

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

The Planet Is in Systemic Shock; The Moment Is Ripe for a Sea-Change

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—The overall numbers are shocking enough. More than 1 million souls have lost their lives to the COVID-19 pandemic so far in

2020, and another million could die over the next nine months if the current trajectory isn't drastically changed. Some 515 million of the world's 3.5 billion labor force will have lost their jobs by the end of 2020 because of the pandemic-triggered economic collapse; and total labor income will have dropped by about 15% over the course of the year, according to a just-released report from the International Labor Organization.

But the reality behind the averages is worse still. In Latin America and the Caribbean, where the pandemic has hit particularly hard, 35% of total work hours will have been lost by the end of 2020, and total labor income will have fallen by over 25%. The vast majority of those lost work hours are in the so-called "informal sector" of the economy, where workers engage in service and gray- and black-market activities that by and large do not actually produce any physical-economic value whatsoever. That is why, in "[The LaRouche Plan To Reopen the U.S. Economy: The World Needs 1.5 Billion New, Productive Jobs](#)," we classified such informal sector jobs as de facto unemployment, even though they bring desperately needed cash to populations living at the edge.

Or they used to. Now, even that is disappearing: The pandemic has simply lifted the veil on the vast, teeming real unemployment that was there all along. If you take the total work-hours lost this year as a percentage of this "de facto unemployment" in the informal sector, then 42% of those work-hours have gone up in smoke worldwide; in Ibero-America, it is the equivalent of 91% of that de facto unemployment category!

Add to that food price inflation, which according to some reports already averages about 15% in many countries in Africa, and you have a 30-50% plunge in the ability to pay for food for a half-billion people or more in the underdeveloped sector.

Nor are Famine and Pestilence the only two Horsemen abroad in the land: the British Empire has unleashed War as well. The shooting war between Armenia and Azerbaijan in Nagorno-Karabakh could escalate into a NATO-Turkey-Azerbaijan war against Armenia-Russia within days, or even hours. The color revolution afoot on Russia's border in Belarus

threatens to provoke a strategic incident right on Russia's doorstep. And U.S. drone and other military activities in the vicinity of the South China Sea is provoking stiff resistance from China, along with dire threats of large-scale retaliation if the provocations keep escalating.

All of this is the policy substance of the British Empire's current drive to stop President Donald Trump's reelection—which today suffered a significant setback with the declassification of documents proving the whole Russiagate scandal was a known fraud initiated by Hillary Clinton and the Obama gang—and to orchestrate parallel regime-changes against Presidents Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping.

“The world situation is quickly going out of control,” Helga Zepp-LaRouche stated soberly today. “We are in for one of the hottest periods ever. There are five weeks to the U.S. Presidential election, and we should assume there will be a dangerous escalation somewhere.” The British are desperate because their entire international financial system is bankrupt, and they will stop at nothing until they are contained, and their system put through bankruptcy reorganization as Lyndon LaRouche specified in detail in his Four Laws.

In those same five weeks, Zepp-LaRouche stressed, we must ensure Trump's reelection; insist on a summit meeting of at least Trump, Putin and Xi to address the global crises; and demand the implementation of the LaRouche economic policies laid out in LaRouchePAC's program for 1.5 billion new productive jobs. Reality is dictating the timetable.

“We have to catapult the economy to a new level to solve the present problems,” Zepp-LaRouche said. “Only if you go for a radical change, with LaRouche's Four Laws, is there any hope of getting out of this mess, by adopting a policy of the World Land-Bridge and 1.5 billion new, productive jobs, starting with cooperation to build a World Health System. This is now more urgent than ever.

“The overall picture is such that people must really wake up and agree that the summit process we have been pushing, and is still on the agenda as reiterated most recently by President Putin, could take place at a moment's

notice. If the heads of state would say, the world situation is so grave that we absolutely must address this together, it could be done.”

STRATEGIC WAR DANGER

Conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh Has the Potential To Blow Up into a Bigger War

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—With NATO member Turkey flagrantly supporting Azerbaijan, and Russia having a mutual defense agreement with Armenia, there is a great potential for the war over Nagorno-Karabakh between Azerbaijan and Armenia to blow up into a much larger war involving NATO itself and Russia.

Armenian President Armen Sarkissian charged during an address to a NATO cybersecurity conference yesterday that Turkey is supporting Azerbaijan in its attack on Artsakh (the unrecognized Nagorno-Karabakh republic) with its F-16 fighter jets. “Unfortunately I have to declare that NATO member Turkey is fully supporting Azerbaijan now through its electronic drones—through cyberattacks. But it’s not only that. Turkey is supporting Azerbaijan also through their personnel, advisers, mercenaries and also with their F-16s,” he was quoted as saying by Armenpress on Sept. 28. “For every Armenian living worldwide that’s sort of a return of the ghost. Why I say ghost, because that’s the ghost of the Ottoman Empire, that 105 years ago masterminded the Armenian Genocide. There’s no way that we can allow that this genocide happen again.”

Armenian Ambassador to Russia Vardan Toganyan also warned yesterday that his country would use its Russian-made Iskander missiles if Turkey began to use F-16s in Karabakh, explaining that his country has sufficient air defense systems to get rid of Turkish drones. “The military leadership has repeatedly stated that if the Sword of Damocles was deployed in the form of Turkish F-16 fighters on the Karabakh people, all measures would be taken, including the use of the Iskanders,” he said. “That is, the Armed Forces of Armenia would have to fully use their arsenal to ensure security.” It’s not clear how many Iskanders Armenia has

in its inventory, but Russia delivered a batch of the Iskander-E export version to Armenia in 2016. There is also a Russian missile regiment stationed in Armenia equipped with Iskander missiles, further indicating the blow-up potential of the war.

Azerbaijan does not have any F-16s in its air force, so if there are any appearing in the skies over Karabakh, they are Turkish. In any case, the Azeris are denying the accusation as Armenian disinformation.

NATO Claims It Feels Threatened by a Handful of Russian Troops in Belarus

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—NATO has been put “on alert” because of Russian President Vladimir Putin’s “embrace” of President Aleksandr Lukashenko in Belarus, the *Wall Street Journal* reported, because allegedly not all of the Russian troops that were involved in the Sept. 14-25 “Slavic Brotherhood” exercise in Belarus have left the country. In NATO’s view, Russian troops in Belarus constitute a threat to the so-called Suwalki Gap, the stretch of Poland’s border with Lithuania between Belarus and Russia’s Kaliningrad Baltic exclave. That border region is NATO’s only overland connection between the Baltic States and the rest of the Alliance.

According to the *Journal*, Putin has been pressuring Lukashenko to allow Russian military bases on Belarusian territory. “That could position Russian forces as a pincer on either side of that border,” the *Journal* claims. In fact, the emergence of the “Suwalki Gap” in the first place is actually a function of the encroachment of NATO ever closer to Russia’s borders, and not the result of any ostensible threat coming from Russia.

Not surprisingly, the *Journal*’s main source for its analysis is retired Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, the former commander of U.S. Army Europe, who has made a post-retirement career out of playing up the alleged Russian threat to NATO. “Suwalki is much less of a concern if you don’t have Russian troops in Belarus,” Hodges told the *Journal*. “If you do, it’s a different calculation in terms of the time, speed and power they can bring.”

This is not the first time that Russia has been accused of intending to leave troops in Belarus. In 2017, around that year's Zapad (West) exercise, Poland and the Baltic states were stirred up to the point of hysteria over theories that Russia was using the exercise as a cover for an intended invasion from Belarus. What happened in reality was that all of the Russian troops in Belarus for the exercise went back to their home stations in Russia after the exercise concluded—end of story.

***Global Times* Accuses U.S. of Preparing for War on China**

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—*Global Times* posted an exceptionally angry editorial today accusing the U.S. of preparing a drone attack on the islands that China claims in the South China Sea and on which it has built airfields and other facilities. “China will shoot down incoming U.S. warplanes, no matter whether they are unmanned or manned,” *Global Times* vowed. “If those planes cause actual damage to Chinese islands and reefs, we will strike the platforms and bases from which those planes take off. The Nansha Islands have only a small number of defensive weapons. If they are attacked, those islands would henceforth need to be turned into a fully operational military base to counter any serious threat to them.”

The editorial was triggered by the coverage in *Air Force Magazine*, posted on Sept. 24, of a joint U.S. Air Force-Navy exercise off the coast of California, in which the Air Force's MQ-9 Reaper drones were employed in a maritime role for the first time. The article was boldly illustrated with a photo of five members of the maintenance crew wearing a patch on their right shoulders showing a Reaper drone superimposed over a map of China colored in red. “This is an extremely arrogant provocation,” *Global Times* declared in its front page editorial. “According to reports, the last time the U.S. Air Force put a country on the patch was during the Vietnam War. Putting a map of China on patches, already a radical move, and publishing the picture, obviously the U.S. military wants to send a strong signal.”

The *Global Times* editorial had already been preceded by a Twitter posting by Editor-in-Chief Hu Xijin in which he maintained that “Based on information I learned, Trump government could take the risk to attack

China's islands in the South China Sea with MQ-9 Reaper drones to aid his reelection campaign. If it happens, the PLA will definitely fight back fiercely and let those who start the war pay a heavy price.”

“Washington is stepping up its war preparations against China, and drones, which have been involved in assassination and other attacks around the world, will also play a role. This is the strategic signal sent by the U.S. *Air Force Magazine*'s report on the MQ-9 Reaper drone,” *Global Times* said further in the editorial. “This is a move to further stir hostilities between Chinese and American societies and an extortion against China. The U.S. military is using the drones and patches to stimulate the imagination and create images of China and the U.S. going to war. It's also a move to mobilize public opinion.”

U.S. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

DNI Ratcliffe Declassifies Explosive New Letter

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—On September 29th, Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe presented a declassified letter to Senate Judiciary Chairman Lindsey Graham which attributes the entirety of Russiagate to a fake story spun by Hillary Clinton, personally, in order to direct attention away from the scandal involving her use of a private unsecure email server penetrated by multiple foreign intelligence services.

The letter states that Russian intelligence had detected a plot as of July of 2016 to scandalize Donald Trump by tying him to President Vladimir Putin and the Russian hacking of the Democratic National Committee. Ratcliffe's letter says they aren't vouching for the Russian analysis. (That, of course, has proved to be true, up to and including the fact that there never was a Russian hack of the DNC resulting in the files released by WikiLeaks, according to the Clinton/DNC vendor CrowdStrike.)

Then-CIA Director John Brennan made notes of his briefing to President Obama and senior security officials on the Russian intelligence assessment, according to the declassified letter, including the “alleged

approval on July 26, 2016 by Clinton of a proposal by one of her foreign policy advisers” to vilify Trump by stirring up a scandal claiming interference by the Russian security services. (Of course, Brennan then himself flamed the scandal with his August emergency briefing of Congress’s Group of 8 about Russian interference on behalf of Trump, knowing it would leak. This, of course, begs the question, what did Obama and other “senior security officials” do to implement Hillary’s plan?)

According to the third and last significant paragraph of the declassified letter, on Sept. 7, 2016, U.S. intelligence officials forwarded an investigative referral to FBI Director Comey and FBI Agent Peter Strzok, concerning Clinton’s baseless accusations about “Russian hackers” and Trump, “as a means of distracting the public from her use of a private email server.” (This should make for very interesting questioning tomorrow when Comey appears before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Exactly who were the U.S. intelligence officials who forwarded the investigative referral? We already know that the FBI deep sixed it.)

Philadelphia Firefighters & Paramedics Endorse Trump, Urge Fellow Union Locals To Do Likewise

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—The Philadelphia Firefighters and Paramedics Union, Local No. 22 of the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), today announced that it is bucking the “undemocratic IAFF endorsement of Joe Biden,” because it “proudly endorses President Trump for re-election.” The statement is a call to arms for other local leaderships to canvas their rank and file members, as they did, and then make their endorsement likewise.

Local 22 President Mike Bresnan reported that the local members “overwhelmingly chose President Trump,” when canvassed. “They know what is at stake in this election and this endorsement should be a wake-up call to IAFF leaders that have lost touch with the will of the membership. There is tremendous support for President Trump among first responders.”

Bresnan pointed out what the choice in this election Nov. 3 means to the citizens of Philadelphia when it comes to firefighting and emergency paramedics: “Under the Obama-Biden Administration, several Philadelphia

fire companies were shut down. The FEMA grants provided by President Donald Trump put [Fire Department companies] Engines 1, 8, 14 and 39 back into service protecting the people of Philadelphia.”

Local 22 is no small union. The statement recalls that Local 22 “has a rich history stretching back over 100 years when the organization was founded as the City Firefighters’ Association.”

Biden/Obama Team Denounces Patriotism as ‘Authoritarianism’

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—National Security Action, an anti-Trump outfit joining the “regime change” liberal imperialist figures who gave the world eight years of wars and geopolitical conflict under Barack Obama and Joe Biden, responded with horror to President Donald Trump’s announcement that he will establish a commission to sponsor “patriotic education.” In a Sept. 25 statement, “Trump’s ‘Patriotic Education’—Another Chapter in the Authoritarian Playbook,’ ” the National Security Action team declares that the very idea of a commission to foster knowledge and love of one’s country is “a phrase and concept lifted not from American traditions and values but from authoritarian efforts to impose control and thwart challengers.”

There you have it: The core Obama-Biden foreign policy team holds the same Frankfurt School oligarchical fascist view of human beings as beasts and nation-states as evil, as espoused by the Antifa and Critical Race Theory-brainwashed operatives currently tearing up U.S. streets. Among the leading lights of National Security Action are such luminaries as Samantha Powers, Susan Rice, Ben Rhodes, Harold Koh, Tom Donilon, Penny Pritzker, Anne-Marie Slaughter, Valerie Jarrett, Michèle Flournoy, and Rosa Brooks—Brooks being co-chair of the notorious “Transition Integrity Project” which ran “war games” over the summer to map out strategies to ensure the election ousts President Donald Trump, no matter whom the voters choose.

COLLAPSING WESTERN FINANCIAL SYSTEM

WHO Warns That Another Million Could Die from COVID-19 over the Next Nine Months

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—In a briefing to the press in Geneva on Sept. 25, Bruce Aylward, senior adviser to World Health Organization (WHO) Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, stated that 1 million people worldwide have now died of COVID-19, and that another million could die over the next nine months, which may be how long it takes before a vaccine is widely available worldwide, unless proper measures are adopted to stop it. “If we start thinking about it as a function of the vaccine, people will unnecessarily and unacceptably die as we wait for a vaccine. We should not be waiting.”

Dr. Tedros told the press that the number of cases and deaths worldwide are unevenly distributed, with 10 countries accounting for about 70% of the cases and more than 70% of the deaths. “I think we have to focus on countries that have contributed much to this and how those countries can cut [the number of infections]. That could really slash the number of cases and the number of deaths.” The United States, Brazil and India make up nearly half of the total, according to Johns Hopkins University, with 205,000, 141,700 and 95,500 deaths respectively.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said the 1 million deaths is a “mind-numbing” figure and “an agonizing milestone.” The WHO estimates that even that number is likely an underestimate, with actual deaths being much higher, as testing rates in many countries remain low and virus-related deaths not being recorded.

The ECB Will Keep Inflating the Bubble, Proclaims Madam Lagarde

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—Speaking before the Monetary Committee of the European Parliament, European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde said yesterday that “ample monetary stimulus remains necessary to support the economic recovery and to safeguard medium-term price stability.”

Lagarde also said that EU economies will be able to return to pre-COVID levels only by late 2022.

In the four weeks from Aug. 28 to Sept. 25, the ECB has expanded its balance sheet by almost €100 billion (to be precise: by €94.578 billions, from €6.440 trillion to €6.534 trillion) in combined asset purchases and bank refinancing operations.

Reuters published leaks from insiders revealing a split inside the ECB between monetary hawks and doves. The hawks (Austria, Netherland and Germany) want the ECB to slow down Pandemic Emergency Purchase Program (PEPP) purchases, to start them again when the second wave of the pandemic hits. The doves claim that the ECB is not doing enough and there should be more stimulus now. “Some of the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, especially objected to ECB board member Fabio Panetta’s comments last week that the ECB should err on the side of doing too much rather than too little.” Guess who will prevail?

Commercial Mortgage Backed Securities Close to Implosion

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—In an opinion piece in the *Financial Times*, John Dizard, warns that the crash will probably be unleashed by the commercial mortgage backed securities (CMBS) bubble. His article, “Remember 1929 When Looking for the Causes of the Next Financial Crisis,” compares the CMBS to the securities pyramid that unleashed the 1929 crash.

In a situation in which airlines, hotels, and “core retail” (shopping malls), are severely hit by the consequences of the pandemic, only temporarily mitigated by state aid, securitized debt of those sectors is moving from investment grade into default. The most rigid section of that security market is CMBS.

Since CMBS, especially those floated between 2012 and 2017, “are (mostly) not held on bank balance sheets, there is no bank that can decide, say, to amortize their principal and interest payments over a longer time scale. Unlike almost all collateralized loan obligations, CMBS cannot have any substitution of collateral. Meaning you cannot move a few bad assets to

the sponsor's own balance sheet and replace them with performing assets that can be added to the CMBS collateral pool.”

“In the first weeks of September, there has been a rapid increase in the number of CMBS going into ‘special servicing,’ i.e. a sort of formal default. This process will now accelerate rapidly, conterminous with the Supreme Court nomination fight and the election” in the United States. The Supreme Court issue has increased conflicts within Congress and diminished potential collaboration to reflate the bubble, Dizard writes.

NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER

Communist Party of China Politburo Meets To Review Upcoming Five-Year Plan

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—The Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) met on Sept. 28 to discuss the 14th Five-Year Plan. The Five-Year Plan will be finalized at the upcoming Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China which will take place in Beijing from Oct. 26-29. The Politburo listened to the proposals of the CPC Central Committee for the Five-Year Plan and the projections for long-term development to 2035.

A *China Daily* op-ed by Renmin University economics professor Wang Xiaosong summarized President Xi Jinping's recent policy statements on economics. “In seven meetings from July to September, President Xi Jinping ... said the next Five-Year Plan period will be the key stage in the Chinese nation's development path. The next five years are likely to see drastic changes in the international environment in terms of economy, science and technology, culture, national security and international relations. Also, China is likely to face greater external pressure in the next five years.”

Among the points of Xi's perspective that he emphasized is “the main aim of strengthening research and development [which] is to boost the development of core and advanced technologies and promote innovation, so as to neutralize the effects of Western bans on exports of their high-tech

products and sanctions on Chinese enterprises. Since the biggest obstacle to China's high-quality economic development is insufficient core technologies, the country should bolster research in basic sciences and allocate more funds for advanced R&D.”

SCIENCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

NASA Reveals New Method for Producing Nuclear Fusion

Sept. 29 (EIRNS)—In July, a team of NASA researchers announced that they had made significant headway on achieving fusion through a new technique. NASA's new approach differs from the inertial confinement approaches to fusion (such as at the laser-powered National Ignition Facility) and the magnetic confinement approaches (such as tokamaks), both of which rely on achieving extremely high temperatures to allow the nucleons to overcome the electrostatic repulsion that prevents their easy fusing.

Instead, NASA studied the possibility of causing deuterium-deuterium fusion by implanting the deuterons in a metal lattice. This brings two benefits: First, the deuterons are 1 billion times more densely packed than they would be in the plasma form they would take in a tokamak. Second, the electrons in the metallic structure help to “shield” the electrostatic repulsion between the deuterons, which are both positively charged and therefore difficult to bring together.

They used an external device to shoot high-energy photons at the lattice, causing some deuterons to split into protons and neutrons. The neutrons so produced could then “heat” (strike) other deuterons, causing them, in turn, to run into and fuse with other deuterons, releasing helium-3 and a neutron, which neutron could, in turn, continue the process.

At this point in this idea's development, the potential for the process to maintain itself through its own reactions has not been reached, but the scientists involved believe that there is a significant potential to scale up the process, to achieve such applications as space power, space propulsion, and

the production of radioisotopes. NASA's press release, with videos, is headlined "[NASA Detects Lattice Confinement Fusion](#)."

- Watch the [Morning Briefing with Harley Schlanger](#) on Wednesday, September 30: 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](#).