in the first quarter. *Global Times* on April 23 noted that this demonstrates "a stable supply chain for Southeast Asia boosted by the regional economic partnership." Chinese customs data showed that trade by train between China and ASEAN as a whole increased three-and-a-half times in the first quarter. That includes the now functioning China-Laos rail line.

In the past, it would take several weeks for the goods to arrive by sea, but now, it will only take around two weeks to pick up the goods, while the rising shipping fees are also making more companies shift to freight trains.

Trade between China and Vietnam exceeded \$230 billion last year, and China has remained Vietnam's largest trading partner for many years, while Vietnam continues to be China's largest trading partner in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).