

Wuhan Coronavirus

Before the presidential election, candidate Biden promised that if elected, he would shut down the (COVID-19) virus [1]. However, on February 4, the number of US deaths tied to COVID-19 passed the 900,000 mark [2,3]. Moreover, over 500,000 died of COVID-19 under President Biden. That is, 100,000 more died under President Biden than did under President Trump.

Perhaps a contributing factor is the quality of expertise influencing policy. For example, early in 2020, Dr. Anthony Fauci wrote that store-bought face masks would not be very effective at protecting against the COVID-19 and advised a traveler not to wear one [4]. He would later claim to have no regrets in misleading the public regarding masks [5]. In another case, Dr. Fauci stated that unvaccinated immigrants were not responsible U.S.'s COVID-19 transmission [6].

Meanwhile, questions remain over the role of the Wuhan Institute of Technology as it relates to the virus origin. Case in point, the lab is also conducting classified research for the China [7]. The simple observation is that if the lab was not responsible for leaking the virus, the Chinese government would be wide open for serious examination. In many instances, China is averse to any negative news. Case in point, China rejects any criticism regarding Muslim Uighurs and other minorities living in its Xinjiang region [8].

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World News

One report suggests the most likely cause of Havana syndrome, was a pulsed microwave weapon [1]. Symptoms of the illness include hearing a low hum, pain, pressure, dizziness and fatigue [2]. Interestingly, some of the physical symptoms associated with Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD) include headaches, dizziness, chest pains and stomach aches [3]. So, could microwave radiation also be a factor in military veteran PTSD?

Back in January, President Biden suggested a muted response should the Russian's execute a minor incursion into the Ukraine

[4]. However, there are some provinces with areas controlled by Russian backed separatists; responsible for the deaths of over 14,000 people over the past 8 years [5]. Perhaps President Biden was referring to those combat areas with numbers of Russian backed rebels. By one estimate, there are 4 million Russian speaking people that control parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions that border Russia [6]. Meanwhile, the Russian forces near the Ukraine border prompted the White House to tell US citizens to leave [7]. However, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelen-

sky claims the talk from the US of Russian invasion is causing unnecessary panic [8]. This was further exacerbated by the US closing its embassy in the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv [9]. Overseas, there is belief that the current US administration fabricated the crisis in order to distract from poor approval ratings, COVID-19 deaths, and rising inflation [10].

While much focus remains on Russia, things are not good with China. Case in point, the Government Accountability Office reports the US military is not prepared for war with Chi-

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Special points of interest:

- US COVID-19 Deaths over 900,000
- 4.0% December Unemployment
- 2011 Record Trade Deficit
- January 7.5% Inflation Rate

Whatever starts in California unfortunately has an inclination to spread.—Jimmy Carter

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na [10].

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3. Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center, *Numbers reported on January 27, 2021*.
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5. Panetta, Grace, Business Insider, *Fauci says he doesn't regret telling Americans not to wear masks at the beginning of the pandemic*, July 16, 2020.
6. Durkee, Alison, Forbes, *Fauci Says Immigrants Are 'Absolutely Not' Driving Covid-19 Surge: 'Let's Face Reality Here'*, October 3, 2021.
7. Dou, Eva, Washington

- Post, Wuhan lab's classified work complicates search for pandemic's origins*, June 22, 2021.
8. Nebehay, Stephanie, Reuters, *China rejects genocide charge in Xinjiang, says door open to U.N.*, February 22, 2021.

Terrorism

One consequence of the fall of Afghanistan is increased terrorist activity elsewhere. For instance, Pakistan is experiencing an increase [1].

Meanwhile, a problem with an open Southern Border is that bad actors have access to the United States. For example, Mara Salvatrucha (a.k.a. MS-13) was founded in Los Angeles during the 1980s by immigrants from El Salvador [2]. In 2008, the FBI estimated there were 6,000 to 10,000 MS-13 members operating in 42 states [3]. Then, in January, 2021, the Department of Justice indicted 14 senior members of MS-13 for terrorism offenses [4]. Elsewhere, in El Salvador, the MS-13 gangs routinely target police for execution [5]. In summary, it

will be a matter for future researchers to ascertain how much crime was rooted in the current open border policy.

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5. Sieff, Kevin, *Washington Post*, *It's so dangerous to police MS-13 in El Salvador that officers are fleeing the country*, March 3, 2019.

*Beware of false knowledge;
it is more dangerous than
ignorance.—George
Bernard Shaw*

Economy

The economy as measured by the stock market indexes is falling. For example, on February 3, the Nasdaq Composite fell 3.7% [1]. Next we learned the \$859.1 billion trade deficit for 2011 was the largest on record [2]. To top off the bad news, the inflation rate for January grew to 7.5%; a rate not seen since 1982 [3].

Meanwhile, on the positive side, the unemployment rate for December was 4.0% [4]. Moreover, for the week ending January 29, the number of first-time unemployment claims, reported by the Department of Labor, was 238,000 in [5]. For the week ending February 5, the number reported was 223,000 [6]. Finally, for the week ending February 12, the number reported was 248,000 [7].

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6. Department of Labor, *Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims, February 10, 2022.*
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Unemployment Insurance
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*It is a way to take people's
wealth from them without
having to openly raise
taxes. Inflation is the most
universal tax of all.—
Thomas Sowell*
