

The view from the bridge

Robin Ramsay

Politicians and economics

Few politicians bother to learn elementary economics and the monetarist idea of the mid 1970s – control the money supply and you can control inflation – appealed because it was so simple. It took hold, particularly in the Conservative Party, where what became the Thatcherites adopted it and wrecked the British manufacturing economy with it between 1980 and 1984.

Margaret Thatcher was a politician who knew no economics. John Hoskyns, a businessman recruited to join the Thatcher team as Head of the Policy Unit, records in his memoir:

I had been concerned since before the election [of 1979] that the pound was too high. Margaret [Thatcher] seemed to be convinced that 'the higher the pound, the better for the economy'.¹

(As a highly valued pound makes imports cheaper and exports more expensive, it is bad for the domestic manufacturing economy.)

This brief trip down memory lane was prompted by a very good essay in the *New Statesman* by Florence Sutcliffe-Braithwaite, 'The Thatcher delusion'.² Alas, we don't live in a world in which the leader of the Labour Party will stand up and say that the free market moves since 1979 have all been a mistake. Even if Mr Starmer thought it, this would entail criticising Mrs Thatcher's acolytes, Tony Blair and Gordon Brown, and he won't do that.

To judge by Chancellor Reeves' Mansion House speech in November, she isn't going to entertain any deviant ideas.³ It was all pretty standard stuff and might have been delivered any time in the last 45 years. The financial services sector, she told her audience, is:

. . . the crown jewel in our economy. It employs 1.2m people, from

¹ John Hoskyns, *Just In Time: inside the Thatcher revolution* (London: Aurum, 2000) p. 107. He records (on p. 159) Anthony Barber, Ted Heath's Chancellor, with the same belief that a highly valued currency is good for the economy.

² This is subtitled 'The Labour Party have swallowed the Iron Lady myth. Rachel Reeves must abandon it for good'. <<https://www.newstatesman.com/ideas/2024/10/the-thatcher-delusion>>

³ <<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/mansion-house-2024-speech>>

London to Edinburgh, and from Manchester to Belfast. It is one of the country's largest and most productive sectors, accounting for 9% of our economic output.

Of that 9.1% about half is in London – that's 'the City', the real 'crown jewel'. The rest is retail banking and insurance spread throughout the UK. So this 'crown jewel' is about 4.5% of economic output. At 9% of economic output, and thus twice the size of 'the City', is manufacturing.⁴ But the word 'manufacturing' is not in Reeves' speech. What was in her speech was a promise to reduce the regulation of the City imposed after the last financial crash. What could possibly go wrong?⁵

Havana Syndrome

Anomalous Health Incidents (AHIs), discussed in this column in the previous *Lobster*, is the official US euphemism for a wide range of symptoms up to and including brain damage, referred to by all but intelligence bureaucrats as Havana Syndrome, since the first incidents happened at the US embassy there. Re-reading some of the reporting and comment on this, two things struck me. The first was the quite extraordinary lengths to which the agencies of the US state have been willing to go to publicly deny the reality of what is staring them in the face. Up to 1500 US state employees connected to its foreign policy organisations⁶ have been assaulted by *something* invisible. And this began almost 10 years ago. Yet this is the official US position as of 2023.

Since US officials first reported AHIs in Havana, Cuba in late 2016, the IC [Intelligence Community] has sought to understand whether these events can be attributed to a foreign actor and a deliberate external mechanism. The IC pursued three separate lines of inquiry: the first encompassed work determining whether available data points to the involvement of a foreign adversary in the incidents; the second focused on the feasibility and existence of deliberate mechanisms that an adversary might use against US personnel to cause AHIs; and the third

⁴ According to the House of Commons library.
<<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-8353/>>.

⁵ The excellent Richard Murphy made some similar comments. See
<<https://shorturl.at/Ehnc5>> or <<https://www.taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2024/11/17/all-rachel-reeves-has-to-do-now-is-wait-for-the-crash/>>.

⁶ The 1500 figure comes from
<<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/03/01/havana-syndrome-cia-intelligence-00085021>>.

evaluated whether medical analysis can help determine if an outside actor is involved in the broad range of phenomena and symptoms associated with AHIs. **Based on the results of these three lines of inquiry, most IC agencies have concluded that it is “very unlikely” a foreign adversary is responsible for the reported AHIs. IC agencies have varying confidence levels, with two agencies at moderate-to-high confidence while three are at moderate confidence. Two agencies judge it is “unlikely” an adversary was responsible for AHIs and they do so with low confidence based on collection gaps and their review of the same evidence.**⁷ (Emphasis in the original.)

When a lawyer for one of the victims made the obvious point that the CIA was covering things up, a CIA spokesperson wrote:

The Intelligence Community Assessment on anomalous health incidents released by ODNI [Office of the Director of National Intelligence] reflects years of rigorous, painstaking collection, investigative work, and analysis by IC agencies, including CIA. We applied the Agency’s very best operational, analytic, and technical tradecraft to what *is one of the largest and most intensive investigations in the Agency’s history*. The CIA remains committed to ensuring continued access to care for affected officers and to fully investigating any reports of health incidents. (Emphasis added.)

And yet they still managed to disregard the experience of over a thousand US federal employees.

The second striking feature of the reporting is the complete absence of any back story. You will not learn that the US military itself has a long history with this technology. In the 1980s the so-called peace camps at Greenham Common in the UK and Seneca in New York State were subjected to what was then called ‘zapping’ – electromagnetic radiation – producing effects similar to those reported by the current victims of Havana Syndrome.⁸ But then most of the research and writing on the subject was done before the Internet and it’s

⁷ <<https://shorturl.at/sy6B7>> or <https://www.dni.gov/files/ODNI/documents/assessments/Updated_Assessment_of_Anomalous_Health_Incidents.pdf>

⁸ This was discussed in Steve Armstrong’s ‘Microwave Wars’ in the now defunct *City Limits*, August 1990. The background was detailed by Armen Victorian in his ‘The military use of electromagnetic, microwave and mind control technology’ in *Lobster* 34. There is an on-line summary of some of Victorian’s research in this and related fields at <<https://shorturl.at/IuGWk>> or <<https://www.wanttoknow.nl/wp-content/uploads/Mind-Controllers-Dr-Victorian-10-page-summary.pdf>>.

only a few of us who can pull old cuttings from our filing cabinets.

If I had to guess why the US state is publicly denying the reality of Havana Syndrome, it would be that while the US is happy to fight Russia to the last dead Ukrainian, its politicians are unwilling or afraid to confront the reality of Russia's hybrid warfare against them and their allies. As to why they are afraid/unwilling, I have no idea.⁹

Money well spent?

Dropsitenews is carrying a very striking account by an American journalist of an Israeli-funded press junket to Israel. Of course the American hacks got a ton of anti-Hamas and anti-Muslim propaganda. That was the point of the exercise. What is striking is the mind-boggling absurdity and crudity of the material offered by the Israelis. Evidently the Israelis involved think American hacks are stupid and gullible.¹⁰

Trouble at NED

The Grayzone is much too sympathetic towards Russia for me but it produces some interesting material. An example is a long account – based on leaked emails – of recent events at the US government's National Endowment for Democracy (NED).¹¹ NED is evidently having difficulty dealing with the contemporary world. Part of this flap is the result of the arrival of younger personnel who are apparently as concerned with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) agenda as they are with promoting democracy and US interests.

Among the leaked emails is one from senior NED staffer Michael Allen which includes this paragraph;

During the NED's first compulsory DEI training (conducted by an external provider) I asked why social class was not being considered alongside ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation etc.; questioned the term

⁹ One attempted explanation is at <<https://shorturl.at/e0ISh>> or <<https://ndupress.ndu.edu/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/1981229/on-the-gerasimov-doctrine-why-the-west-fails-to-beat-russia-to-the-punch/>>.

¹⁰ <<https://www.dropsitenews.com/p/israel-gaza-amepa-palestine-genocide-iron-dome>>

¹¹ <<https://shorturl.at/810Ak>> or <<https://thegrayzone.com/2024/07/30/grayzone-pr-fiasco-us-govt-regime-change-leaked-emails/>>

“micro aggression”; and observed that social justice movements have historically sought equality of opportunity, not equality of outcomes. I raised other questions at a DEI training on the 1619 Project, not least that it was an ideological, not historical project. After each session (and a couple more) certain colleagues – including my line manager – suggested that such interventions were “not helpful” and, in essence, reflected my white male privilege.¹²

And if you were wondering how far into the US state DEI has penetrated, you can read the CIA’s version in their publication *2020–2023 CIA DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STRATEGY*.¹³

Streeting ahead

In *The Observer* on 17 November Philip Inman had an article with the headline ‘Streeting’s reforms could save the NHS from the private sector. He must not fail’.¹⁴ Inman omitted – or is unaware of – the fact that Health and Social Care Secretary Wes Streeting has taken £175,000 from private healthcare companies¹⁵ and thus is highly unlikely to save the NHS from the private healthcare sector.

Dallas again – Joesten

I was looking through posts on John Simkin’s JFK Assassination Debate¹⁶ and noticed some discussion of Joachim Joesten and decided that since I think LBJ-dunnit (or was one of those who done it), I’d better read Joesten’s *The Dark Side of Lyndon Baines Johnson*, even though it is over fifty years old. It is apparently available free on-line¹⁷ but I was unable to open the file there and bought a copy at abebooks. The version I got is a 2013 reprint and I simply

¹² <https://thegrayzone.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/NED-Master-Files_Redacted.pdf>

¹³ <<https://shorturl.at/w0zxx>> or <<https://www.cia.gov/static/c26da464843c5aee8217ef3919b19638/2020-2023-DI-Strategy.pdf>>

¹⁴ <<https://shorturl.at/8uPRQ>> or <<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2024/nov/16/streetings-reforms-could-save-the-nhs-from-the-private-sector-he-must-not-fail>>

¹⁵ <<https://tinyurl.com/2uj32ew3>> or <<https://www.thenational.scot/news/24250557.wes-streeting-takes-175k-donors-linked-private-health-firms/>>

¹⁶ <<https://educationforum.ipbhost.com/forum/126-jfk-assassination-debate/>>

¹⁷ <<https://www.box.com/s/8b408e6999f8799dfd0a/file/1702837045629>>

cannot tell if this is the same as the original edition. I presume it is. It has no index and no notes, though there is some documentation within the text when he quotes newspaper articles. Considering he wrote it in 1965/6, it is a very striking run through all the then available information about LBJ and his corruption – Billy Sol Estes, Bobby Baker etc – and what little was then known about the murders surrounding the Estes events.

There are three items which suggest that Joesten was being run by the KGB. Joesten had been a member of the German Communist Party before the war and had his first book on the assassination published by a small New York outfit, Marzani and Munsell, subsidised by the KGB.¹⁸ The second is the report on the JFK Assassination Debate site by Brigette Wilke that a 1958 Joesten book in German, titled *CIA*, described the National Security Agency (NSA)'s work in some detail and even named its then director, Ralph Canine.¹⁹ As the existence of the NSA was not revealed until the 1970s, this came from an intelligence source, presumably the KGB. The third is the fact that Joesten's writing about the assassination echoed the KGB's view of the event. When the KGB thought it was probably the CIA and/or the oil millionaires behind it, Joesten's book said the same. When the KGB acquired information in 1965 that LBJ was behind it, Joesten began writing his LBJ book.²⁰

¹⁸ KGB officer Oleg Kalugin wrote in his memoir *Spymaster*: 'he [Marzani] had close ties to the Soviet government and the KGB, which secretly kept his publishing house afloat. KGB officers frequented his parties.' See <<https://tinyurl.com/3kw3wd48>> or <https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=zQI5DgAAQBAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_atb#v=onepage&q=Joesten&f=false>.

There are a couple of documents on the CIA's site about Joesten, one of which looks like a bad scan and is jumbled and partly unintelligible. The readable piece is at <<https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP80B01676R000600120027-6.pdf>>.

¹⁹ <<https://educationforum.ipbhost.com/topic/6089-joachim-joesten/#comment-54197>>

²⁰ <<https://www.archives.gov/files/research/jfk/releases/docid-32204484.pdf>> We don't know the source of the Soviets' belief that LBJ was involved in the assassination. One possibility is Robert Kennedy who got to know Soviet diplomatic personnel during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Jeffrey Sachs and CIA - the good old stuff

lindsay O'Rourke 2017 Covert Regime change

Covert Regime Change: America's Secret Cold War (Cornell Studies in Security Affairs)

Hardcover – 15 Dec. 2018

by [Lindsey A. O'Rourke](#) (Author)

Havana syndrome <https://www.wsj.com/podcasts/opinion-potomac-watch/the-havana-syndrome-mystery-no-labels-drops-its-2024-bid/a45c94a4-ef73-4543-b12c-ee1ed8e64cc0>

<https://www.salon.com/2024/09/16/active-suppression-of-witnesses-cia-lied-about->

havana-syndrome-whistleblower-documents-reveal/

"The notion that the CIA lied to US policymakers is absolutely false. CIA takes its responsibility to provide decision makers with impartial, fact-based intelligence and analysis with the utmost seriousness. The Intelligence Community Assessment on anomalous health incidents released by ODNI reflects years of rigorous, painstaking collection, investigative work, and analysis by IC agencies, including CIA. We applied the Agency's very best operational, analytic, and technical tradecraft to what *is one of the largest and most intensive investigations in the Agency's history*. The CIA remains committed to ensuring continued access to care for affected officers and to fully investigating any reports of health incidents," a CIA spokesperson told Salon.

"The facts are the facts," Zaid said in response. "History will not judge the CIA's role or those who helped cover-up the truth regarding AHIs in a positive light. Their actions and words betray the loyal employees and so many others who serve our country as dedicated public servants. I have attended classified meetings held by Congress and

witness after witness undermines what the CIA claims. If it would declassify the evidence, then the public would know who was telling the truth."

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/11/19/the-mystery-of-the-havana-syndrome>

early history: Cuba-US deal as background

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2024/04/havana-syndrome-the-history-behind-the-mystery/>

Havana: CIA lied

<https://www.salon.com/2024/09/16/active-suppression-of-witnesses-cia-lied-about-havana-syndrome-whistleblower-documents-reveal/>

Havana syndrome

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2024/04/havana-syndrome-the-history-behind-the-mystery/>

NB Mrs Bush comments

Currently, the interim report by the CIA on this mysterious malady is that Havana Syndrome is not the result of a sustained global campaign by a hostile power. Yet, according to some press reporting, Burns may have raised this issue twice with his Russian counterparts.[27] A few days later, The New York Times confirmed that during his trip to Moscow in 2021, Burns told Russian

officials that any sort of operation that caused severe brain injuries for US personnel was out of bounds for Russia's spy services, and that there would be consequences if Russia is shown to be responsible, according to people briefed on the conversations. The Times further reported that it was the second time senior American officials have raised the issue with their Russian counterparts, who have consistently denied involvement. President Biden raised the issue with Putin in their Geneva summit earlier in 2021.[28]

In November 2022, Burns apparently made a second demarche on this issue to Russian Foreign Intelligence Service Chief Sergey Naryshkin during a meeting between them in Ankara, Turkey. No Havana Syndrome attacks have been publicly reported since that meeting.

CIA chief Burns warns Russia

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/cia-havana-syndrome-russians-warning/2021/11/24/6d5a6e26-4d40-11ec-94ad-bd85017d58dc_story.html

Investigators studied more than 1,500 reports from across the U.S.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/03/01/havana-syndrome-cia-intelligence-00085021>

Russia, however, specifically a GRU military intelligence unit known as 29155, has been linked to attacks against U.S. service members in Afghanistan, assassinations of foreigners, and explosions at arms manufacturers in the Czech Republic and Bulgaria. The known and suspected Iranian assassinations, kidnappings and bombings are too long to list here.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/3884347-the-havana-syndrome-mystery-and-its-impact-arent-over/>

German intelligence accuses Russia's GRU of cyberattacks on NATO, EU states

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/9/9/german-intelligence-accuses-russias-gru-of-cyberattacks-on-nato-eu-states>

<https://scitechdaily.com/scientists-believe-us-embassy-staff-and-cia-officers-were-hit-with-high-power-microwaves-heres-how-the-weapons-work/>

dark money funding Scots politics

<https://theferret.scot/billionaires-lobbyists-dark-money-scotlands-parties/>

examples of Russia's terrorism

<https://unherd.com/newsroom/kremlins-sex-toy-sabotage-campaign-is-just-the-beginning/>

Russian influence in Republican circles

<https://bylinetimes.com/2024/11/12/lobbyists-oligarchs-and-power-the-pro-putin-network-raising-fears-of-foreign-influence-in-trumps-team/>

3. Probe finds 135 Covid contracts worth £15billion 'had corruption red flags'

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-13827585/More-5-000-contracts-15-billion-PPE-awarded-Conservatives-Covid-19-corruption-investigation.html>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-fascist-general-woodward-book-b2627972.html> of the book I reviewed

Retired **Gen. Mark A. Milley**

5. conspiracy theories

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20240716-conspiracy-loops-is-it-possible-to-break-the-cycle-of-fake-claims>

<https://www.salon.com/2024/07/24/a-pacifier-for-the-mind-biden-and-conspiracy-theories-are-americas-coping-mechanism/>

Hi Robin,

Here's the link to my blog on Substack currently called DISRUPTING THE SPECTACLE but I may re-name it THE OUTER LIMITS: DISRUPTING THE SPECTACLE

The article on dark money in the universities and the new manufacture of consent is there, together with my report from the Media Reform Coalition in Sheffield.

The piece on the arrest of Daniella Klette in Germany might be more interesting to you than you first think.

There are two parts of a seven part series on LOCKERBIE based on the documentary I first tried to make with STV and then, post the debacle with John Banks, with Sean Stone, who I have sort of fallen out with since the war in Ukraine.

Basically I'm trying to crowd fund for the documentary and make it myself

Anyway, here are the links

<https://roger.cottrell.substack.com/p/dark-money-and-britains-universities>

<https://rogercottrell.substack.com/p/the-framing-of-daniella-hlette>

<https://rogercottrell.substack.com/p/the-godfather-of-terror-and-the-real>

<https://rogercottrell.substack.co/p/ashes-in-the-fall-part-ee>

<https://rogercottrell.substack.com/p/media-reform-coalition-conference>

Roger

sabotage of Ukraine-Russia peace deal?

Russia and Barents sea

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/russia-ban-britain-fishing-cod-barents-sea-b2480642.html>

by clinging to America's coattails we are going down the pan with the US

Statement on Air Strikes against Houthi military targets in Yemen²¹

Four Royal Air Force Typhoon FGR4s, supported by a pair of Voyager tankers, joined US forces in a deliberate strike against Houthi sites in Yemen. Royal Air Force Typhoon FGR4 takes off to carry out Air Strikes against Houthi military targets in Yemen.1

²¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-on-air-strikes-against-houthi-military-targets-in-yemen#:~:text=>

The slow generation of UK Carrier Strike is still not complete and HMS Queen Elizabeth has just 8 jets on board. The number could be considerably increased if it was deemed absolutely necessary but only at the expense of taking pilots and ground crew involved in training, disrupting the measured build-up of the UK Lightning Force. Full Operating Capability for carrier strike will not be achieved until March 2025 at the earliest. The lack of mass and glacial pace of force growth is the result of political choices over many years and is quickly exposed when there is a crisis, with the US always left to do the heavy lifting. <https://www.navylookout.com/royal-navy-aircraft-carrier-will-not-be-deployed-to-the-mediterranean-but-other-options-are-open/>

Holt

Disinformation

[Ministers accused of a cover up as it is revealed shadowy army unit DID spy on British critics of Covid lockdown policies](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12791297/Ministers-accused-cover-revealed-shadowy-army-unit-DID-spy-British-critics-Covid-lockdown-policies.html), Daily Mail 25 Nov 2023

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12791297/Ministers-accused-cover-revealed-shadowy-army-unit-DID-spy-British-critics-Covid-lockdown-policies.html>

The original report

<https://bigbrotherwatch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Ministry-of-Truth-Big-Brother-Watch-290123.pdf>

I noticed this in Lobster 62:

n/

9/11 <http://ariwatch.com/Links/SheaMemorandumIsrael/SheaMemorandumIsrael.htm?fbclid=IwAR0Wj2HzbccSLgwfpenYvr9KiQ4Zujua000UEBaFQmolJBQjFgK1Majp9xM>

<https://www.salon.com/2023/03/29/exclusive-declassified-report-suggests-havana-syndrome-could-result-from-energy-weapon/>
suggests handheld devices

Americans IQ falling <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160289623000156>

Times 8 March on the alternative theory: pro-Uranian elements etc.

and also carried a piece by R.N-T on Wallace etc.

Manchester area bombing: inquiry dodges UK support for Libya and connections to eh father of terrorist.

MANCHESTER ARENA INQUIRY LETS DAVID CAMERON OFF THE HOOK

The final report from the public inquiry into the Manchester Arena terrorist attack fails to address any of the key questions about the bomber's connections to the UK military and intelligence services. The bereaved families have been let down.

PHIL MILLER AND MARK CURTIS<https://declassifieduk.org/manchester-arena-inquiry-lets-david-cameron-off-the-hook/>

We began this work by interviewing a small number of people for a pilot study. We wanted to get a sense of possible impacts of media on public beliefs about antisemitism in the Labour Party. This was in March 2019 and we knew that figures had just been published on cases that had been investigated. These

related to about 0.1 per cent of the membership, but over the previous three years, there had been extensive media coverage of the issue and many allegations of antisemitism in the Party. A search of eight national newspapers shows that from 15 June 2015 to 31 March 2019, there had been 5497 stories on the subject of Corbyn, antisemitism and the Labour Party.¹ The issue was also extensively featured on television and in new and social media. These headlines give a sense of the accusations that were being made: page 1 at Bad News for Labour Antisemitism, the Party and Public Belief Greg Philo, Mike Berry, Justin Schlosberg, Antony Lerman and David Miller Pluto Press (2019) ()

Long detailed account of the events leading up to the invasion at <https://macmillan.yale.edu/news/frustrated-refusals-give-russia-security-guarantees-implement-minsk-2-putin-recognizes-pseudo-ransomware-attacks-in-uk>
Ransomware attacks in UK
Russia:

Baroness Aston on Ukraine etc 2014

<https://inews.co.uk/news/world/desperate-prevent-putin-invasion-ukraine-baroness-catherine-ashton-2124097>

41 <<https://tinyurl.com/y95t25b4>> or <<https://www.reuters.com/technology/exclusive-russian-hackers-are-linked-new-brexiteer-leak-website-google-says-2022-05-25/>>

39 <<https://tinyurl.com/5969k72p>> or <<https://thegrayzone.com/2022/05/15/operation-leaked-emails-intelligence-coup-boris-johnson/>>

40

attacks against the majority-ethnic Russian oblasts of Donetsk and Luhansk,

WHEN JOURNALISTS ACT AS STATE PROPAGANDISTS

Peter Osborne

<https://declassifieduk.org/when-journalists-act-as-state-propagandists/>

and coup stuff

<https://consortiumnews.com/2022/12/29/on-the-influence-of-neo-nazism-in-ukraine/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=9348b1cb-9ef6-463d-896c-81950c3f3b9d>

www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/usa-election-montgomery/
The man behind Trump World's myth of rigged voting machines

1980 UK third

2007 UK 27 (https://photius.com/rankings/economy/gdp_per_capita_2007_0.html - data from CIA world Facebook)

2017 UK 26 (<https://www.worldometers.info/gdp/gdp-per-capita/>)
wikipedia, using IMF data, has UK 21 in 2020

2022 22 <https://www.macrotrends.net/countries/GBR/united-kingdom/gdp-per-capita>

THE SECRETIVE US EMBASSY-BACKED GROUP CULTIVATING THE BRITISH LEFT

Matt Kennard

The crisis

Lobster Issue 57 (Summer 2009) £££

[...] which oil and the City of London would provide, was taken seriously by some within the Treasury. Edward Pearce reported in 1992 a conversation with a 'Treasury knight' – i.e. a permanent secretary – in which the 'knight' bemoaned having to do things for manufacturing while John Major was prime minister because Major was [...]

CF Newsworthy on structure of Swiss economy

<https://hartmannreport.com/p/the-most-successful-con-in-american>

*A national group that brings together lobbyists and Republican state politicians to write and introduce legislation in every state in America.

*Major national think tanks that churn out policy papers, newspaper and magazine op-eds, talking points for conservative media outlets, and develop elaborate rationalizations for toxic policies from denying climate change to fighting gun control to arguing that tax cuts on billionaires benefit average workers.

*Rightwing media outlets in every state in the union, including hundreds of regional newspapers and television stations, thousands of websites, the outsize presence of paid trolls across all meaningful social media outlets, and over a thousand rightwing radio stations.

*State-based think tanks or "policy centers" in all 50 states, each working with Republicans in those states' legislatures to bring forth rightwing legislation and help convince the people of each state that these policies are best for them.

*Both federal and state-based dark money groups that oversee moving literally billions of dollars from corporations and the morbidly rich into (in many cases nearly untraceable) PACs and SuperPACs supporting the campaigns of Republican candidates from school boards to city councils to state legislatures to the US House, Senate, and the presidency.

*Groups that bring together the CEOs and senior executives of America's largest companies to loosely coordinate and provide cover for lobbying, fundraising, and other political activities.

unpack this. Very important and show parallels with UK
cf tufton St et al in the UK.

The Truss team

<https://bylinetimes.com/2022/10/03/exposing-the-conservative-hedge-fund-scandal-better-late-than-never-or-too-little-too-late/>

LAshmar's podcast

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/spycast/541/notes>

Blighty going down the pan

KPMG CArillion the book

get hands on a stream of tax revenues - much easier than the world of competition.

childrens' homes and gangsters and cheap staff

<https://archive.ph/N6nAT>

We will help British farmers fill British fridges

Domestic production will be at the heart of the Government's new food strategy

GEORGE EUSTICE

ENVIRONMENT SECRETARY

16 April 2022 • 9

Mail's Alex Brummer on the down side of selling off the UK.

Really? Are they really this good at things? No, they aren't. I do not believe there are 'regime change' plans for Russia in Washington DC. My impression is that Washington barely understands the regime in Moscow.

At this time the Secret Service was being run by JAMES ROWLEY and as Carol Leonnig reported in her recent book on the Secret Service the person who was telling JAMES ROWLEY what to do was Rufus Youngblood, the personal Secret Service agent for President Lyndon Johnson.

LBJ, Youngblood and Rowley all had to know about Abraham Bolden and why he was such a threat to the cover up of the JFK assassination - common sense tells you that.

re earlier comment on missing documents left at bus stop

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10702347/Secret-locations-British-special-forces-Kabul-classified-papers-left-bus-stop.html>

add: 1953 stuff??/

<https://inteltoday.org/2022/02/22/havana-syndrome-cia-report-no-worldwide-campaign-by-foreign-adversary-update-u-s-officials-report-injuries-on-white-house-grounds/#more-32462>

<https://scitechdaily.com/scientists-believe-us-embassy-staff-and-cia-officers-were-hit-with-high-power-microwaves-heres-how-the-weapons-work/>

Scientists Believe US Embassy Staff and CIA Officers Were Hit With High-Power Microwaves – Here’s How the Weapons Work

That faint clicking noise you can hear is the sound of pennies dropping among our political class. There was Nick Timothy railing against what he has had dubbed The Complacent Generation.²² Who is he? Briefly, he was Joint Chief of Staff for PM Theresa May. Timothy blames ‘the complacent generation’ for the UK’s and begins his diatribe thus:

‘The whole structure of our economy – too reliant on financial services, too geographically unequal, too exposed to stretched supply chains, poorly connected, with low productivity and too little investment – is as it is because of the decisions and indecision of the Complacent Generation.’

Everywhere we look the foolishness and naivety of the Complacent Generation is beginning to reveal itself. The examples are many, but the energy crisis especially is a case study in stupidity.

Britain should have approved new nuclear power stations twenty years ago. Yet Blair and Brown dithered, and the Coalition ruled out nuclear subsidies. Theresa May began her premiership promising “an energy policy that emphasises the reliability of supply and lower costs for users”. This should have meant new nuclear and a dash for gas, but instead we got a net zero target with no idea of how to achieve it or what it would cost. Now the Johnson government, even more religious about net zero, opposes fracking and chooses not to exploit North Sea gas fields. Confronting an energy crisis, ministers protest there is little they can do.

²² <<https://tinyurl.com/yeypwr4x>> or <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/02/06/foolish-politicians-have-made-life-easy-enemies-west/?li_source=LI&li_medium=liftigniter-rhr>

<https://ifs.org.uk/publications/15948> cost of gov debt

https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/02/06/foolish-politicians-have-made-life-easy-enemies-west/?li_source=LI&li_medium=liftigniter-rhr

The Complacent Generation of Western leaders has left us weak. Now our generation will pay the price

The Age of Unreality is over. We need a new generation of leaders urgently to shake us out of our moral and economic complacency

NICK TIMOTHY

7 February 2022 • 9:25am

At first it happened slowly, but now it is sudden and harsh: the Age of Unreality in which we have lived in comfort and security is coming to an end. For years, the global trading system gave us cheap manufactured goods. Asian economies helped to keep our inflation low and credit cheap. The warning signs were there – stagnant wages despite high employment, shuttered factories and low productivity to name but a few – but life was comfortable enough, for the political classes at least.

Quite evidently it would not last, but the Complacent Generation carried on regardless. Shallow leaders who preferred the ephemeral and peripheral to the serious and complex failed to fix our structural weaknesses – like the planning system, skills, investment in innovation, and our economy geography – and continued to expose us to risks, like stretched global supply chains and the dependence of our economy and key institutions on investment from hostile foreign states.

This dependence has undermined our security as well as economic resilience. When the Cold War ended, the West reigned supreme. But the generation of leaders that had faced down the Soviet Union handed over to the Complacent Generation, who made mistake after mistake. Defence capabilities were whittled down. Military defeats in Afghanistan and Iraq were spun and explained away. Communist China, intent on restoring its global power, was invited to fund and run critical national infrastructure, from energy plants to parts of the telecommunications network.

Despite an unprecedented threat from Islamist terrorism – mostly home-grown and incited by preachers and ideologues from Britain and overseas – too little was done to prevent segregation within our cities, the adoption of extreme

beliefs and practices, and the open organisation by agitators, plotters and extremists who want to destroy our way of life.

Across Europe, including Britain, preening politicians took security for granted. Even as they cut defence spending, they stuck two fingers up to the United States, the ally upon whom European security depends. The European Union, which contributed to peace by integrating the economies of Western Europe, came to believe it had secured peace beyond France and Germany. It expanded its borders toward Russia, even opening talks with Ukraine, but lacks the hard power to defend its members and friends. Observing Russian aggression, Finland, an EU member state, now urgently seeks fast-tracked NATO membership and American protection.

Everywhere we look the foolishness and naivety of the Complacent Generation is beginning to reveal itself. The examples are many, but the energy crisis especially is a case study in stupidity.

Britain should have approved new nuclear power stations twenty years ago. Yet Blair and Brown dithered, and the Coalition ruled out nuclear subsidies. Theresa May began her premiership promising “an energy policy that emphasises the reliability of supply and lower costs for users”. This should have meant new nuclear and a dash for gas, but instead we got a net zero target with no idea of how to achieve it or what it would cost. Now the Johnson government, even more religious about net zero, opposes fracking and chooses not to exploit North Sea gas fields. Confronting an energy crisis, ministers protest there is little they can do.

The crisis may be international, but responsibility for Britain’s lack of preparedness lies at home. Energy prices have been rising here for years, thanks to ministers loading green surcharges onto household and industrial energy costs. Now, with rising Chinese demand for gas, Russia exploiting Europe’s dependence on its gas supplies, the post-pandemic resumption of the global economy, and Britain’s depleted gas storage capacity and refusal to exploit its own reserves, wholesale gas costs have more than quadrupled since before the pandemic.

British households, and our energy-intensive industries, will pay the price, just as they will pay for rising inflation and, however necessary they might eventually be, tax rises. The whole structure of our economy – too reliant on financial services, too geographically unequal, too exposed to stretched supply chains, poorly connected, with low productivity and too little investment – is as

it is because of the decisions and indecision of the Complacent Generation. No politician of any party has yet provided the coherent plan for growth we need. Neither is there a credible plan to project and defend Western interests as economic, diplomatic and military power shift eastward. Geopolitical change has been hastened by Western errors, like Middle Eastern wars, naivety, such as through world trade policies, and the virus, which disrupted democratic societies more than autocratic states. But Britain and our allies have also been blind – perhaps wilfully so – to the actions of our competitors and enemies. China has bought its way into our critical national infrastructure, our universities and even, as we learned recently, our democratic institutions. It has corrupted international institutions, from the World Health Organisation to Interpol. It has created rival organisations – such as the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank – with the connivance of the British government. It has stolen industrial secrets and increased its economic and military reach around Asia and Africa.

Russia, with troops massed on the Ukrainian border, has already won in its face-off with the West whether it invades or not. It has shown Europe to be hypocritical, weak and, in some cases, corrupt. It has proved German energy needs trump the international order. It has successfully established that Ukraine, occupied or not, will remain in its sphere of influence. It will go on facilitating international organised crime, launching cyber attacks, developing hybrid offensive capabilities, laundering dirty money through financial centres like London, and undermining Western interests.

Russia, like China, can do these things because the Complacent Generation of Western leaders has made it possible. And now, from a position of unnecessary weakness, we face great challenges – revolutionary new technologies, mass migration, competition for energy sources, security threats, the decline of international institutions, the need for economic growth and doubts about how we protect our way of life and project power – but our eclipse and defeat is not inevitable. Now the Age of Unreality is indisputably over, the truth is before us. We need a new generation of leaders to return us to reason and strength.

power cable and Russian money

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10423605/Ministers-turn-cross-Channel-power-cable-plan-linked-Tory-donor.html>

THE TRUMP COUP

The Six Main Strands of the Trump Coup Attempt

<https://www.thebulwark.com/the-six-main-strands-of-the-trump-coup-attempt/?amp>

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/2021/12/uks-kleptocracy-problem/summary>

Mena

<https://www.judicialwatch.org/guns-drugs-cia-at-mena-arkansas-judicial-watch-demands-answers/>

<https://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/HL0707/S00058/mazur-deeper-into-the-clintons-cia-drug-nexus.htm>

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2022/01/06/despite-heard-didnt-load-gun-capitol-hill-attack/>

Despite what you've heard, I didn't load the gun for the Capitol Hill attack

The BBC wanted to tell a story about runaway conspiracies, and use me – and my reports from decades ago – as a theatre prop

By Ambrose Evans-Pritchard

6 January 2022 • 4:48pm

Trump supporters stormed the US Capitol after mass demonstrations in Washington following Biden's presidential win CREDIT: Getty

One should have thought that the vast social and economic changes of the last 30 years most plausibly explain the storming of Capitol Hill, the near-fatal heart attack of US democracy on January 6 2021.

Untamed globalisation has shrunk the bedrock middle class of America, relegating the lower half to relative or absolute pauperisation. Blue-collar manufacturing workers have fallen out of Galbraith's Affluent Society, condemned to compete with Chinese factory workers in a cut-throat world of labour arbitrage.

Digital technology has done much the same to their white-collar siblings, the most replaceable ones at least, leaving an hourglass social structure of winners and losers. Those at home in this global 'knowledge-economy' have prospered marvellously. So have the owners of capital, enriched further over the last decade by the asset price inflation of quantitative easing. The trickle-down came by drops.

One might have sought the origins of this insurrection in the rise of all-powerful social media companies worth trillions and trillions. Are they not tossing lit matches into this mass of crackling-dry brushwood every day? Are they not balkanising society systematically with manipulative algorithms that split us into separate silos, nurturing a conspiracy universe among the 'basket of deplorables' on the one side, while nurturing the pathological grievances of identity politics on the other?

But no, apparently the violent convulsions of the world's paramount economic and strategic superpower can be traced to a British journalist in the early 1990s. I loaded the gun a quarter century ago and laid it on the table, or so the BBC would have it, just waiting for the horned shirtless QAnon shaman to snatch it at the right moment, and lead the Trumpian mobs into Nancy Pelosi's office.



It is perversely flattering, in a sense, to be the opening star of the BBC's radio series *The Coming Storm*, which supposedly traces the deep roots of QAnon, the umbrella term for the sprawling set of conspiracy theories that falsely allege the world is run by a cabal of satanic paedophiles, led by Hillary Clinton. The first episode aired on Radio 4 on Tuesday with a commentary on the burning of witches in the early modern era, preparing the stage for what is presented as the first great conspiracy theory of the internet age – with me playing the role of Sorcerer's Apprentice.

But at the risk of spoiling a good story, I have to declare my interest. I rooted quietly for Hillary Clinton in 2016 on the grounds that she was by then no longer the same political animal that she once was in the swamps of Arkansas – America’s Sicily – or in those first hubristic days in Washington.

I had by then concluded that Donald Trump was a proto-fascist with the reflexes of Mussolini. I thought he would try to overturn the election by any means possible, and watched with foreboding as the expected Putsch unfolded. So if the shaman took the gun from me, I apologise.

But seriously, could the BBC’s Gabriel Gatehouse not find better material for his opening gambit on America’s political civil war than the ramblings of a superannuated Brit, who sheepishly agreed to give him an hour and a half on the request that he wanted to “mine my memory” for characters to talk to for his series?

I told him I’d be happy to chat about the origins of the US militia movement, an anthropological interest of mine from that era. A spat between journalists is of no interest. But this episode invites a response, in part because it sheds light on the mental universe of the BBC, a taxpayer-funded institution accused by many of chronic ideological bias in breach of its charter. But it also needs a rebuttal because Gatehouse has the matter backwards.

It was the failure of the co-opted White House press corps and those on the FBI beat – or in some cases their editors – to investigate and report serial misconduct in the early 1990s that fed mistrust of establishment media, leaving the field open for talk radio and the emerging anarchy of the web.

Gatehouse weaves his American tale around the alleged “murder” of Vincent Foster, the deputy White House counsel and Hillary Clinton’s former law partner, found dead in a Virginia park in 1993 in what was quickly ruled a suicide.

Now, there certainly were crazed conspiracy theories about Foster’s death over the years, but I was not promoting them. It was the White House Clinton machine that prepared the dossier on the ‘vast Right-wing conspiracy’, playing up the most absurd allegations to muddy the waters, and inviting chosen reporters from their camp to do hatchet jobs on critics.

Only two journalists ever investigated the Foster death in any depth, by which I mean tracking down and speaking to the crime scene witnesses, and obtaining the FBI case documents (with great difficulty, heavily redacted) under the US Freedom of Information Act: myself and Chris Ruddy, now chief

executive of Newsmax. Neither of us has ever written that Foster was murdered. What we both alleged was a systematic cover-up.

Gatehouse did not reveal – though I told him – that my chief source was Associate Independent Counsel Miquel Rodriguez, the US federal prosecutor in charge of the Foster case under Kenneth Starr, the Grand Inquisitor pursuing the impeachment of President Clinton.

Had he revealed that critical fact, BBC listeners would have known at once that this was legitimate journalism. They were instead left with the strong insinuation that it was the rantings of my imagination.

Rodriguez carried out the only genuine investigation of Foster's death, empanelling a federal grand jury and taking testimony under oath for the first time.

He quickly discovered what I had discovered talking to crime scene witnesses: that their FBI statements did not reflect what they had actually said, and in many cases flatly contradicted what they had said; that nothing added up; that evidence was all being pushed in one direction only; and that the official version of events was, as he later said, "a complete sham job".

He wanted to conduct an open death investigation that included the possibility of homicide. The Washington office of the FBI – then run by a Clinton loyalist from Arkansas – cut him off at the knees before he could finish the task.

There is a particular detail worth recounting, given the way that the BBC framed its broadcast. Rodriguez was puzzled by attempts to suppress witness statements that talked of a wound in Foster's neck, which contradicted the official version that Foster shot himself in the mouth. The key crime scene photos had vanished. The FBI labs said others were over-exposed and useless. Rodriguez took the discarded Polaroids to the Smithsonian Institution and had them enhanced. One showed a black stippled ring like a gunshot wound in the side of Foster's neck. I have seen this photograph. So has Brett Kavanaugh, now a Supreme Court Justice but then working on the investigation. His handwritten notes read: "startling discovery"; "blew up portions of photo – trauma to the neck on rt side", "appears to be bullet hole", "how can person kill himself twice?".

I knew that the first Fairfax County rescue worker to reach the death scene had spoken of exactly such a wound. I hunted him down – he had never spoken to the press – and when I asked him what he found, he grabbed my shoulder. "Listen to me, Foster was shot right here," he said, jabbing his finger hard into my neck. He said the FBI had badgered him persistently into changing his story.

Gatehouse read out this exchange from a chapter in my book, *The Secret Life of Bill Clinton*, but without explaining that this witness had been the first to handle the body, and without any context of why it mattered. Listeners were left with the impression that he was a random conspiracy junkie.

I must admit that the book's title was beyond ghastly. I had chosen *The Secret History of the Clinton Presidency*, a play on the *Secret History*, an 6th century expose of Justinian and Theodora by the Byzantine historian Procopius. It was changed by my publishers in Washington without my knowledge.

Gatehouse seemingly had his prior agenda. He wanted to tell a story about runaway conspiracies, and use me as a theatre prop. He was not going to let large facts stand in his way. For the final indictment he solicits the veteran Arkansas journalist Gene Lyons, arch-loyalist of the Clintons and author of *The Hunting of the President*, a source trotted out so many times over the years that his home is almost a pilgrimage for those on the anti-conspiracy tour. But he does not identify Lyons as a Clintonista with an axe to grind. It is the BBC method: legerdemain, masked by political piety.

Lyons cuts to the heart of the problem. Extraordinary things happened under the nose of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, his journalistic alma mater. The state was a central conduit of cocaine trafficking into the US by the Medellin Cartel in the 1980s via the Mena airstrip, when Bill Clinton was governor and controlled the state police.

But the story goes further. Mena was the hub for the Reagan administration's secret operation to supply Contra rebels in Nicaragua, which interested me because I had spent four years covering the Sandinista Revolution and the guerrilla insurgencies of Central America, that last front of the Cold War.

The weapons-smuggling was conducted off-books because the Democrats in Congress had tried to kill off the venture, prohibiting the use of US funds and personnel. It led to a constitutional crisis. We learnt later during the Iran-Contra hearings that Ronald Reagan secretly raised the money to buy weapons from the Saudis, and Colonel Ollie North took care of the details. This is not disputed.

What is disputed, and remains a mystery, is whether Governor Clinton was involved. His own friend and bodyguard, Arkansas State Trooper LD Brown – whose wife was Chelsea Clinton's nanny – wrote a book called *Crossfire*, alleging that Clinton actively recruited him into the illegal weapons operation on Arkansas soil. Furthermore, he reported back to the governor that the

flights had become commingled with cocaine trafficking on the homeward leg, with worse to follow. Others have confirmed large parts of the story.

Clinton was once asked about Mena at a White House press conference – did he know that an illegal foreign policy and weapons operation had happened on Arkansas soil, under his watch? He replied that the saga had been a federal matter outside his purview. “No, they didn’t tell me anything about it. The state really had next to nothing to do with it,” he said.

Arkansas congressman Bill Alexander tried to get to the bottom of it, but successive Congressional enquiries ran into the ground. He eventually called me to his home and handed over the entire treasure trove of documents accumulated over the years, telling me that I might as well have them because the American press was never going to touch the matter. Mena was radioactive.

Whatever happened, the story never saw the light of day. The Washington Post, the New York Times, and the big TV networks shied away from it, much to the dismay of a handful of reporters from the grand press who thought it a scintillating scoop.

So the mystery was left to fester. Mena was a case of the deep state at work, a network that seemed to cross party lines and constitute a power structure pulling strings behind the facade of institutional democracy. People heard about it on talk radio. They were exposed to it on the web. But nobody could discern what was true and what was untrue, because there was no rigorous reporting to sift the material.

So people assumed the worst in militia land, as they did over the firebombing of women and children in Waco by the FBI (the Wounded Knee of the militia), and the half-baked official version of the Oklahoma Bombing. If the press does not probe, it leaves a vacuum. Or to borrow from GK Chesterton, people don’t believe in nothing, they believe in anything.

Perhaps Gatehouse will turn to this in his next episode, but I suspect that he will only feign to do so, too enraptured by his elegant idea: collective madness and the metaphorical burning of witches.

So who really loaded the gun and placed it on the table? Those who tried to tell the story during those years when the first rot was eating into the timber struts of the Great Republic, or those who chose not to tell the story? The answer is far from simple.

By and large, the BBC ought to be on the side of those at least trying to ferret out the truth, one should have thought.

More on Havana syndrome:

<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/danvergano/havana-syndrome-jason-cricketts?scrolla=5eb6d68b7fedc32c19ef33b4>

plus Covert Action piece on nz/Aus

CIA

How the CIA Tried to Overthrow New Zealand's Progressive Labor Government by Stoking White Racial Rage Against the Indigenous Māori Population

By Murray Horton - September 24, 2021 2

<https://covertactionmagazine.com/2021/09/24/how-the-cia-tried-to-overthrow-new-zealands-progressive-labor-government-by-stoking-white-racial-rage-against-the-indigenous-maori-population/>

Hi Robin,LaRouche

<https://www.ae911truth.org/news/322-news-media-events-wrap-up-of-justice-in-focus-symposium-9-11-and-the-path-forward>

PHOTO-ILLUSTRATION: SAM WHITNEY; GETTY IMAGES

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/05/31/are-us-officials-under-silent-attack>

Are U.S. Officials Under Silent Attack?

The Havana Syndrome first affected spies and diplomats in Cuba. Now it has spread to the White House.

By Adam Entous

May 24, 2021

The official shook his head. He was led to an examination room. Hospital staff found his White House identification card in his pocket, and three cell phones, one of which they used to call his wife

<http://www.navysbirprogram.com/NavySearch/Summary/summary.aspx?pk=F5B07D68-1B19-4235-B140-950CE2E19D08>

Objective of Phase Effort

The main goal of the Phase I project was to design and build a breadboard prototype of a temporary personnel incapacitation system called MEDUSA (Mob Excess Deterrent Using Silent Audio). This non-lethal weapon is based on the well established microwave auditory effect (MAE). MAE results in a strong sound sensation in the human head when it is irradiated with specifically selected microwave pulses of low energy. Through the combination of pulse parameters and pulse power, it is possible to raise the auditory sensation to the "discomfort" level, deterring personnel from entering a protected perimeter or, if necessary, temporarily incapacitating particular individuals.

The phenomenon that began in Havana has been reported by officials and their families stationed in Russia, Poland, Austria, Georgia, Taiwan, Colombia, China, Kyrgyzstan, the United Kingdom, and Uzbekistan. "It is global," one government official told NBC News in mid-July, "but there seems to be an awful

lot going on in Europe.” Vienna, a global capital of spycraft since the early days of the Cold War, has emerged as a recent epicenter: Since President Biden took office, close to two dozen American officials in the Austrian capital have had symptoms

<https://nymag.com/intelligencer/article/what-is-havana-syndrome-symptoms-causes.html>

On 8 Aug 2021, at 12:14, Elias Davidsson <eliasdav@t-online.de> wrote:
The 2019 Global Vaccination Summit

Unreported by most mainstream media outlets, a ‘Global Vaccination Summit’ was hosted in Brussels, Belgium, on 12 September 2019.

Organized by the European Commission in cooperation with the World Health Organization, the meeting took place just 3 months before the coronavirus outbreak began.

Significantly, this was also only 36 days before the now infamous coronavirus outbreak simulation exercise, supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Economic Forum, and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, which took place on 18 October 2019 [just 2 months before the coronavirus outbreak began].

BUT highlights on Youtube

<https://www.centerforhealthsecurity.org/event201/about>

An invitation-only event, the vaccination summit participants included political leaders, high-level representatives from the United Nations and other international organizations, health ministries, leading academics, scientists and health professionals, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations.

The summit was structured around three round tables entitled 'In Vaccines We Trust', 'The Magic Of Science', and 'Vaccines Protecting Everyone, Everywhere'. [These are not scientific, but religious, titles]

Notable panel members for these round tables included Nanette Cocero, Global President of Pfizer Vaccines; Dr. Seth Berkley, CEO of GAVI, the Global Vaccine Alliance – an organization that has received vast amounts of funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; and Joe Cerrell, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Managing Director for Global Policy and Advocacy.

Pandemic planning was clearly in evidence at this summit meeting.

Key documents distributed to the participants included reports on 'Pandemic influenza preparedness planning', 'A pandemic influenza exercise for the European Union', 'Avian Influenza and Influenza Pandemic Preparedness Planning', 'Pandemic influenza preparedness and response planning', 'Towards sufficiency of Pandemic Influenza Vaccines in the EU', and 'A "Public Private Partnership" on European Pandemic influenza vaccines'.

Across all these documents, the goal of strengthening collaboration with the pharmaceutical industry is repeatedly stressed, as also is the message that a global pandemic was now inevitable.

started with Forced Vaccination and the Road to "Digital Tyranny": Agenda ID2020 Revisited

By Peter Koenig <https://www.globalresearch.ca/france-germany-canada-greece-convert-tyranny-agenda-id2020-revisited/5750243>

Peter Koenig

The Coronavirus Vaccine: The Real Danger is "Agenda ID2020". Vaccination as a Platform for "Digital Identity"

<https://www.globalresearch.ca/coronavirus-causes-effects-real-danger-agenda-id2020/5706153>

What is the infamous ID2020? It is an alliance of public-private partners, including UN agencies and civil society. It's an electronic ID program that uses generalized vaccination as a platform for digital identity. The program harnesses existing birth registration and vaccination operations to provide newborns with a portable and persistent biometrically-linked digital identity. GAVI, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, identifies itself on its website as a global health partnership of public and private sector organizations dedicated to "immunization for all". GAVI is supported by WHO, and needless to say, its main partners and sponsors are the pharma-industry. The ID2020 Alliance at their 2019 Summit, entitled "Rising to the Good ID Challenge", in September 2019 in New York, decided to roll out their program in 2020, a decision confirmed by the WEF in January 2020 in Davos. Their digital identity program will be tested with the government of Bangladesh. GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, and "partners from academia and humanitarian relief" (as they call it), are part of the pioneer party.

Is it just a coincidence that ID2020 is being rolled out at the onset of what WHO calls a Pandemic? – Or is a pandemic needed to 'roll out' the multiple devastating programs of ID2020?

Koenig is He is a Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization. He is also a non-resident Sr. Fellow of the Chongyang Institute of Renmin University, Beijing.

On Jul 25 Koenig at foot of The Most "Vaxxed" Countries Have Highest Incidence Of Covid Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization. but on 1 August 'China's Post-Pandemic Economic Growth: Reaching Out and Developing Internal Markets and Well-being'

<https://www.globalresearch.ca/china-post-pandemic-growth-reaching-out-developing-internal-markets-wellbeing/5751653> he becomes

He is a non-resident Sr. Fellow of the Chongyang Institute of Renmin University, Beijing and a Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization, Canada.

re ID 2020 (and Koenig above)

How a tech NGO got sucked into a COVID-19 conspiracy theory

<https://web.archive.org/web/20200416001202/https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news/2020/04/15/id2020-coronavirus-vaccine-misinformation>

CASH FOR ACCESS

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9856001/Tories-including-Theresa-desert-party-donors-foreign-policy-group-amid-cash-access-row.html>

see Times 3 August and Simon emails

TANK

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9845773/How-brass-blew-3-5billion-dud-menace-troops.html>

<https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/06/04/uk-halts-ajax-tank-trials/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/jun/03/mod-military-pauses-trials-army-tank-fleet-safety-concerns-ajax>

<https://www.forces.net/news/ajax-whats-going-armys-new-armoured-vehicle-2016> <https://www.forces.net/services/tri-service/defence-secretary-hits-back-ajax-criticism>

since 2010 <https://www.forces.net/news/ajax-manufactuer-noise-and-vibrations-feature-2010>

<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/peteraldhous/fbi-entrapment>
How The FBI Invents Terror Plots To Catch Wannabe Jihadis
2015

cf WATCHING THE WATCHMEN

https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/kenbensinger/michigan-kidnapping-gretchen-whitmer-fbi-informant?utm_source=digg

The Michigan kidnapping case is a major test for the Biden administration's commitment to fighting domestic terrorism — and a crucible for the fierce ideological divisions pulling the country apart.

cf The FBI Allegedly Used At Least 12 Informants In The Michigan Kidnapping Case

Jessica Garrison · July 13, 2021

<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/jessicagarrison/fbi-informants-in-michigan-kidnap-plot?bfsource=relatedmanual>

oddly so of this. Just Google FBI + muslims + entrapment

WMW

Hello Robin,

I noticed on Twitter today that pan African promoter and Algerian independence revolutionary Frantz Fanon was born on this day in 1925. (20 July)

What interested me is that towards the end of his life the CIA flew him to the USA for potentially life saving treatment when he was critically ill.

I cannot find anywhere why this might be so, especially given his anti USA, anti imperialist background.

Don't want to bombard you with obscure snippets but it just caught my attention, and thought it might be of interest to you.

All the best William McIntyre

https://www.raceandhistory.com/Historians/frantz_fanon.htm

<https://academic.oup.com/ahr/article/124/3/983/5509740?guestAccessKey=482804d3-9218-4a7e-962e-155f7c542ecc>

for Frantz Fanon and the CIA man by Thomas Meaney

•

Western intelligence agencies are understood to have been aware of the documents for some months and to have carefully examined them. The

papers, seen by the Guardian, seem to represent a serious and highly unusual leak from within the Kremlin.

The Guardian has shown the documents to independent experts who say they appear to be genuine

ID of person who 'lost' the documents

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/aug/03/civil-servant-who-lost-mod-files-at-a-bus-stop-was-to-be-uks-ambassador-to-nato>

<https://www.brexit-watch.org/the-angus-lapsley-scandal-will-tell-us-if-ministers-are-really-in-charge>

Lapsley is now known to be responsible for a devastating and embarrassing intelligence dump which has prompted our closest allies to question whether the UK can be trusted. He has been stripped of his MOD role but amazingly has not been charged either at the MOD or in the Foreign Office to which he is responsible.

Why did Whitehall fail to prosecute?

Why was his top security vetting only temporarily suspended and not permanently disbarred?

How long will ministers persist with the charade that his career can continue as normal?

27/ 6

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-57624942>

Classified Ministry of Defence documents found at bus stop

By Paul Adams

Diplomatic correspondent

Published

Classified Ministry of Defence documents containing details about HMS Defender and the British military have been found at a bus stop in Kent.

One set of documents discusses the likely Russian reaction to the ship's passage through Ukrainian waters off the Crimea coast on Wednesday.

Another details plans for a possible UK military presence in Afghanistan after the US-led Nato operation there ends.

The government said an investigation had been launched.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) said it is investigating "an incident in which sensitive defence papers were recovered by a member of the public". The MoD employee concerned reported the loss at the time, it said.

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The documents, almost 50 pages in all, were found in a soggy heap behind a bus stop in Kent early on Tuesday morning.

A member of the public, who wishes to remain anonymous, contacted the BBC when he realised the sensitive nature of the contents.

The BBC believes the documents, which include emails and PowerPoint presentations, originated in the office of a senior official at the MoD.

The documents relating to the Royal Navy's Type 45 destroyer, HMS Defender, show that a mission described by the MoD as an "innocent passage through Ukrainian territorial waters", with guns covered and the ship's helicopter stowed in its hangar, was conducted in the expectation that Russia might respond aggressively.

On Wednesday more than 20 Russian aircraft and two coastguard ships shadowed the warship as it sailed about 12 miles (19km) off Crimea's coast.

Moscow's defence ministry said a patrol ship fired warning shots and a jet dropped bombs in the destroyer's path but the UK government rejected this account, denying any warning shots had been fired.

The mission, dubbed "Op Ditroite", was the subject of high-level discussions as late as Monday, the documents show, with officials speculating about Russia's reaction if HMS Defender sailed close to Crimea.

"What do we understand about the possible 'welcome party'...?" asked an official at Permanent Joint Headquarters (PJHQ), the UK's tri-service headquarters at Northwood.

Recent interactions in the eastern Mediterranean between Russian forces and a Carrier Strike Group led by HMS Queen Elizabeth had been unremarkable and "in line with expectations", the document said.

But officials knew this was about to change.

"Following the transition from defence engagement activity to operational activity, it is highly likely that RFN (Russian navy) and VKS (Russian air force) interactions will become more frequent and assertive," one presentation warned.

A series of slides prepared at PJHQ shows two routing options, one described as "a safe and professional direct transit from Odessa to Batumi", including a short stretch through a "Traffic Separation Scheme" (TSS) close to the south-west tip of Crimea.

This route, one slide concluded, would "provide an opportunity to engage with the Ukrainian government... in what the UK recognises as Ukrainian territorial waters."

Three potential Russian responses were outlined, from "safe and professional" to "neither safe nor professional".

In the event, Russia chose to react aggressively, with radio warnings, coastguard vessels closing to within 100 metres and repeated buzzing by warplanes.

An alternative route was considered, which would have kept HMS Defender well away from contested waters.

This would have avoided confrontation, the presentation noted, but ran the risk of being portrayed by Russia as evidence of "the UK being scared/running away", allowing Russia to claim that the UK had belatedly accepted Moscow's claim to Crimean territorial waters.

"As the public would expect, the Ministry of Defence plans carefully," an MoD spokesperson said.

"As a matter of routine, that includes analysing all the potential factors affecting operational decisions."

Alongside the military planning, officials anticipated competing versions of events.

"We have a strong, legitimate narrative", they said, noting that the presence of the embedded journalists (from the BBC and Daily Mail) on board the destroyer "provides an option for independent verification of HMS Defender's action".

Following the controversy generated by HMS Defender's mission, the documents discovered in Kent confirm that passage through the TSS was a calculated decision by the British government to make a show of support for Ukraine, despite the possible risks involved.

Was this gunboat diplomacy?

It was certainly the use of a warship in pursuit of diplomatic goals. But its primary objective was not to "poke the Russian bear" (a phrase and sentiment conspicuously absent from the documents). This was all about freedom of navigation and a clear endorsement of Ukraine's sovereignty, following Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014.

Under the terms of the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, the passage of a foreign ship is regarded as "innocent" when "it is not prejudicial to the peace, good order, or security of the coastal state."

In the eyes of much of the world, that state is Ukraine, not Russia.

The documents don't stop there.

The bundle includes updates on arms exports campaigns, including sensitive observations about areas where Britain might find itself competing with European allies.

There's a whiff of post-Brexit anxiety in comments attributed to "SofS" (Defence Secretary Ben Wallace), who insists that the six-member European Organisation for Joint Armament Cooperation (OCCAR), of which Britain is a member, "must not be hijacked" by "entryism" from the European Commission.

And there are briefing notes for last Monday's session of the UK-US Defence Dialogue, including observations on President Joe Biden's first months in office. The Biden administration's early focus on China and the Indo-Pacific, they say, show "there is still much continuity from the previous administration."

There are also suggestions of what Britain should be asking for.

"We should use the meeting to see how much the administration is prepared to share, or whether its stated ambition of consulting more with allies is truer in principle than in practice."

Sensitive military recommendations

Most of the papers are marked "official sensitive", a relatively low level of classification used, according to the government, "where there is a clear and justifiable requirement to reinforce the 'need to know'".

But one document, addressed to Ben Wallace's private secretary, and marked "Secret UK Eyes Only", outlines highly sensitive recommendations for the UK's military footprint in Afghanistan, following the end of Operation Resolute Support, the Nato operation currently winding down in the wake of President Biden's decision earlier this year to withdraw American forces.

The document discusses an American request for British assistance in several specific areas, and addresses the question of whether any British special forces will remain in Afghanistan once the withdrawal is complete.

Media reports have already suggested Britain is considering leaving some forces behind.

Due to the sensitivity of the document, the BBC has decided not to report details which could endanger the security of British and other personnel in Afghanistan.

But amid reports of a worsening security situation in the country, it sounds several warnings.

"Any UK footprint in Afghanistan that persists... is assessed to be vulnerable to targeting by a complex network of actors," it says, noting that "the option to withdraw completely remains."

Afghanistan, it says, is already becoming more dangerous.

The reduced presence of Nato forces "is already impairing the situational awareness that we (and the US) used to enjoy across the country".

No Britons have been killed in Afghanistan since the US-Taliban deal in February 2020, it says, but "this would be unlikely to remain the status quo".

Rarely has a collection of lost documents covered such a wide range of important areas. This is a major embarrassment for the Ministry of Defence, which is currently carrying out a detailed investigation into how the papers came to be lying on a street corner, in the rain, in the early hours of Tuesday morning. (ie 22/6)

John Healey, Labour's shadow defence secretary, said he was surprised documents had got out of the Ministry of Defence at all. He said he wants Mr Wallace to complete the investigation quickly and report to the House of Commons this week to reassure the public that no military operations had been put at risk.

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Mail version <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9732355/Top-secret-dossier-reveals-defence-chiefs-knew-sending-Navy-warship-past-Crimea-provoke-Russia.html> (text saved)

Does Boris understand the deal?

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/brexit-boris-johnson-eu-trade-deal-northern-ireland-withdrawal-agreement-b452212.html>

16/9/20

Boris Johnson doesn't understand the detail of his own Brexit deal – that's the alarming truth

The PM's aim was to play hardball in trade negotiations, but the EU is wise to his act

Andrew Grice

Andrew Grice

@IndyPolitics

Wednesday 16 September 2020

<https://insider-voice.com/not-credible-that-boris-johnson-didnt-understand-consequences-of-brexit-deal/>

It is "not credible" that Boris Johnson did not understand that the Brexit deal would affect trade into Northern Ireland, the former chief of staff to Theresa May has said.

Downing Street has insisted the agreement was "not a finished solution... and we didn't expect the EU to take such a purist approach to it."

This morning Robert Jenrick, the Communities Secretary, said: "I don't think either side when we signed up to the protocol envisaged that the EU would interpret it in such a rigid and unpragmatic way."

But Lord Barwell told Radio 4's Today programme: "[Mr Johnson] and David Frost are intelligent people, I find it inconceivable they didn't understand what they were signing up to."

The Prime Minister felt it was easier to "fight an election with an oven-ready Brexit deal, so I think the calculation was 'sign up to whatever is on offer and see if we can deal with anything we don't like further down the line'," he added.

Asked if he thought Mr Johnson was "pretending" not to have understood the implication of the Northern Ireland Protocol, Lord Barwell said it is "difficult to conceive of any explanation".

The EU had "come to same conclusion", Lord Barwell said, which is why they are resisting any change now.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2021/06/06/eus-purism-risks-northern-ireland-stability-claims-lord-frost/>

EU's 'purism' risks Northern Ireland stability, claims Lord Frost

Brexit minister accuses EU of being inflexible in the dispute which risks making the situation on the ground 'totally unsustainable'

By Telegraph Reporters

7 June 2021 • 12:30am

The European Union's "legal puritism" poses a risk to stability in Northern Ireland, the Brexit minister has said as he stressed the need for progress in talks this week.

Lord Frost has accused the EU of being inflexible in the dispute which risks making the situation on the ground "totally unsustainable".

The Protocol has been the source of tension in unionist communities because it places a border between Northern Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom, in the Irish sea.

Referring to the tensions Lord Frost said: "We are seeing political turbulence, with the loss of First Minister Arlene Foster, the change of the UUP leadership and street protests. And there are real world impacts on lives and livelihoods."

The Northern Ireland protocol which Lord Frost helped to negotiate "underestimated the effect of the protocol on goods movements to Northern Ireland", he admitted.

Writing in the Financial Times, he said some suppliers in the UK are now "simply not sending their products because of the time-consuming paperwork required".

"We've seen manufacturers of medicines cutting supply. And there is less choice on supermarket shelves for consumers. The NI Retail Consortium has warned that when the grace period ends in October, supermarkets will face 'real, severe problems'."

The EU, which recently saw talks with Switzerland break down, "needs a new playbook for dealing with neighbours", Lord Frost said, adding: "one that involves pragmatic solutions between friends, not the imposition of one side's rules on the other and legal purism."

Ireland's minister for foreign affairs, Simon Coveney responded tweeting: "Lord Frost continues to lay blame for difficulty with Protocol at EU inflexibility. This is

simply not the case. @MarosSefcovic & EU have consistently proposed new solutions.

"Is this about media messaging in UK or really solving problems together?"
getting off-line

<https://edition.cnn.com/2021/06/07/politics/president-joe-biden-cyber-attacks-russia-putin-trump-economy/index.html>

<https://securityandtechnology.org/ransomwaretaskforce/report/>

UFOs as arms race <https://consortiumnews.com/2021/06/04/media-using-ufo-report-to-stir-arms-race/>

see also <https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/40904/faa-data-shows-strange-pattern-of-military-encounters-with-unidentified-aircraft-in-sensitive-airspace> and

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/40054/adversary-drones-are-spying-on-the-u-s-and-the-pentagon-acts-like-theyre-ufosf>

but cf https://www.vice.com/en/article/y3d3mm/ufos-hypersonic-weapons-defense-officials?utm_source=digg

in which the idea of their being new weapons emphatically rubbished.
Whatever they is they ain't that.

Farmers to be paid to retire:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-57149744>

plus Times of 19/5 - we don't need farming.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/newsbeat-44124396>

Jerusalem violence: The Israeli-Palestinian situation explained

Britain took control of the area known as Palestine after the ruler of that part of the Middle East, the Ottoman Empire, was defeated in WW1.

The land was inhabited by a Jewish minority and Arab majority.

Tensions between the two peoples grew when the international community gave Britain the task of establishing a "national home" in Palestine for Jewish people.

For Jews, it was their ancestral home, but Palestinian Arabs also claimed the land and opposed the move.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF HISTORIC PALESTINE PRIOR TO 1948

https://www.cjpme.org/fs_007

<https://www.news.com.au/world/coronavirus/leaked-chinese-document-reveals-a-sinister-plan-to-unleash-coronaviruses/news-story/53674e8108ad5a655e07e990daa85465>

<https://www.rt.com/russia/523956-regime-change-belarus-prank/>

NED blown by prank call. Big stuff.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9536053/Pentagon-whistleblower-warns-UFO-intelligence-failure-level-9-11.html>

Pentagon whistleblower warns that report on military sightings of UFOs could reveal US has been 'leapfrogged technologically by a foreign adversary' in intelligence failure 'on par with 9/11'



<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/05/10/how-the-pentagon-started-taking-ufos-seriously>

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/04/13/pentagon-investigates-pulsating-pyramid-shaped-ufos-california/>

Pentagon releases three UFO videos taken by US navy pilots

Pentagon confirms leaked images and videos of UFOs buzzing over US Navy warships are genuine

The previously leaked videos were declassified to 'clear up any misconceptions' on whether they were real

We may not know the identities of all the mysterious craft that American military personnel and others have been seeing in the skies as of late, but I have seen more than enough to tell you that it is clear that a very terrestrial adversary is toying with us in our own backyard using relatively simple technologies—drones and balloons—and making off with what could be the biggest intelligence haul of a generation. While that may disappoint some who hope the origins of all these events are far more exotic in nature, the strategic

implications of these bold operations, which have been happening for years, undeterred, are absolutely massive

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/40054/adversary-drones-are-spying-on-the-u-s-and-the-pentagon-acts-like-theyre-ufos?utm>

Drones Are Spying On The U.S. And The Pentagon Acts Like They're UFOs
The U.S. military seems aloof to the fact that it's being toyed with by a terrestrial adversary and key capabilities may be compromised as a result.
BY TYLER ROGOWAY APRIL 15, 2021

which begins:

We may not know the identities of all the mysterious craft that American military personnel and others have been seeing in the skies as of late, but I have seen more than enough to tell you that it is clear that a very terrestrial adversary is toying with us in our own backyard using relatively simple technologies—drones and balloons—and making off with what could be the biggest intelligence haul of a generation...

With that in mind, I also believe America's prevailing cultural issues and the general stigma surrounding UFOs was successfully targeted and leveraged by our adversaries, which helped these activities to persist far longer than they should have. In fact, I believe that those in power who snicker about credible reports of strange objects in the sky and stymie research into them, including access to classified data, have become a threat to national security themselves. Their lack of imagination, curiosity, and creativity appears to have built a near-perfect vacuum that our enemies could exploit and likely have exploited to an astonishing degree.

earlier piece Multiple Destroyers Were Swarmed By Mysterious 'Drones' Off California Over Numerous Nights

Adam Kehoe and Marc Cecotti

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/39913/multiple-destroyers-were-swarmed-by-mysterious-drones-off-california-over-numerous-nights>

Newly Released FANewly Released FAA Documents Give Unprecedented Look Into Colorado Drone Swarm Mystery

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/34662/faa-documents-offer-unprecedented-look-into-colorado-drone-mystery>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9507749/How-scientists-Wuhan-lab-helped-Chinese-army-secret-project-animal-viruses.html>

<http://bilbo.economicoutlook.net/blog/?p=47302>

Bill Mitchell The Brexit predictions of doom are proving to be wildly inaccurate

Friday 16 April 2021 6:22 am

Banks flee the City post-Brexit taking more than £900bn in assets with them

<https://www.cityam.com/banks-flee-the-city-post-brexit-taking-more-than-900bn-in-assets-with-them/>

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2021/03/12/record-trade-blow-third-lockdown-triggers-slump-economy/>

Record trade blow as third lockdown triggers slump for economy

Economy shrinks 2.9pc and figures also reveal 41pc slump in exports to the EU over the month

By Russell Lynch, ECONOMICS EDITOR

12 March 2021 • 7:28am

Exports to the European Union tumbled more than 40pc in January as the UK's latest lockdown delivered the biggest hit to the economy since the onset of the pandemic.

The 2.9pc blow to output - though smaller than feared - still leaves the economy 9pc below its pre-Covid peak as the UK felt the impact of tougher restrictions as well as school closures, which only ended this week.

Figures also revealed a record slump in trade as exports to the EU fell 40.7pc or £5.6bn during January, while imports from the bloc fell £6.6bn or 29pc, the Office for National Statistics said.

Alongside the impact of the Brexit deal, the ONS said the third lockdown and stockpiling by firms in November and December in anticipation of disruption were likely to have contributed to the fall.

Ana Boata, head of macroeconomic research at trade credit insurer Euler Hermes, said: "These stark figures will have wide-reaching repercussions for firms and there's a risk of a domino effect on insolvencies later in the year."

The Bank of England estimates that the disruption to trade from December's Brexit deal could also cost 1pc of GDP as firms adjust to the new arrangements.

The growth figures mark the worst month for the economy since April last year, when output collapsed 18.3pc in the first lockdown.

November's looser lockdown, when schools remained open, delivered a comparatively smaller 2.3pc blow.

The continuation of stay at home orders until March 29 is set to worsen the damage, leaving the economy as much as 12pc below peak by the end of the first quarter.

The Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, unveiled an extra £65bn in support in last week's Budget to support the economy this year as the vaccine rollout gathers pace but restrictions are not due to be lifted completely until June 21. Mr Sunak said: "We will continue to protect jobs and businesses as long as this crisis lasts."

The figures showed the services sector - the biggest chunk of the UK economy - acting as the main drag on growth over January, as schools, hospitality and shops were shut. Services sank 3.5pc over the month, leaving the sector more than 10pc below pre-Covid peaks.

But the Government's testing and tracing programme as well as the vaccine programme pushed up health spending by 8.7pc, adding 0.9 percentage points to GDP overall.

The UK's production and manufacturing sector also faltered after eight successive months of growth with manufacturing - down 2.3pc - hardest hit.

Construction was the only sector of the economy to grow, with a marginal 0.9pc advance on the month after a 2.6pc slide in December.

The trade blow was mostly felt in a £2.6bn slump in imports of machinery and transport equipment, and chemicals from the EU in January 2021, including a £1bn or 39pc fall in imports of cars.

The export figures also confirmed the impact of stricter EU checks as sales of exports of food and live animals to the EU, which includes seafood and fish, sank £700m or 63pc over the month, echoing the complaints of the Scottish Seafood Association.

The ONS said its survey data suggested January would mark the likely low point in trade as importing and exporting began to increase towards the end of the month.

James Sproule, chief economist at Handelsbank, said: "January was always going to be the most difficult month with importers stock piling ahead of the 1 January transition and the full impact of the new procedures being felt."

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2021/03/15/britain-should-join-forces-buccaneering-dutch-take-eu/>

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2021/04/09/monetarists-fear-inflation-spiral-bank-england-stokes-economic/>

Monetarists fear inflation spiral as Bank of England stokes an economic boom
Monetary Policy Committee appears to double down on quantitative easing to prevent double-dip recession, but may have over-egged the pudding

AMBROSE EVANS-PRITCHARD

9 April 2021 • 5:00pm

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Ambrose Evans-Pritchard



A chorus of British monetarists and credit experts has accused the Bank of England of stoking an irresponsible economic boom, fearing an inflationary spiral and an old-fashioned balance of payments crisis unless stimulus is curbed soon.

The Bank is financing the Government's entire fiscal deficit, pound for pound. This has fueled an explosive rise in the "broad" money supply. The annual growth rate of non-financial M4 has reached 16pc.

Critics warn that this latent stock of money will ignite like rocket fuel once people start spending extra savings built up during the pandemic, or in economic parlance as the "velocity" of money reverts to normal.

"It is a huge hostage to fortune in terms of inflation. They are flying in the face of monetary history," said Peter Warburton from Economic Perspectives.

"They didn't even attempt to justify why they launched an additional £150bn of QE in October. It is just breath-taking. I think we are going to see 3pc to 4pc inflation as soon as this year, with higher levels to follow," he said.

There was no clear scientific basis for the latest round of bond purchases. This high-octane QE is still being injected into the financial system even as the economy reopens and the Bank's own chief economist predicts a "coiled spring" recovery. The House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee has launched an inquiry into the QE scheme.

It appears that the Monetary Policy Committee doubled down on QE as an insurance policy, deeming too much stimulus to be a safer course than too little given the dangers of a double-dip recession. The question is whether it has over-egged the pudding.

The MPC's Michael Saunders says the money surge reflects higher savings during the lockdowns and is therefore mostly noise. There is still likely to be slack in the economy for several quarters. He said the MPC has "ample scope to tighten monetary policy if required to restrain inflation" should that prove necessary.

The prevailing orthodoxy across major central banks is that any spike in inflation will be short-lived, with little likelihood of expectations becoming "unhinged". It is a New Keynesian article of faith that the disinflationary pressures of the last quarter century - globalisation, digital technology, and demographics - will continue to hold down prices, regardless of monetary creation.

However, the MPC is pushing the experiment further than others, and may be edging into treacherous waters. The European Central Bank looks more extreme on one measure. It has lifted its balance sheet to 72pc of GDP but is still contending with a deflationary legacy, and the rise in broad money is less extreme.

The Federal Reserve is covering just a third of the US Treasury's massive \$3 trillion budget deficit. The rest of the debt issuance is being sold - with caveats - to the open market in the normal way.

Clearly, monetary creation has also been extreme in the US. The Fed is openly aiming to "run the economy hot". This has already led to a 12pc rise in US house prices over the last year, higher than the 10pc peak reached in 2006 shortly before the subprime housing bubble burst.

Nevertheless, the Bank of England risks attracting unpleasant attention if it is not careful. "I think we are seeing a degree of 'fiscal dominance'. We are left to infer that the Bank's real justification for QE is to finance the budget deficit in its entirety and to repress gilt yields as far as possible and for as long as possible," said Dr Warburton.

In other words, it is a suspicion that creditors are being slowly and deliberately expropriated.

Professor Tim Congdon from the Institute of International Monetary Research said the UK is back to the bad old days of boom and bust. It may feel exhilarating for a while but such Faustian pacts end badly. "What the Bank of England is doing is just unbelievable. I think they are guilty of a serious dereliction of duty," he said.

Prof Congdon said the current situation is unrecognisable from bond purchases following the Lehman crisis. Stimulus was required then to offset what would otherwise have been a drastic contraction of the money supply as banks shrank their balance sheets - a process forced upon them by regulators demanding higher capital buffers.

Calibrated QE could not have caused inflation in those circumstances under the standard quantity of money theory. On this occasion it is pure money creation on a grand scale. The time lags can vary and nothing is mechanical but it would be a surprise if this did not lead to quickening inflation, especially since there has been supply-side damage to the productive economy.

"We are going to get some bad inflation numbers by the Autumn. They'll keep claiming that it is temporary but eventually people will realize that the emperor has no clothes. The MPC should recognize that an error has been made and

stop asset purchases immediately, because this is directly increasing the money supply," he said.

Other critics suggest a gentler remedy, urging the Bank of England to start signalling a tighter monetary policy sooner rather than later, even if that means taking some punishment in the debt markets. The price to pay will be much higher later if credibility is lost and bond vigilantes impose discipline in their own brutal fashion. "I fear cliff-edge movements in bond prices and yields. We fund a lot of our external account with fixed income flows from abroad," said Dr Warburton.

Simon Ward, a monetary specialist from Janus Henderson, says the UK is setting itself up for an exchange rate storm. "Money growth is red-hot. The economy will be going gang-busters for the rest of the year and the first casualty is going to be the balance of payments, followed by inflation later in 2022," he said.

The UK has a chronic current account deficit near 4pc of GDP but it could worsen rapidly as the boom sucks in exports. "A major blow-out is possible, based on the historical relationship with broad money growth," he said. The post-Brexit trade transition compounds the risk.

Mr Ward said foreign deposits in UK-based banks rose £49bn over the first two months of this year. The last time there was such a big jump was just before the global financial crisis. It proved to be a precursor to sterling liquidation and currency outflows. The pound fell sharply. It is too early to judge whether the same will happen this time. Japanese investors have been buying gilts on a blistering scale this year.

Over recent decades, a booming economy has typically implied rate rises and a stronger currency - as foreign funds pour in to exploit higher yields. But it was not always like that. Nor is it like that today for most emerging market economies. An inflationary boom in these countries is instead treated as debasement risk. The concern is that Britain could be relegated into this category, losing its room for manoeuvre.

The Bank has abandoned the "full funding rule" established by Nigel Lawson in 1985 and embedded in the institutional architecture when it gained operational independence in 1997. Market funding for the budget deficit has collapsed to zero.


History will judge whether Threadneedle Street is acting with its customary flair ahead of others, or stumbling into a trap. Former Governor Mervyn King has so far been reticent. Twenty years ago he stated that "few empirical

regularities in economics are so well documented as the co-movement of money and inflation". Does that correlation still hold?

Archegos Capital is preparing for insolvency, triggered by banks' attempts to recoup some of the \$10bn they lost on its soured bets in March.

use the quotes below; explain what is happening. Link to the collapsing Britain story.

Betting with borrowed billions is inflating a dangerous bubble

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| | <u>Archegos is not alone – and when the bull market ends those taking a similar approach will also fall</u> | |

Betting with borrowed billions is inflating a dangerous bubble

Archegos is not alone – and when the bull market ends those taking a similar approach will also fall

BEN WRIGHT

9 April 2021 • 6:00am

It is a storyline that could easily have been lifted straight from the TV series *Billions*, in which Damian Lewis plays Bobby Axelrod, an ultra-aggressive hedge fund manager who regards the law as an entirely negotiable concept. Picture the scene: the protégé of one of Wall Street's most famous investors, who is a devout Christian (nice twist), gets busted for insider trading, is forced to shutter his fund to outside money and has to turn it into a family office (the fate Axelrod most fears in *Billions*).

But, season two, he's not finished yet. And, unbeknownst to the authorities, the outwardly modest investor – who lives in a suburban New Jersey house and drives a Hyundai SUV – harnesses his extraordinary capacity for risk to turn an initial stake of \$200m (£146m) into almost \$20bn in just nine years only to spectacularly lose the lot in a matter of days. Talk about a narrative arc.

But perhaps the most striking aspect of the non-fictional rise, fall, rise again and fall again of Bill Hwang and the collapse of Archegos Capital Management at the end of last month – one of the most spectacular failures in financial history – was just how straightforward his investment strategy seems to have been.

Archegos was making massive long bets on a handful of Chinese tech and US media stocks in the hope that the shares would rise in value. That's it. No arbitrage, no complicated structured products. Bobby Axelrod would have laughed it off the trading floor.

Hwang was mostly trading through total return swaps. As derivatives go, these are pretty plain vanilla. They give investors exposure to an underlying asset without having to own it (and therefore appear on the regulatory filings that disclose the biggest holders of publicly-listed shares). The other main benefit is that swaps allow you to leverage up the bet.

And here lies the crux to this tale: the sheer extent of the leverage that Hwang was running – up to 20 times on some positions, according to reports. This meant that if the shares he was betting on rose 5pc, he'd make a return of 100pc. On the flip side, if they fell 5pc, his entire stake would be wiped out. Which is more or less precisely what happened.

What's the moral here? The collapse of one relatively unknown family office poses no systemic threat to the financial system. Archegos is no more, a few banks are nursing sizeable (although not mortal) losses and a handful of their staff no longer have jobs. Beyond that, things continue to chug on much as they did before.

That said, Hwang's travails, while extreme, are by no means isolated. The prime brokerage divisions of investment banks, which provide financing for trading clients like hedge funds, have mushroomed on the back of booming markets. Last year alone, prime services generated \$15.2bn in revenue for the biggest global banks, according to Coalition Greenwich. That's an awful lot of financing.

The Archegos saga also carries echoes of the frantic trading at the beginning of the year by retail investors who were organising on social media and buying options in order to take outsized punts on unloved stocks like GameStop.

Sure enough, statistics released this week show that US investors (both institutional and retail) were borrowing a record \$814bn to make bets as of the end of February, according to data from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. That's up nearly 50pc since the year before.

The last two times investor leverage spiked so much was in 1999 (just before the dotcom bubble burst) and 2007 (just before the financial crisis). This, needless to say, is not a good omen.

The S&P 500 has risen 48pc over the past 12 months and earlier this week the Stoxx-600, which is the main index for European shares, hit the point at which it had recovered all its losses since the start of the pandemic. For US and European equities it is like that whole Covid thing never even happened.

Clearly leverage isn't the main driver behind these gains. Rather it is the global economy bouncing back from the pandemic coupled with the ultra-loose, easy-money policies of central banks.

Conditions for equities couldn't be much more perfect than they are right now. The Easter weekend was bookended by incredibly rosy data on the US economy. The services industry, in particular, posted its highest growth since the survey series began in 1997 and beat economist expectations by the widest margin since these were first compiled in 2008. Data released yesterday in the UK showed that the construction sector grew at its fastest lick for six and a half years in March.

And yet, after a worrying surge earlier in the year, debt yields have barely flickered in recent days. This suggests that the market is pricing in only moderate future inflation (after an initial spike later this year), possibly because investors know the US Federal Reserve is keeping a close eye on the US jobs market, which has bounced back strongly but yet to regain pre-pandemic levels.

This all creates a Goldilocks situation for equities: good progress on vaccine distribution, strong economic growth but a labour market that is nowhere near tight enough to push up wages and therefore inflation. And that, in turn, is likely to stay the Fed's hand in raising interest rates.

The question is whether this is as good as it gets. It's certainly going to be hard for the economy to maintain its current momentum. We're now a year on from the depths of the US recession, which is when growth in the manufacturing sector, for example, tends to peak, according to Deutsche Bank. The jobs market, which lags the economy, will continue to improve. That in

turn will reawaken inflation worries, which will push up yields, which, all other things being equal, should start to create a drag on equities.

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Inflation is a rising concern

[The fiscal and monetary stimulus programmes followed here and elsewhere in the world could be storing up trouble...](#)

ent bull market has been branded the “everything rally”; it is not the “forever rally”. When things turn, all that leverage will ensure they do so fast. Leverage is like sunlight: not enough and your returns will look a bit anaemic, just enough and they give your portfolio a healthy glow, too much and you get frazzled. The trick is in gauging the right amount; the risk is that investors won’t know whether they’ve got it wrong until too late. And, as with Archegos, we’re unlikely to find out who is most exposed until – quite suddenly – the credits start to roll.

We may not know the identities of all the mysterious craft that American military personnel and others have been seeing in the skies as of late, but I have seen more than enough to tell you that it is clear that a very terrestrial adversary is toying with us in our own backyard using relatively simple technologies—drones and balloons—and making off with what could be the biggest intelligence haul of a generation. While that may disappoint some who hope the origins of all these events are far more exotic in nature, the strategic implications of these bold operations, which have been happening for years, undeterred, are absolutely massive

https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/40054/adversary-drones-are-spying-on-the-u-s-and-the-pentagon-acts-like-theyre-ufos?utm_source=diggAdversary

Drones Are Spying On The U.S. And The Pentagon Acts Like They're UFOs
The U.S. military seems aloof to the fact that it's being toyed with by a terrestrial adversary and key capabilities may be compromised as a result.
BY TYLER ROGOWAY APRIL 15, 2021

<https://consortiumnews.com/2021/04/01/the-uk-militarys-secrecy-problem/>

Norton-Taylor on pressure on the author and potential publishers of a critical book about the British armed forces. N-T waxes lyrical and indignant but never mentions – as nobody ever mentions – that the crappy state of the British armed forces, its equipment, its accommodation, is at least partly down to the cost of maintaining the nuclear deterrent. Why this never makes its way onto the mainstream political agenda, I really don't know. The Army and the Air Force must both want rid of it.

Arming the Prods

<https://www.relativesforjustice.com/truth-needed-about-who-armed-the-loyalists/>

nnnUSSR and ESP

<https://www.theblackvault.com/documentarchive/extra-sensory-perception-esp/>

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/nikolai-khokhlov-kgb-paranormal>

<https://www.globalresearch.ca/the-plot-to-kill-martin-luther-king-survived-shooting-was-murdered-in-hospital-an-interview-with-william-pepper/5544005>

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/12/17/world/europe/britain-covid-contracts.html>

'Waste, negligence and cronyism'

In the desperate scramble for protective gear and other equipment, politically connected companies reaped billions.

Of course, the UK is the world's fifth largest economy with many talented people working in the logistics industry.

h20/2 CNN

The BenchMarch 1, 2021 Issue

By Jane Mayer

<https://time.com/5936036/secret-2020-election-campaign>

tax burden <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9209313/Tax-burden-highest-level-SEVENTY-YEARS.html>

OECD stats <https://www.oecd.org/tax/revenue-statistics-united-kingdom.pdf>

great story on how is supervising release of UK official docs.<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-07-25-thousands-of-historic-british-government-files-censored-after-independent-watchdog-approves-over-99-of-secrecy-requests/>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9247603/Bank-England-boss-launches-broadside-EU-finance-industry-rules.html>

- Andrew Bailey warned the Eu that the UK will not become a 'rule-taker' nation
- Bank of England governor was speaking during annual speech to City of London
- UK granted EU equivalence in 17 areas but the EU has so far not reciprocated

By JAMES TAPSFIELD, POLITICAL EDITOR FOR MAILONLINE and LUCY WHITE CITY CORRESPONDENT FOR THE DAILY MAIL

PUBLISHED: 00:07, 11 February 2021 | UPDATED: 14:26, 11 February 2021

Downing Street slated the EU for snubbing the UK's call for financial service 'equivalence' today as Amsterdam overtook London as Europe's biggest share trading hub.

The PM's spokesman complained that Brussels had refused to copy Britain's decision to recognise standards despite the City's track record and having been supplied with 'all the necessary paperwork'.

No10 blamed that for the bombshell news that more European shares are now being traded in Amsterdam than London. The spokesman added: 'Our position is fragmentation of share trading across financial centres is in no one's interest, so we remain open to discussions with the EU about this.'

Lest we forget

<https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform/brainwashed-mkultra>

Norton-Taylor on reform of the spooks

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-10-15-transparency-britains-unaccountable-intelligence-agencies-could-be-held-to-account-heres-how/>

Integrety Initiative

<https://www.moonofalabama.org/2018/12/the-strange-mind-of-christopher-nigel-donnely.html>

Subject: Revealed: Hundreds of Saudi and Gulf military personnel...

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-07-03-revealed-hundreds-of-saudi-and-gulf-military-personnel-trained-in-britain-as-yemen-war-continues/>

what goes around comes around - eventually.

Iran coup prog. tape interview published

<https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/dc.html?doc=7033886-National-Security-Archive>

Well, I mean, look, I think what he should be saying is that we become beholden to China to the most extraordinary degree. I mean, how can it be that 80 percent of the antibiotics we take in the UK are manufactured in China? I mean, they could hold us hostage on health, on nuclear power, on steel, on all sorts of things. What Boris should be saying is recognizing that the Chinese Communist party are fully in control of that country. They are not a force for democracy. They're not a force for good. They're even trying to use the coronavirus crisis, which they caused, and try to use that to further their global power agenda. So I would like to see Boris do a complete 180 on China. But you know what? He's capable of that because he'd never advocated Brexit until a few weeks before the referendum. He'd always been a Remainer. So Boris is very, very good at moving with the political wind. And I predict on China, he will do so. Nigel Farage <https://spectator.us/nigel-farage-amber-athey-steamboat-brexite-us-trade/>

In Ukraine, Koshiw also worked as a freelancer on a long-form investigation into a group of notorious Ukrainian hackers who have made millions of dollars from trading stolen corporate press releases. <https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/blog/2020-06-17/meet-our-new-team-investigating-londons-role-in-international-corruption>

Newswires like Business Wire are clearinghouses for corporate information, holding press releases, regulatory announcements, and other market-moving information under strict embargo before sending it out to the world. Over a period of at least five years, three US newswires were hacked using a variety of methods from SQL injections and phishing emails to data-stealing malware and illicitly acquired login credentials. Traders who were active on US stock exchanges drew up shopping lists of company press releases and told the hackers when to expect them to hit the newswires. The hackers would then upload the stolen press releases to foreign servers for the traders to access in exchange for 40 percent of their profits, paid to various offshore bank accounts.

the Telegraph Bookshop Corona made in lab?

<https://www.the-scientist.com/news-opinion/lab-made-coronavirus-triggers-debate-34502>

<https://www.nature.com/articles/nm.3985>

Subject: Revealed: Hundreds of Saudi and Gulf military personnel...

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-07-03-revealed-hundreds-of-saudi-and-gulf-military-personnel-trained-in-britain-as-yemen-war-continues/>

Beeley discussed in Syria war: The online activists pushing conspiracy theories

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/blogs-trending-43745629>

Integrity Initiative

<https://www.moonofalabama.org/2018/12/the-strange-mind-of-christopher-nigel-donnelly.html>

Telegraph

Bailey: Government 'would have struggled to fund itself' without £200bn rescue

Andrew Bailey's comments underline the gravity of Treasury's plight as markets neared meltdown in mid-March

By Russell Lynch, ECONOMICS EDITOR ; Lizzy Burden and Tom Rees

23 June 2020 • 12:04am

The Bank of England was forced to save the Government from potential financial collapse as markets seized up at the height of the coronavirus crisis, Governor Andrew Bailey has said.

In his most explicit comments yet on the country's precarious position in mid-March, Mr Bailey said "serious disorder" broke out after panicking investors sold UK government bonds in a desperate hunt for cash.

It left Britain at risk of failing to auction off the gilts needed to fund crucial spending - and Threadneedle Street had to pump £200bn into the markets to restore a semblance of order.

In comments to Sky News, Mr Bailey said that without the emergency move "the prospects would have been very bad. It would have been very serious".

He added: "I think we would have a situation where in the worst element, the Government would have struggled to fund itself in the short run."

<https://www.pressgazette.co.uk/mail-publisher-pays-damages-to-palestinian-centre-over-grotesque-libel-in-tom-bower-serialisation/> JUNE 18, 2020

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LRB Cockburn on Assange: and nothing found by US military. Sort of makes up the grotesque attack on Assange,

or Suvorov, a member of the Integrity Initiative/Cluster/UK/Inner Core, attended the 2015, 2016 & 2018 Bilderbergs, some of them with her husband, Radosław Sikorski, a member of the Bullingdon Club.

<http://syriapropagandamedia.org/working-papers/briefing-note-on-the-integrity-initiative> huge write-up of Integrity

applebaum named <http://network.futuretechinsider.com/@clarityofsignal/> previously-secret-documents-reveal-anne-applebaum-of-the-washington-post-on-list-of-uk-foreign-office-funded-disinfo-group

Disinformation, propaganda and fake news [edit]

In 2014, Applebaum and Peter Pomerantsev launched Beyond Propaganda, a program examining disinformation and propaganda, at the Legatum Institute.^[51] In 2016, they expanded the program, renamed it Arena, moved it to the LSE and began piloting solutions to the problem.^[52] Applebaum has written that a 2014 Russian smear campaign, aimed at her, first taught her the techniques of modern Russian propaganda. That campaign was promoted by Wikileaks.^[53] Applebaum argued in 2015 that Facebook should take responsibility for spreading false stories and help "undo the terrible damage done by Facebook and other forms of social media to democratic debate and civilized discussion all over the world."^[54]

then Russian psyops <https://secondaryinfektion.org/report/secondary-infektion-at-a-glance/>

<https://secondaryinfektion.org/report/secondary-infektion-at-a-glance/>

<http://www.abovetopsecret.com/forum/thread379087/pg1>

The big recent news in the field is the appearance of a 15-page set of notes, apparently of a conversation in 2002 between retired U.S. Admiral Thomas Ray Wilson and Dr Eric Davis, a physicist and UFO-believer.

<http://devoid.blogs.heraldtribune.com/16000/eric-who-the-admiral/>

Eric who? — the Admiral

Posted on June 15, 2020 by Billy Cox

The admiral at the center of controversial notes describing his inability to access a classified UFO research program says the documents are bogus. Furthermore, he says the alleged author of those notes, physicist Dr. Eric Davis, never interviewed him.

"It's all fiction," says former Defense Intelligence Agency Director Thomas Wilson, from his home in Virginia. "I wouldn't know Eric Davis if he walked in right now."

"My memory is not foggy. Of all the stuff on the Internet, the only thing which is accurate is, I did have a meeting with (Edgar) Mitchell in '97 or '98, when I was Vice-2"

Posted on Imgur last year, the 15 pages of typed notes, often referred to now as the Core Secrets memo, were presented as the rough transcripts of a conversation between Wilson, shortly after retiring from the Navy, and Davis,

on 10/16/02. The nut graph of Core Secrets, if true, would confirm some of the darkest suspicions about the UFO phenomenon – that research is being undertaken and walled off by private contractors, to the extent that not even insiders at the most elite levels of military intelligence have the proper security clearances to review the evidence.

Davis, who famously researches the sorts of exotic technology often observed in UFO behaviors, has never affirmed or denied his ostensible authorship of Core Secrets when pressed over the past year. He did, however, tell the New York Post in May that the documents were leaked by the estate of the late astronaut and Apollo 14 moonwalker Dr. Edgar Mitchell.

But in his first public statement on Core Secrets, Wilson rejected the entire premise of the meeting and his role in it. The notes indicate that Wilson and Davis rendezvoused in Las Vegas, inside a car attended by three uniformed military personnel, in the parking lot of the Special Projects Building of defense contractor EG&G.

"I'm not saying that sometime, somewhere, I never met (Davis), but I certainly don't know him, I don't remember him, and I definitely did not sit with him in a car for an hour in Las Vegas," Wilson told De Void.

"You may also see in those notes where I came with two other naval officers, a lieutenant and a lieutenant commander, and a petty officer who was driving the car. I was not even in the Navy then. And the Navy was certainly not ferrying me around in a car at that point.

"Those notes are really detailed – it's like somebody wrote a fiction piece," Wilson said. "But it never happened, trust me. There are so many things in those notes that are demonstrably inaccurate. And I don't know how I could prove it, but I haven't been to Las Vegas since 1979, 80."

Wilson said he hadn't gotten around to reading the Core Secrets docs until someone brought them to his attention within the past week or so. He said his catch-up crash course included watching researcher Richard Dolan's YouTube overview of the contents and their implications. Wilson called that synopsis "silly."

One thing in the notes that is true, Wilson added, is that he and Mitchell did meet face to face. Wilson said he couldn't remember the date, but Core Secrets alleges the meeting occurred in 1997, when Wilson was Vice Director of Intelligence for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shortly before becoming the DIA director. He acknowledged that the subject of UFOs and special access programs did come up. But he reiterated what he told De Void in 2008, that he wasn't interested in going down that rabbit hole.

"I don't remember the details, but they [Mitchell was accompanied by UFO researcher Steven Greer] said there would be evidence in black programs, and would I be interested in chasing it down," Wilson said. "I told them I had far too many things to do.

"I'm not saying there are no such programs because I don't know. I didn't check or follow up. It might not have been a waste of time for somebody (to pursue), but I did not have time to waste, believe me. At the time I was up to my eyeballs in Bosnia and Kosovo and Korea and Iraq and, you name it, terrorism. So I didn't feel I should spend my time — well, I had enough black programs I had to deal with."

In 1996, Mitchell told me he was pursuing leads that UFO "information is now held primarily by a body of semi- or quasi-private organizations that have kinda spun off from the military intelligence organizations of the past." He called those arrangements "dangerous" and added:

"Imagine an organization that has a black budget, an unquestioned source of funds, reports to no one, and has this exotic technology that they can keep to themselves and play with." He also said that if NASA had prior knowledge "of ET contact existing within the government, and we were sent into space blind and dumb to such information, I think it is a case of criminal culpability."

Mitchell repeated some of those allegations in 2008 on CNN's Larry King Live. Without mentioning Wilson, Mitchell said he had talked with "an admiral" who "had found the people responsible for the cover-up and for the people who were in the know and were told, I'm sorry, admiral, you do not have need to know here and so, goodbye."

Upon learning 12 years ago that Wilson had immediately rejected those allegations, Mitchell said he was "shocked," but he refused to challenge the discrepancy. "I do not wish to engage him on this matter," Mitchell said.

Wilson's repudiation of the Core Secrets narrative is consistent with what a handful of his contemporaries – either mentioned in the Core Secrets notes or involved in the relevant chain of command in 1997 – have told De Void.

Former Los Alamos National Laboratory scientist Oke Shannon, former Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Noel Longuemare, former Vice Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and USAF Gen. Joe Ralston, and former Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Dr. Paul Kaminsky, have all stated they have no knowledge of the Core Secrets version of events.

As to the broader subject of UFOs, Wilson remains skeptical. Over the course of his long military career, Wilson said he knew of countless initially unusual sightings that turned out to have prosaic explanations, many of them

submarines. But the Pentagon's recent verification of videos showing F-18s in pursuit of UFOs have lowered his guard somewhat.

"I looked at those Navy videos with some interest," he said. "I don't know what they saw. It's interesting, for sure."

Eric Davis could not be reached for comment.

compare with content of

<http://www.abovetopsecret.com/forum/thread379087/pg1>

Remember the alleged transcript of interviews with Admiral Thomas Wilson, about back-engineered UFO tech?

For what it's worth, Wilson has now been interviewed and claims the whole thing's fake.

<https://tinyurl.com/ydefclsp>

Am amazed this didn't happen earlier. I'd assumed no-one had spoken to Wilson because he was dead.

Inter alia, there's one thing that bothered me when I read the above, which I'll address here in case it bothers you too. The author seems to think Wilson, not Bobby Ray Inman, was the person Mitchell met with at the Pentagon to talk about Roswell.

Since Inman has confirmed that he met with Mitchell in 1976, the above must be a case of muddled reporting about two separate meetings.

The big giveaway is that Mitchell specifically mentioned he was accompanied by a Navy man (i.e., Carter).

Greer (who went with Mitchell to meet Wilson in 1997) is a career medic, with no Navy background whatsoever. There are other discrepancies, but that's the biggest. Also, no mention of Roswell, just the usual generic flying saucer stuff.

So it looks like Mitchell didn't give up after being rebuffed by Inman, and tried again 21 years later. You can see how the two meetings could easily become conflated by a reporter trying to make sense of it all.

<http://www.abovetopsecret.com/forum/thread379087/pg1>

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/opendemocracyuk/trumpification-conservative-party/>

the article I might have written.

London taken over by super rich

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/long_reads/super-rich-people-london-expensive-homes-wealthy-a9544466.html

add Times 22 Jun 40,00 Jihad suspects

UK bottom of Covid treatment table.

add: Monbiot on how the gov/Tory Party responds to the bad guys first.

the confessions of a bastard cop

https://medium.com/@OfcrACab/confessions-of-a-former-bastard-cop-bb14d17bc759?utm_source=digg

link to US data companies in NHS

<https://truepublica.org.uk/united-kingdom/into-the-heart-of-the-nhs-an-american-backed-spy-programme-at-the-heart-of-brexit/>

Whitlam letters: <https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/w/australias-high-court-says-queens-letters-around-british-american-coup-1975-can-be>

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20170421-message-to-jeremy-corbyn-dont-mention-hamas/> 2017 warning about the Corbyn smear campaign.

The psychology behind why people think 5G makes them sick

https://www.engadget.com/idiopathic-environmental-intolerance-and-5g-140029109.html?utm_source=digg

<https://theintercept.com/2020/05/14/new-documents-from-the-sham-prosecution-of-gen-michael-flynn-also-reveal-broad-corruption-in-the-russiagate-investigations/>

Consortium still on with Ray McGovern arguing there was no Russian hack of theDNC. Naive pro Soviets now naive pro Russia?

<https://www.emptywheel.net/2018/07/31/without-integrity-the-debunking-of-the-metadata-debunkers/>

Duncan Campbell William Binney and the whole DNC hacked thing. Boy this is complex - beyond my ken.

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Barton Gellman on Snowden and surveillance https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2020/06/edward-snowden-operation-firstfruits/610573/?utm_source=digg

The Channel 4 News chief who sparked an impartiality row with No 10 by calling Boris Johnson a "known liar" is to step down.

Dorothy Byrne leaves after 17 years in the role and will take up a specially-created position of editor-at-large.

In last year's MacTaggart Lecture at the Edinburgh TV Festival, Byrne asked: "What do we do when a known liar becomes our Prime Minister?"

She doubled down on the remarks this Sunday when she was the castaway on BBC Radio 4's Desert Island Discs, insisting: "My job is to speak truth to power and my concern about politicians not telling the truth is not some eccentric view of my own - it is one shared by the British people."

death of White Helmets leader <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/nov/11/british-founder-of-white-helmets-found-dead-in-istanbul-james-le-mesurier>

Assange and Geoffrey Robertson bugged in Ecuadorian embassy.

https://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-23/surveillance-of-julian-assange-captured-lawyers-conversations/11985872?pfmredirect=sm&fbclid=IwAR225rctcZAVaqi5ah3bPNLQAEifAZkOTFyz0ocv-8nliRsB_Jy4j4KuQpw

CF Saddam

CF Norton-Taylor's account of arms scams in UK.

Although they're large and contain multitudes, conspiracy theories across the spectrum share two things. First, they emerge from what Ryan Milner and I describe in our book as "deep memetic frames." This concept draws from deep stories as described by Arlie Hauschild, which reflect the affective paradigms we feel our ways into; frames as described by George Lakoff, which function as the "metaphors we live by;" and memetic logics as described by Milner, which guide the reciprocal process of social sharing. Deep memetic frames are what we believe in our bones to be true about the world. They emerge from our education, our experiences, and how we're culturally conditioned to interpret information. Some are tethered to empirical reality, some less so, and some

not at all; regardless, they shape how we see and what we know (or think we know) so completely that we probably don't even notice them. Whether we're aware of them or not, our frames take information and turn it into evidence.

<https://www.wired.com/story/please-please-please-dont-mock-conspiracy-theories/> Whitney Phillips, 'Please, please don't mock conspiracy' theories

P

SAvid Javid

Hitches on Syria gas story <https://hitchensblog.mailonsunday.co.uk/2020/02/a-and-b-respond-to-the-opcws-attacks-on-them-the-full-rebuttal.html>

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