

World News

In August, 2008, Russia conducted a full scale military invasion of Georgia [1]. Then, in 2014, Russia annexed the Crimea from the Ukraine [2]. Months later, a Malaysian 777 carrying 295 passengers and crew was shot down by what appears to be Russian separatists [3]. At the time, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko pleaded for US military aid to no avail [4]. President Obama only provided nonlethal aid to the Ukraine [5] This changed in 2017 (and through his administration) when President Trump approved lethal arms deliveries to the Ukraine [6]. However, on July 25, 2019, during a phone call with Ukraine President Zelensky the conversation included looking into corruption involving Mr. Biden and his son Hunter; this topic led to President Trump's impeachment by the US House of Representatives later that year [7].

Once President Biden came into office, he resumed the Obama policy and froze lethal aid to the Ukraine [8]. Concurrently, President Biden waived sanctions against the company overseeing the construction of Russia's Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline to Germany [9]. Then in December (2021), President Biden alerted the world there would be no US troops in the Ukraine [10]. The President continued to reaffirm this position [11]. When an invasion by Russia seems all but certain, President Biden did approve the transfer of lethal aid, including hundreds of Javelin missiles, that were delivered to the Ukraine [12].

Unfortunately, on February 21, Russian President Putin ordered troops into the Russian controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk [13]. In response, Western nation, imposed sanctions against Russia [14]. However, China has rejected sanctions against Russia [15]. Moreover, China appears to be in support of Russia's aggression in the Ukraine [16]. So, how effective can sanctions be if China provides easy world access? Meanwhile, a Xinhua News Agency editor wrote Russia was needed to solve the Taiwan issue [17].

Some are comparing President Biden's Afghanistan retreat to that of President Carter's Iran hostage crisis [18]. In reflection: On November 4, 1979 the US embassy in Tehran was seized; then on December 27, 1979, the U.S.S.R. (Russia's predecessor) invaded Afghanistan. Fast forward: On August 30, 2021, the US completed its withdrawal from Afghanistan; on February 24, 2022, Russia invaded the Ukraine. A question here is, did President Biden's Afghanistan withdrawal and promise not to defend the Ukraine encourage Russian President Putin to invade?

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Wuhan Coronavirus

On July 4, 2021. President Biden declared independence from COVID-19 [1]. Unfortunately, on March 1, 2022, the number of deaths tied to COVID-19 stood at 950,490 [2]. Currently, more people are dying of COVID-19 than during

most of the pandemic [3]. In other news, it appears the British Government has all but concluded COVID-19 originated from a lab leak in Wuhan, China [4]. While the world recovers from COVID-19; attention has changed focus to the war in the Ukraine. For

instance, there are indications of Ukrainian biolabs at risk from Russian attacks [5]. Moreover, China is claiming the US funded the biolabs for developing bio-weapons [6].

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Special points of interest:

- Russia Invades the Ukraine
- Inflation
 - Average Gallon Gas passes \$4.00 (record high)
 - CPI 7.9% (4 decade high)
 - Barrel of Oil \$130.00
- US COVID-19 Deaths over 950,000

Wuhan Coronavirus

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'war crimes' cause concern over Ukraine's biolab, March 9, 2022.

6. Rising, David, ABC News/AP, *China amplifies unsupported Russian claim of Ukraine biolabs,* March 11, 2022.

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16. Deng, Chao, and Kubota, Yoko, Wall Street Journal, *China Nods to Russia's Interests in Attack on Ukraine,* February 24, 2022.
17. Aitken, Peter, Fox News, *Chinese media accidentally posts CCP rules on Russia-Ukraine coverage, hint at Taiwan takeover,* February 23, 2022.
18. Williams, Daniel, Asia Times, *Like Carter's Iran, Afghan bungle paints Biden weak,* August 21, 2021.

Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy, its inherent virtue is the equal sharing of misery.—Winston Churchill

Terrorism

While the world focuses on the Russian invasion of the Ukraine, terrorism continues elsewhere. For example, in Africa there are thousands of extremists attacks per year and the frequency continues to increase [1]. In Pakistan, ISIS claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing on a Shia mosque that killed dozens [2].

Additionally, we are continuing to see cross border terrorist attacks. For example, Yemen based Houthis claimed responsibility for a drone attack on a refinery located in the Saudi Arabian capital [3]. Then missiles were fired from Iran toward a new American

consulate under construction in northern Iraq [4].

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*Democracy is the road to
socialism.—Karl Marx*

Economy

The US trade deficit for January was \$107.6 billion; a new record high [1]. This comes as inflation continues to worsen. Case in point, the consumer price index (CPI) increased 7.9% for the 12 months ending February [2]. The pain is also reflected in the stock market indexes that continue falling and by March 2, the price of oil passed \$110 per barrel [3]. Then, as of March 6, oil had passed \$130 per barrel and the average price for a gallon of gas broke through \$4.00 [4]. The trend continued, by March 8, gasoline reached a new record high of \$4.173 per gallon [5]. Then on March 11, the gas hit a new record high of \$4.33 per gallon [6].

On the plus side, the unemployment rate for February was reported at 3.8% [7]. For the week ending February 19, the number reported was 232,000 [8]. For the week

ending February 26, the number reported was 215,000 [9]. Finally, for the week ending March 5, the number reported was 227,000 [10].

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10. Department of Labor, *Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims*, March 10, 2022.

I am convinced that the path to a new, better and possible world is not capitalism, the path is socialism.—Hugo Chavez
