

Femtosecond

IN THE NEWS

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 14

OCTOBER 9, 2022

World News

President Biden declared the COVID-19 pandemic is over [1]. This comes as over 2 million illegal immigrant encounters along the Southern border were reported during this fiscal year, with over 200,000 just in August [2]. Moreover, what is not known is how many others have illegally entered the US. Surprisingly, even when the illegal immigrants are sick, they are still released into border town communities [3]. In effect, the open border policy ensures disease spreads to every part of the US. At the close of this newsletter, John Hopkins University reports 1,062,560 deaths tied to COVID-19 [4]. The open border is also the conduit for dangerous drugs. Case in point, so far this year the amount of illegal fentanyl seized at the Southern border is enough to kill eight times the entire US population [5]. So how much fentanyl got through?

The Nord Stream pipelines, designed to transport natural gas from Russia to the European union, were damaged by hundreds of pounds of TNT [6]. The investigation indicates sabotage was the most likely cause of the explosions [7]. Investigators from Sweden report multiple detonations [8].

In Asia, North Korea launched a ballistic missile over Japan [9]. Immediately following the unannounced launch, Japanese officials urged residents to take shelter [10]. North Korea claimed the 6 missile tests were for self-defense against direct U.S. military threats [11]. Additionally, the Biden Administration expressed concern that North Korea may be planning another nuclear weapon test [11].

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Ukraine War

Images confirm that Russia is using incendiary devices on populated areas [1]. Additionally, Russia is activating some war fighters, within its military reserves [2]. In a move to solidify gains, the Luhansk, Kherson and partly Russian-controlled Zaporizhzhia and Donetsk regions are voting for admission into Russia [3]. This comes as Russian President Putin threatened to use nuclear weapons should there be any attacks against Russia [4]. The significance of the vote is to provide Putin with a justification for using nuclear weapons.

Meanwhile, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Burns cannot determine if the Russian threat to use nuclear weapons is valid [5]. Moreover, President Biden discussed the real possibility of a nuclear Armageddon [6]. Concurrently, the Administration is purchasing \$290 million worth of anti-radiation pills [7]. Nevertheless, there does not seem to be any effort by the West to seek a peaceful end to the conflict. Moreover, the Ukrainian government appears cold on peace discussions proposed by Elon Musk [8]. Interestingly,

Russian media welcomed the Musk suggestions and appear ready to negotiate a settlement [9]. The question here is why is there no peace effort underway to defuse the situation between Ukraine and Russia?

1. Simko-Bednarski, Evan, New York Post, *Chilling video shows incendiary ammo falling on Ukrainian town*, September 20, 2022.
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Special points of interest:

- Unemployment 3,5%
- Stock Indexes Fall
- Nuclear Armageddon?

Ukraine War

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3. AP, *Moscow-held regions of Ukraine in 'sham' vote to join Russia*, September 23, 2022.
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World News

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4. John Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center, coronavirus.jhu.edu/region/united-states, October 9, 2022.
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9. Propper, David, New York Post, *North Korea fires ballistic missile over Japan, residents warned to take cover*, October 4, 2022.
10. Seo, Yoonjung, et. al., CNN, *Japan issues rare alert as North Korea fires missile without warning over main island*, October 4, 2022.
11. Lee, Joyce, Reuters, *North Korea says missile tests self-defence against U.S. military threats* -KCNA, October 7, 2022.
12. Liptak, Kevin, CNN, *Biden administration fears North Korea building up to a new nuclear test, but hampered by lack of intelligence*, October 6, 2022.

*All cruelty springs from
weakness.—Lucius
Annaeus Seneca*

Terrorism

In August, there were over 25,000 Venezuelans, 19,000 Cubans and nearly 12,000 Nicaraguans encounters at the US Southern border [1]. President Biden has publicly stated that it is not rational to send immigrants back to these countries [2]. However, these three countries have strong ties to Russia [3]. This comes as events in Afghanistan are forcing Russian Putin to warn the West, he will use nuclear weapons [4]. So will Putin use nuclear weapons or will he use some asymmetric way to pressure the US to back down in the Ukraine? With so many illegal immigrants coming from Putin friendly countries, how many are Russian assets?

Consider, in 2006, Russian operatives used radiation poisoning to kill Alexander Litvinenko in England [5]. Additionally, Putin critic Alexei Navalny, was poisoned with nerve agent [6]. The Administration's open border policies are enabling the influx of terrorists and Russia aligned operatives. This will likely not have a happy ending.

In New York City, an illegal immigrant from Bosnia, Dzenan Camovic, was sentenced to 30-year in prison for a 2020 religious knife attack on police [7]. Meanwhile, in Afghanistan, a bombing left at least 19 people dead [8].

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Prominent Defector In London, A Court Concludes, September 22, 2021.

6. CBS News, *Putin critic Alexei Navalny poisoned with Soviet-era nerve agent, Germany says*, September 2, 2020.
7. Richard, Lawrence, Fox News, *Illegal immigrant who stabbed, shot NYPD officers sentenced to 30 years in prison, deportation*, September 22, 2022.
8. The Guardian/Reuters, *Afghanistan blast: 19 killed and dozens wounded at Kabul education centre, say police*, September 30, 2022.

My notion of the KGB came from romantic spy stories. I was a pure and utterly successful product of Soviet patriotic education.—Vladimir Putin

Economy

On September 21, the Federal Reserve raised benchmark interest rates by 0.75% [1]. Following news of the Fed rate hike, the Dow, S&P 500, and Nasdaq stock indexes each fell over 1.7% for the day [2]. By the close of the third quarter, the three stock indexes closed below 20% of their highs, indicating a solid bear market [3].

One of the dangers in relying on the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is they control supply and therefore price. For instance, the Administration is trying to convince OPEC+ (includes Russia) not to cut back on oil production [4]. However, the OPEC members agreed to cut 2 million barrels of oil production per day [6]. As this newsletter closed, the average price per gallon of gasoline was \$3.91 [7].

On the plus side, the employ-

ment picture continues to look good. Case in point, the unemployment rate fell to 3.5% [6]. Following the employment report, the major stock indexes fell sharply [8].

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3. Gura, David, NPR, *A bad year for Wall Street gets even worse, as stock markets finish September down*, October 1, 2022.
4. Marquardt, Alex, et. al., CNN, *White House launches last ditch effort to dissuade OPEC from cutting oil production to avoid a 'total disaster'*, October 4, 2022.
5. Shan, Lee Ying, CNBC, *Washington sees OPEC+ oil production cuts as a political 'blow against Biden,' says Dan Yergin*, October 6, 2022.
6. Cox, Jeff, CNBC, *Unemployment rate falls to 3.5% in September, payrolls rise by 263,000 as job market stays strong*, October 7, 2022.
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8. Macheel, Tanaya, CNBC, *Dow drops 600 points, Nasdaq closes 3% lower as rates pop after September jobs report*, October 7, 2022.

Russia isn't going to start a war. They can't afford it. I think Mr. Putin can be dealt with if we stop screaming at him. You can work with the guy. You just have to know who he is.—Colin Powell
