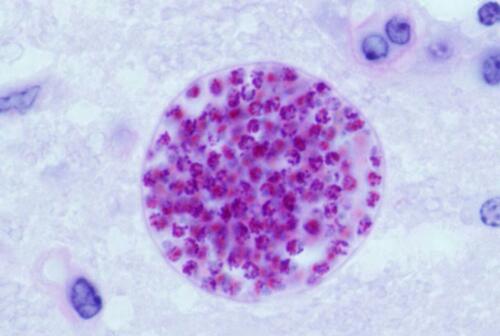
**https://discord.gg/yWF7PKe9**

**Men With Cats**

The single-celled protozoan Toxoplasma gondii is a fascinating parasite. Replicating only in cat intestines, it is excreted in feces and subsequently spreads to many other organisms, not just felines. Inside these critters, it winds its way to the brain and transforms into numerous cysts, patiently waiting to return to its desired nine-lived host. But, though dormant, it is not entirely inert. T. gondii actually [alters its host's behavior](https://www.realclearscience.com/articles/2019/05/15/is_the_toxoplasma_parasite_really_manipulating_your_brain_110978.html). Mice, for example, grow less fearful of cats, making them easier prey. Just like T. gondii wanted...

[[](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/573285_6_.jpg?itok=weZOfnIb)Photo by Jitinder P. Dubey](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/573285_6_.jpg?itok=weZOfnIb)

[Humans are also affected](https://www.realclearscience.com/blog/2013/05/mind-altering-parasites.html) by T. gondii. About one in ten Americans and a third of people globally host the parasite. And yes, it seems to sneakily mess with our minds, too. Studies suggest that infested humans have ever-so-slightly impaired motor skills, undertake additional risks, and get into more automotive accidents. The parasite's presence is also linked to an elevated risk of schizophrenia.

Curiously, as new [study](https://peerj.com/articles/13122/) published in PeerJ finds, T. gondii may also change humans' physical appearance. An international team turned up a link between a latent infection and facial attractiveness. The researchers recruited 213 healthy college students at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, all of whom had previously been tested for T. gondii. Thirty-five subjects (22 men and 13 women) had the parasite, while 178 (86 men and 92 women) did not. The researchers then asked the subjects various questions and took pictures of their faces.

Next, another 205 participants each viewed a random collection of twenty of these pictures, ten of Toxoplasma-positive subjects and ten of Toxoplasma-negative subjects, rating each pictured participant for facial attractiveness and perceived health on a 10-point scale. (Raters were not told of participants' Toxoplasma status.) Overall, raters judged Toxoplasma-positive subjects to be significantly more attractive and healthy-looking than Toxoplasma-negative subjects.

"T. gondii infection may produce changes in facial symmetry of its hosts through changes in endocrinological variables such as testosterone levels," the researchers wrote. "These changes, both in the endocrinology system and in facial symmetry, would ultimately benefit the spread of the parasite by increasing the attractiveness of its hosts."

Indeed, as the researchers measured, participants with T. gondii tended to have more symmetrical faces. Facial symmetry is [commonly associated](https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/what-makes-pretty-face) with beauty.

Other parasites are known to affect the physical characteristics of their animal hosts. Moreover, previous studies showed that men infected with T. gondii have higher testosterone levels. However, a simpler explanation for the association is that attractive people are more likely to contract T. gondii as they might engage in more sexual activity. (T. gondii can be transmitted sexually.) The researchers did find that Toxoplasma-positive subjects reported having more sexual partners.

More research is needed to confirm the study's intriguing finding, so don't go seeking out cat feces just yet in the hopes of making your face more alluring.

**The Ukraine Game**

That much should be clear simply by tuning in for just a few minutes to view Fox News’ over-the-top coverage of the Ukrainian conflict.

It’s nothing new.

 You have heard me talk to you about the Pan-European Army. I don’t think anyone else talks about this, really. I created this term from the 2021 EU President’ words where she said, “The EU’s 27 member states need to do more intelligence sharing, to boost the sale of European-made arms to fellow EU nations by waiving taxes and making the EU’s national armies more integrated.

She was born and raised in [Brussels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brussels) to German parents. Her father, [Ernst Albrecht](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernst_Albrecht_(politician,_born_1930)), was one of the first [European civil servants](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_civil_servant). **Carl Albrecht** (28 March 1902 – 19 July 1965) was a German psychologist, [psychotherapist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychotherapist) and physician, who developed a new method of [meditation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meditation) based on [autogenic training](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autogenic_training), and who was known for his psychological research on mystical [consciousness](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consciousness).

**Autogenic training** is a desensitization-[relaxation technique](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relaxation_technique) developed by the [German](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germany) psychiatrist [Johannes Heinrich Schultz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johannes_Heinrich_Schultz)[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autogenic_training#cite_note-Spencer-1) by which a psychophysiologically determined [relaxation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relaxation_(psychology)) response is obtained. The technique was first published in 1932. Studying the self-reports of people immersed in a hypnotic state, J.H. Schultz noted that physiological changes are accompanied by certain feelings. [Abbé Faria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abb%C3%A9_Faria) and [Émile Coué](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%89mile_Cou%C3%A9) are the forerunners of Schultz. The technique involves repetitions of a set of visualisations that induce a state of [relaxation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relaxation_(psychology)) and is based on passive concentration of bodily perceptions (e.g., heaviness and warmth of arms, legs), which are facilitated by self-suggestions. The technique is used to alleviate many [stress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stress_(medicine))-induced [psychosomatic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Psychosomatic) disorders

Von Der Leyen was brought up bilingually in German and French. She moved to [Hanover](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hanover) in 1971, when her father entered politics to become [Minister President](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minister_President_of_Lower_Saxony) of the state of [Lower Saxony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lower_Saxony) in 1976. As an economics student at the [London School of Economics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London_School_of_Economics) in the late 1970s, she lived under the name Rose [Ladson](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ladson_family), the family name of her American great-grandmother from [Charleston, South Carolina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charleston,_South_Carolina).

“In addition to traditional military power, the wea re propsing a new cyber law to bundle the EU’s forces and make the bloc better at combating cyberattacks and defending itself at a time when world powers are engaged in a growing arms race in space. We need to build a new “joint situational awareness center” to protect the EU against cyberattacks.

“If everything is connected, everything can be hacked,” she said. “We no longer need armies and missiles to cause mass damage. We can paralyze industrial plants, city administrations and hospitals – all you need is your laptop. We can disrupt entire elections with a smartphone and an internet connection.”

Von der Leyen said French President Emmanuel Macron will hold a summit next year to discuss her proposals for strengthening the EU’s militaries.

France has long promoted the idea of a Pan-European army. France is now the EU’s only nuclear power since the departure of the United Kingdom from the bloc. It is also the only EU nation with a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. Pay close attention to those upcoming election in France. If Macron loses to LePen, it will be short-lived. This one key player in the nuclear weapons world cannot be allowed to become Trumpian and allow nations to be free again.

Most of the European nations are opposed to the idea of an EU army because they fear it dominate NATO, and there would be no one left to defend them against the Globalists. Yeah. Get that? The vast majority of nations in Europe have no fear of Russia. They hate what the Nazis have done to the Ukrainian people in the last 8 years, since McCain and Biden brought them back into power by toppling Yanukovych installing their puppet regimes. The shelling of the Donbass region for the past 8 years is widely known, as well as the Pan-European Army funding, arming, and providing intelligence and satellite resources for them in their buildup for the invasion of Crimea, which was thwarted by Putin’s military operations in late February.

This is a big worry for Poland and other countries close to Russia. They don’t wantt o fight Russia. They don’t want to be targets of Russian weapons. They rely on Russia for fuel, food, and as a trading partner for the past 30 years. Also, many Europeans are against military spending out of principle. They know that if you build an offensive force, you will eventually use it against someone. They know from their own history that this someone is usually them.

Besides building up its military and intelligence capacity, Von der Leyen said Europe needs to gain more influence around the world through development projects. Hundreds of millions of dollars were drained from the NATO budgets to build their forces. That is precisely why Trump went to them and told them to pay for their own military. He exposed their plan, because he knew that there was no reason whatsoever to go to war with a country from whom you currently buy 60% of your gas and oil and wheat. He wanted no part of building an offensive force designed for nothing less than regime change on uncooperative countries, or countries from whom they wanted resources without payment.

Von Der Leyen was frank about her intention to challenge China’s growing global influence through its Belt and Road Initiative. China is investing billions of dollars in ports, railways, highways and other infrastructure in Africa, Europe and Asia. Believe me, the local economies love the Chinese investment, because there are no other investors. They don’t care what happens to their country, because those businessmen become rich enough that they can move away to a fine estate in a free country, once China takes it over. If you don’t believe me, take a trip to Vancouver or British Columbia and look around. You can’t buy a house there for under $2 million and you won’t find any American businesses left. They have all sold out. CCP soldiers are there by the hundreds of thousands, and their money allows them to travel freely throughout North America and to buy everything they can.

“We are good at financing roads,” she said. “But it does not make sense for Europe to build a perfect road between a Chinese-owned copper mine and a Chinese-owned harbor.”

Instead, she said the EU will “build Global Gateway partnerships with countries around the world” and invest “in quality infrastructure, connecting goods, people and services around the world.”

By investing globally, she said the EU can also spread “good governance.”

She did not provide details about the EU’s new Global Gateway initiative but pointed to a new underwater fiber optic cable between Brazil and Portugal as an example. She said the initiative will be central to an EU-Africa summit in February.

Von der Leyen’s hour-long speech marks the halfway point in her four-year mandate as the head of the EU’s executive branch. She is the [first woman](https://www.courthousenews.com/european-leaders-choose-women-for-top-eu-jobs/) to run the commission, which acts as the EU’s central nervous system. The commission crafts and enforces laws and regulations, negotiates trade deals, doles out funds to EU nations, enforces EU rules and handles the EU’s foreign affairs.

State of the union speeches are relatively new for the EU, with the first one delivered in 2010 by then-Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso.

The speeches, inspired by the U.S. model, are meant to tout the EU’s successes, lay out policy proposals and make the EU’s bureaucracy appear more human and democratic. But the events – delivered in September with the opening of the European Parliament – are largely staid affairs without the pomp, political drama and large television audience that accompany the speeches to Congress delivered by American presidents.

Enter Volodymyr Zelensky—who is he really? Well, he is a comedian and former performing drag queen who was literally plucked out of nowhere to become the current president of Ukraine. Archbishop Carlo Vigano’, former Apostolic Nuncio in the United State for the Catholic Church and an highly informed observer of Eastern European cultural and political matters, [offers this picture](https://www.marcotosatti.com/2022/03/07/declaration-of-msgr-carlo-maria-vigano-on-the-russia-ukraine-crisis/):  
  
*Zelensky’s performances as a drag queen are perfectly consistent with the LGBTQ ideology that is considered by his European sponsors as an indispensable requirement of the “reform” agenda that every country ought to embrace, along with gender equality, abortion and the green economy. No wonder Zelensky, a member of the WEF [World Economic Forum]  (*[*here*](https://www.weforum.org/people/volodymyr-zelenskyy)*), was able to benefit from the support of Klaus Schwab and his allies [including George Soros] to come to power and ensure that the Great Reset would also be carried out in Ukraine…. In his homeland, many accuse him of having taken power away from the pro-Russian oligarchs not to give it to the Ukrainian people, but rather to strengthen his own interest group and at the same time remove his political adversaries.*  
  
After his election Zelensky [closed seven opposition](https://www.marcotosatti.com/2022/03/07/declaration-of-msgr-carlo-maria-vigano-on-the-russia-ukraine-crisis/) television channels, suppressed the opposition press, and arrested and accused the leader of the major opposition party in Ukraine, Arsen Medvedcuk, of treason, while naming his friends and associates to powerful and lucrative high positions in the government.  
  
And this is the man that Nancy Pelosi holds up as “the champion of democracy” and for whom Brian Kilmeade blubbers his unreserved admiration as another Abraham Lincoln.  
  
Since 2014, the seceded republics of Donetsk and Lugansk have suffered approximately 14,000 civilian casualties at the hands of organized and irregular Ukrainian troops. But no Western media carry news of those outrages.  
  
Instead, what American viewers get are graphic images of hospitals, maternity wards and civilian apartments destroyed, it is repeated incessantly, by Russian missiles and long-range artillery fire.  
  
Yet, careful investigation of those purported “war crimes” should cause viewers to doubt what they are seeing. The first question that arises is: why would the Russian Army *specifically* target civilians and hospitals, for all the world to plainly see, when already they are receiving such negative press in the West?  Indeed, with nearly 20% of the Ukrainian population ethnically Russian and stated Russian war aims to pacify and win over at least portions of the country, such mindless attacks would seem counter-productive.  
  
And that brings us to the tactic of various irregular groups fighting at the behest of the Ukrainian government, such as the fanatical Azov Battalion militia group ([trained by the CIA](https://www.aol.com/news/exclusive-secret-cia-training-program-090052594.html)) and other violent nationalist formations which have engaged in terrorism against Russian civilians since 2014. Part of the strategy of such groups is to stage false flag operations, to occupy a hospital, for instance, and use it as a base for sniper fire against Russian regulars. Then, when the Russians fire back, to show vivid images to eager Western reporters of the “war crimes” committed by those hated Russians. Nothing gets the attention and sympathy of American viewers more than scenes of dying innocent mothers with their young babies, savagely slaughtered by those evil Orc-like demons from the cold north. And nothing makes better fodder for Ukrainian propagandists than those images spread across American HD wide-screens.  
  
As Archbishop Vigano’ [has observed](https://www.marcotosatti.com/2022/03/07/declaration-of-msgr-carlo-maria-vigano-on-the-russia-ukraine-crisis/) (March 6):  
​  
*It is dismaying to see with what hypocrisy the European Union and the United States – Brussels and Washington – are giving their unconditional support to President Zelensky, whose government for eight years now has continued to violently persecute Russian-speaking Ukrainians with impunity (*[*here*](https://youtu.be/6Oh-IE2zmJc)*), for whom it is even forbidden to speak in their own language… And it is scandalous that they are silent about the use of civilians as human shields by the Ukrainian army, which places anti-aircraft positions inside population centers, hospitals and maternity wards, schools and kindergartens precisely so that their destruction can cause deaths among the population.*  
Investigative journalists, Glenn Greenwald (on Substack), and *Chronicles* magazine assistant editor Pedro Gonzalez (March 7), have documented the incredibly large number of such instances, of horribly tragic attacks seemingly aimed at civilians, supposedly by the Russian army, only on closer inspection to have been committed by Ukrainian irregulars—who thereupon can utilize the unquestioning bias and favorability of the Western media to [present their version widely](https://www.marcotosatti.com/2022/03/07/declaration-of-msgr-carlo-maria-vigano-on-the-russia-ukraine-crisis/):  
  
*…while the Western media shows images of the video game War Thunder (*[*here*](https://www.rollingstone.it/politica/il-tg2-ha-scambiato-la-clip-di-un-videogioco-per-una-pioggia-di-missili-sullucraina/619321/amp/)*), frames from the movie Star Wars (*[*here*](https://twitter.com/DrEliDavid/status/1498736312714768385?s=20&t=XJSZaSl3_VWB_5a-mXqx3w)*), explosions in China (*[*here*](https://twitter.com/federazionedic1/status/1497151766575603712?s=20&t=XJSZaSl3_VWB_5a-mXqx3w)*), videos of military parades (*[*here*](https://twitter.com/FactaNews/status/1496824777683574789?s=20&t=XJSZaSl3_VWB_5a-mXqx3w)*), footage from Afghanistan (*[*here*](https://twitter.com/DonatiGraziano/status/1499353081771065347?s=20&t=XJSZaSl3_VWB_5a-mXqx3w)*), from the Rome metro (*[*here*](https://twitter.com/valeangelsback/status/1498910882276990979?s=20&t=XJSZaSl3_VWB_5a-mXqx3w)*) or images of mobile crematoria (*[*here*](https://twitter.com/fratotolo2/status/1499650122090696705)*), passing them off as real and recent scenes of Russian “war crimes,” the reality of the war in Ukraine is ignored because it has already been decided to employ the conflict as a weapon of mass distraction that legitimizes new restrictions of freedoms in Western nations, according to the plans of the World Economic Forum’s Great Reset and the United Nations’ Agenda 2030.*  
And then, as intended, comes the outrage of American viewers, the feverish calls in Congress “to establish a no-fly zone” over Ukraine (an insane idea embraced by Republicans Lindsey Graham and Adam Kinzinger, which would lead undoubtedly to World War III) or to assassinate President Putin of Russia.  
  
The propaganda works its magic. Not only is American corporate enterprise terminating all its business ventures in Russia, while most of the world, led by the United States state department and its Neocon apparatchiks, does the same, but anything or anybody in any way who dissents from the dogmatic establishment viewpoint on the conflict is “cancelled” or denounced as a “traitor” (e.g., Mitt Romney’s vicious attack on former Representative Tulsi Gabbard’s quite factual words as “treasonous”).  
  
Have we not heard this chorus before? Is our memory so short that we cannot recall the unceasing examples of Russophobia during the Trump presidency? And yet many of the same “conservatives” who strongly and rightly resisted the disinformation percolating for the past six years, now accept the words, the photo montages, and the reporting of the same media and government voices as absolute, incontrovertible gospel?  
  
Our news media decries censorship in Russia; the Russians, they say, are only presenting one side to their population. But, let me ask, is not the American media doing exactly the same thing? Are not their strident voices—and not just that of the brain-dead Mitt Romney and Adam Kinzinger—demanding that any dissenter, even the mildest and most circumspect (e.g., Tucker Carlson), be censored, throttled, even imprisoned for “thought crimes”?  
  
Even such internationally-famed artists and cultural icons as the Russian orchestra conductor [Valery Gergiev and soprano Anna Netrebko](https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/27/arts/music/met-opera-putin-ukraine-peter-gelb.html) are immediately fired, their contracts summarily terminated by practically all American and Western institutions they were to grace with their talent because [they won’t openly and forthrightly denounce and condemn](https://www.npr.org/sections/deceptivecadence/2022/02/27/1083387627/metropolitan-opera-sever-ties-putin-ukraine-gergiev-netrebko) their home country and its president. And, more, the dozens of DVDs and compact discs of their performances are now disappearing from sellers, or prices for their works are now reaching astronomical figures.  
  
Not even during the hottest moments of the Cold War was such extreme censorship exercised.  
  
Yes, it IS censorship, perhaps less open and more subtle, but there just the same, progressively accomplishing its goal of silencing and punishing anyone who demurs.  
  
The American pot is calling the Russian kettle black.  
  
Far too many Americans do not comprehend the fundamental issues involved in this conflict. Of course, Ukrainians are fighting Russians, and the near-totality of the West is both condemning the Russians and aiding Ukraine. But Ukraine is only a pawn is a much larger global game. Our managerial and foreign policy elites, despite their professed anguish over the blood being shed tragically in that corner of Eastern Europe, do not actually care about the poor Ukrainians living in besieged Kiev or the poor Russians living in the war-torn Donbas. What is important to them is, above all, the major effort and push for a globalist “Great Reset” using the Ukrainian conflict to finally accomplish their objective of bringing the entire world in accord with their plans for a New World Order. And to do that, Russia, which now stands athwart their designs, must be diminished and brought into line.  
  
As international leaders from Klaus Schwab, head of the World Economic Forum, to George Soros, with his multiple international NGOs, to various government officials in Kiev have declared (in the words of Ukrainian parliamentarian [Kira Rudik to Fox News](https://www.marcotosatti.com/2022/03/07/declaration-of-msgr-carlo-maria-vigano-on-the-russia-ukraine-crisis/)): “We know that we are not only fighting for Ukraine, but also for the New World Order.”  
  
And that new order is not that of the traditional Christian West. Nor is Volodymyr Zelensky the “one man who can save the world.” *That* Man suffered on a Cross for us 2,000 years ago.

**What’s next with Ukraine**

 I think it makes sense first to recount the genesis of this war.  
It started when an American-backed coup overthrew the Ukrainian government in 2014. A US-backed thug replaced a Russian-backed thug— nothing unusual, except that Ukraine shares a long border with Russia. The Russians viewed that much as the Americans would if the Russians had put a puppet government in Ottawa.  
  
Next, the two Russian majority provinces in Ukraine, Donetsk and Luhansk (Donbas) seceded from Ukraine. Secession is usually the best way of solving a political problem between groups with radically differing religions, ethnicities, cultures, or what-have-you. It’s much better than staying “united,” with one group dominating the other. The Russians simultaneously took back Crimea, which Nikita Kruschev had arbitrarily transferred to the Ukrainian SSR from the Russian SSR in 1954.  
  
Of course, these two new breakaway republics were not recognized by the West. They’re similar to Transnistria, South Ossetia, Abkhazia, and Nagorno-Karabakh. Or, for that matter, Northern Cyprus or Taiwan. There are plenty of other regions in the world (everyone seems to have forgotten Kurdistan, for instance) anxious to do the same thing.  
  
Look at Kosovo, a breakaway province of Serbia. The Donbas versus Ukraine situation is exactly analogous to that of Kosovo versus Serbia (roughly 1990 and following years). The US and some NATO countries supported that secession with an active bombing campaign, killing something like 15,000 people.  
  
The secession of Kosovo, supported by the US, is viewed as “good,” but that of Donbas, supported by Russia, is supposed to be “bad.” So there’s no confusion; I support both secessions.  
  
The US has minted a new foreign enemy, once again proving how right Randolph Bourne was when he said, “War is the health of the State.” The *hoi polloi*are hooting and panting like chimpanzees, pouring vodka with Russian-sounding names like *Smirnoff* and *Stoli* down the drain—even though they don’t come from Russia—and refusing to put Russian dressing on their salads. The same fools were re-christening French Fries as Freedom Fries when France declined to Iraq as the enemy du jour.  
  
Putin has now been officially designated a madman like Gaddafi, Saddam, and Assad before him. And once somebody is designated as the new Hitler, Washington can do anything. Putin committed a criminal act by invading Ukraine, and he’s no friend of personal liberty either. But was it any different than what the US did when it bombed Serbia in 1999? Or invaded Panama in 1989? Or Grenada in 1983? Or Afghanistan. Or Iraq. Of course, Putin’s a dangerous sociopath—show me a major world leader who’s not. But that doesn’t mean he’s much more insane than any of our recent presidents.  
  
Morality aside, Putin made a strategic error to invade Ukraine, regardless of how much the Russians were provoked. But it should be viewed as just another border war in a region that’s had nothing but border wars for the last thousand years. It’s absolutely none of our business.  
  
If the borders realign due to this Russian incursion, it’s really nothing new. And as a matter of fact, Putin has said that the war will come to an immediate end if the Ukrainians cede Crimea to Russia, recognize the two breakaway provinces, and remain neutral. These are, certainly in the context of history, entirely reasonable requests.  
  
Again, the US provoked all this with the coup they fomented in 2014 and their attempts to get Ukraine into NATO. But that’s all history at this point. The world’s political and economic structure is being reset.

In some ways, it’s actually helping Russia because their major exports are commodities. Oil has doubled, as has wheat. Nickel has about quadrupled, as has European natural gas. Palladium is at an all-time high. Russia exports only commodities, and the West’s response and embargoes have doubled their prices. Russia will make more money than ever before.  
  
There are lots of channels for exporting their commodities, albeit with costs. The sanctions will be inconvenient for the Russians in many ways, of course—no more Apple I-phones or Intel chips. They’ll just buy Chinese Lenovos and Huaweis. The Russians can get everything they need and want from China and other non-Western countries. They won’t really be denied that much; it’ll just be inconvenient. The international black markets work extremely well.  
  
In the meantime, Starbucks, McDonald’s, Pizza Hut, KFC, Facebook, and scores—hundreds—of other Western corporations are shooting themselves in the foot by closing down their outlets in Russia. The net result will probably be an improvement in the general health of the Russian population.  
  
Sure, the sanctions will hurt Russia; trade war hurts everybody. But sanctions will be about as successful as the embargo against Cuba that started 60 years ago. It’s very much as if because you don’t like the guy who lives next door, you burn down your house because you think it’ll reduce the market value of his house.  
  
I understand that saying these things will antagonize jingoists and even a certain segment of our readership. Some will probably accuse me of shilling for the Russians since any non-interventionist who doesn’t want to get involved in a border dispute between two shithole countries on the other side of the world is obviously anti-American. But while I’m making non-PC observations, it may be worth mentioning that most of the multi-billionaire Russian oligarchs are Jews. Does anybody think that this might seem anti-Semitic on the part of the West to confiscate these guys’ yachts and planes?  
  
It’s just one of the many ironies of this whole episode. Perhaps that may only become apparent if foreign countries start confiscating the possessions of the US megarich who profited from being pals with Biden, Trump, Obama, Bush, or the like.

Once again, the US government is shooting America in the foot. It may come as a shock to hear this, but the greatest danger America faces isn’t Moscow; it’s Washington.  
  
For decades, the major US export hasn’t been IBMs, Boeings, or wheat. It’s been dollars. We now run a trade deficit of about a trillion dollars a year, shipping fiat dollars to nice foreigners in trade for Mercedes, Sonys, and cocaine. There is probably something like $20 trillion US dollars outside the US. Dollars will soon become hot potatoes, now that they’re manifestly losing value at 20% per year.  
  
But it’s worse than that. Electronic dollars have to be traded through New York. People have seen what’s happened to places like Iraq, Syria, Libya, and now Russia when they’re designated as enemy nations. At some point, dollars will be dumped, wholesale. By stupidly using the dollar as a weapon, the US Government is greatly speeding up America’s destruction.  
  
For example, just last week, the Nigerian government cut a deal with the Chinese government to accept Yuan for oil. The US dollar has been cut out of the loop. Why should anyone use the fiat currency of a government that’s not only an adversary but bankrupt? I don’t doubt that the Chinese, in cooperation with the Russians, will put together an anti-SWIFT system. Soon billions of people will carry a Chinese credit card in addition to their Visa and Amex.  
  
Will it be successful? Success is only relative in the era of The Greater Depression, where trade will diminish everywhere. The nations of the West have about a billion people. The West is still wealthy and productive, although it’s in radical decline on all fronts. The rest of the world, however, has about seven billion people. India, Iran, Russia, and scores of other countries might prefer to use a Chinese answer to the SWIFT system and the dollar.

**Georgia Will vote to Annex to Russia**

The leader of Georgia’s breakaway republic of South Ossetia [has said he’s ready](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/3/31/georgias-south-ossetia-plans-to-take-legal-steps-to-join-russia) totake steps to join Russia, and a **referendum is expected to be held within the next few months**.

South Ossetia is a de facto independent state and has been recognized by Russia and several other countries since the brief 2008 war. Russia intervened in 2008 [to help South Ossetia](https://original.antiwar.com/justin/2008/08/11/the-real-aggressor/) fight off the forces of then-Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili, but **most countries still recognize South Ossetia as part of Georgia**.

[[A picture containing mountain, sky, outdoor, military vehicle

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/southoss.png?itok=DbZH-p9L)Russian forces during the 2008 conflict, AFP.](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/southoss.png?itok=DbZH-p9L)

"I believe that unification with Russia is our strategic goal, our path, the aspiration of the people," said South Ossetian President Anatoly Bibilov, according to Al Jazeera. "We will take the relevant legislative steps shortly. **The republic of South Ossetia will be part of its historical homeland – Russia**."

A spokeswoman for Bibilov said the region was planning to hold a referendum on the matter in light of the **"window of opportunity that opened in the current situation,"** referring to **Russia’s attack on Ukraine**.

Viktor Vodolatsk, a member of Russia’s State Duma, [said a referendum will](https://tass.com/world/1430525) likely be held in May or June. Russia’s Tass news agency reported that South Ossetia is [holding consultations](https://tass.com/world/1430379) with Moscow on the referendum.

Georgian Foreign Minister David Zalkaliani reacted to the news on Thursday and said that “it is unacceptable to speak of any referendums while the territory is occupied by Russia.” Zalkaliani said the referendum **"will have no legal force."**

**[Map

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/sossmap.jpg?itok=HXjDZa1b)**

The US also made it clear that it wouldn’t recognize the referendum. State Department spokesman Ned Price [said that](https://www.state.gov/briefings/department-press-briefing-march-31-2022/) **the US "will not recognize the results of any effort by Russia or its proxies to divide sovereign Georgian territory."**

**The US State Department has never allowed free people to make up their own minds about sovereignty. The Syndicate’s officers inside the Department decide which countries get to exist, and which ones do not. If the people disagree, their leader will be assassinated, and all their gold and weapons will be seized.**

**Tennis World is Devastated**

I used to play competitive tennis. Not anymore. I physically cannot play the game after my bike accident. I don’t run anymore. But what if you were in peak physical condition one day, and the next day you weren’t? Well, it turns out that the Tennis world’s best are having the same problem that Foo Fighter’s drummer had. Paula Badosa and Jannik Sinner had to retire during the quarterfinals of the Miami Open. Badosa, soon to be the number three in the world, became unwell during her match against Jessica Pegula and left the court in tears.

Badosa, who was comforted by her American opponent, decided to stop after consultation with her physiotherapist. Pegula reached the semifinals of the Miami tennis tournament for the first time in her career after Badosa’s resignation, reported Yahoo Sports.

In the men’s tournament, the Italian phenomenon Jannik Sinner was forced to withdraw. He gave up after 22 minutes in the game against Francisco Cerundolo, the number 103 in the world ranking. “When I served at 3-1 and 30-0, I saw him bend over. It was very strange,” Cerundolo said during an interview. “I hope he’s okay, he’s a great player.”

The 23-year-old Argentinian surprisingly reached the semifinals with his first participation in the master tournament in Miami.

It was the second game in a row that ended prematurely for the tennis fans. Fans reacted with shock to the bizarre tennis day. “What is going on?” someone asked.

Nobody is pointing to the obvious. All of the players must be “fully vaccinated” in order to compete. Just as we’ve noted for several months, most major sports have been hit with “inexplicable” medical conditions popping up in young and otherwise healthy athletes, including our report that [**three cyclists fell in March alone**](https://endmedicaltyranny.substack.com/p/march-was-not-a-good-month-for-vaccinated).

Earth explorers, this is the jab. Consider how even the CDC and other agencies have acknowledge the Covid “vaccines” cause increases in heart problems for young people, including myocarditis, pericarditis, and heart attacks. These white, stringy clots are being extracted from the circulatory systems of healthy people a few weeks after taking the jabs. This burns like fire in the chest when you exercise.

The CDC and Virtual Joe and his gang of criminals are covering up the truth about these injections. Leaders across the country and around the world have so much money and power wrapped into the jabs, one has to wonder who’s pulling the strings. Some of it is personal; any politician who comes out with the truth about the jabs will be pushed out of office faster than Will Smith’s exit from the acting academy. Of course, this was after he finally got the Oscar. The same is true for journalists. Corporate media is just as invested and possibly even more complicit in spreading the lies.

The panicdemic is still in action despite the odd February push by Democrats to lift most face mask and vaccine mandates. There are already talks of 5th and 6th jabs even as the 4th jab gets rolled out in the United States.

Is this all part of The Great Reset agenda? Is it all about control? Depopulation? The answer to all three questions is very likely, “Yes.”

These injections are dangerous. Don’t wait until the turn up the volume on the radio activation weapons. The world’s top athletes across the globe are falling like cold iguanas. We average humans are experiencing horrible adverse reactions. Thousands of people are dying from them every single month. It could even be millions before long. When they turn up the radio-activation component, there would be too many to bury. The data is so obscured. All the while, politicians and corporate media are pretending it all away is if there’s nothing to see here.

**Virtual Joe and His Gang of Criminals**

How did that work when Virtual Joe announced that Vladmir Putin is a “butcher” who “cannot remain in power” only for Secretary of State Anthony Blinken to follow up with a pay-no-attention-to-the angry-old-guy-shouting-at-the-clouds correction? According to Blinken, the United States does not “have a strategy of regime change in Russia or anywhere else.”

Well, that’s a relief. Otherwise Putin might get the idea that U.S. and NATO involvement in Ukraine poses an existential threat that would prompt him to do something really crazy like use tactical nukes or chemical or biological weapons to win at all costs. Because, after all, if the U.S. and NATO are trying to topple his government, then what does he have to lose?

But the question remains: who’s in charge of our foreign policy? Is it the  President or the Secretary of State? If it’s the President, then where did Blinken get the authority to publicly contradict Biden?

And, before Blinken went through the process of “walking back” Drooling Joe’s call for regime change, what was the behind-the-scenes process? Did Blinken deal with Biden or did he communicate with Biden’s caretakers? What was the discussion? Who made the final call about regime change? Was it Biden, his wife, his son Hunter, the Biden family’s financial benefactors in Ukraine and Russia, and/or the nursing staff who swab out his throat?

Who’s running our government and in a position to countermand Biden?

How about when Biden addressed  the 82nd Airborne in Poland, and told them that — surprise! — they will soon be in Ukraine. This after he had insisted that the United States must stay out of the conflict to avoid triggering World War III.

What are we and Putin supposed to make of that? The same guy who is calling for regime change has also told our Army that they are going into Ukraine. Might this tend to heighten tensions and raise the stakes? And, even though Biden’s remarks were “walked back” by subordinates, who are we and Putin supposed to believe? Biden or his underlings? And how did the process work by which Biden’s invasion announcement was supposedly rendered inoperative?

Who’s in charge?

And don’t forget Biden’s answer when he was asked about NATO’s response if Russia used chemical or biological weapons in Ukraine. Biden said that NATO would “respond in kind.” Does this mean that NATO will use such weapons in Ukraine against Russian troops? If so, how would they be used without harming the Ukrainians? Or is Biden saying that NATO would use such weapons on the Russian homeland?

Who knows and who can tell? This is just another dangerous conundrum of the type to be expected when the United States is being led by a gibbering dementia patient.

And, as with all things pertaining to the Biden regime, will the corporate media ask any of the above questions? Will they show any interest in learning who in our government is actually making the decisions or how those decisions are being made? Will they even ask why cleaning up and “walking back” Joe Biden’s dangerous and sub-mental remarks has become a regular feature of our government?

Of course not. The corporate media comprise the propaganda bureau of the Biden regime. They helped put him in the White House, and, as far as they are concerned, there’s nothing to see here and no cause for alarm.

But let me leave you with this parting thought. Joe Biden holds the nuclear launch codes and is responsible for making — in a matter of minutes — the decision to retaliate if Russia, Communist China, or whoever attacks us with nuclear weapons. Does anyone really believe that he is mentally up to the task of making a correct and timely decision to respond to such an attack? And does Biden’s obviously debilitated mental state increase the risk that an enemy will conclude that it may attack us without fear of retaliation?

Put another way, does Biden’s obvious dementia effectively vitiate the deterrent effect of our nuclear arsenal and consequently pose a clear and present danger to our very existence?

Sleep well, America. Joe Biden, the world’s most prominently confused and debilitated geriatric patient, is standing guard.

memo to the people who handle Joe Biden: You guys don’t listen to good advice often, but you need to listen to this.

Shut him up, and shut him down. He doesn’t need to be put out there in public anymore. It’s been a year, and we all know it won’t get any better, and it’s no good now.

This isn’t for Biden’s benefit, though the man is clearly in no condition to be in front of cameras and microphones taking questions even from friendly media.

It’s for ours. You know, the American people? Remember us?

Things Joe Biden says have so far not been the major problem. It’s really been the things he’s done. Which we all know are things *you guys* have done, as Joe Biden barely knows where he is at any given point in time. Biden is certainly dumb enough to have crafted your administration’s energy policy, but we all know that debacle has been the product of purpose — your insane, Russian-and-Chinese-funded green dreams in action — rather than incompetence. Your inflationary economic policy, assault on free speech, calamitous failure to maintain the Mexican border, and other things don’t come from Joe Biden being a moron. They’re your attempts at changing America into a one-party socialist state with a government-dependent population.

We get it. We’ll sort that out at this fall’s election, and then the one in the fall of 2024. You won’t like the results. But that’s neither here nor there.

We’ve reached the point at which your need to put Biden out there as evidence that he’s still sentient and capable doesn’t outweigh the damage he does when he opens his trap and blabbers out dangerous inanities.

This has been a consistent problem, as we all know, but over the weekend when you inflicted him on the Poles it came to a head.

Biden told a bunch of American soldiers that they’d see how courageous the Ukrainians have been in contending with the Russians who’ve invaded their country “when you get there.”

Shouldn’t Congress be sprinting to make major changes to the War Powers Act in an effort to make sure Biden can’t bumble his way into a war none of us want?

Guys, we don’t have soldiers in Ukraine. Right? Even if we do, we aren’t publicly admitting that. This is basic stuff, isn’t it?

And, of course, you had to walk that back. Because we don’t have soldiers in Ukraine, and we aren’t sending them in. To do that would mean a congressional authorization and, effectively and literally, a declaration of war against the country with more nuclear weapons than any other on Earth.

You cannot be sending soldiers to fight in Ukraine against said nuclear juggernaut without putting all of us in more danger of annihilation than at any point since the Cuban Missile Crisis, and by the way Joe Biden is not John F. Kennedy.

So no.

You also had to walk it back when Biden started talking about using chemical weapons against the Russians. He said it in a “we would respond in kind” sort of way, but again: we are not a combatant in Ukraine right now, and we’ve been assured over and over again that it isn’t in our plans to be one. So there would be no reason to use chemical weapons when we’re not fighting on the battlefield to have them used against us.

Because if we were, then we’d be in a hot war against a nuclear superpower run by a guy who’s already threatened to nuke us if we got in just such a military conflict.

And while we shouldn’t necessarily be running away like a scalded dog over threats Vladimir Putin makes, there was a pretty solid consensus about five minutes ago that Ukraine isn’t worth risking a real-life enactment of [*The Day After*](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0085404/?ref_=ttls_li_tt). It isn’t acceptable that Joe Biden in his dementia-fog might suddenly dissent.

And so when Jake Sullivan, the Trump–Russia hoax-peddler serving as the national security adviser, directly contravened Biden and said flatly that we will not use chemical weapons, who’s the world supposed to believe?

Then he went off script and demanded Putin be removed from power as though he were Lindsey Graham on [TRT](https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/sexual-health/in-depth/testosterone-therapy/art-20045728) injection day.

Your walk-back was, frankly, [not all that good](https://www.axios.com/biden-poland-russian-invasion-ukraine-1cc38b00-abb8-4167-bf89-2671a42cab6f.html):

**Driving the news:**“For God’s sake, this man cannot remain in power,” Biden said to a crowd gathered in Warsaw. While meeting with refugees earlier, he told reporters that Putin was “a butcher.”

**A White House official** said after Biden’s remarks: “The President’s point was that Putin cannot be allowed to exercise power over his neighbors or the region. He was not discussing Putin’s power in Russia, or regime change.”

Look, this is three stupid statements that escalate the threat of a real war — not just the low-level rent-a-win actions that our woke generals and clown politicians still managed to lose over the past two decades — in one trip abroad.

Don’t send this man abroad again. Just don’t do it.

Then you put him in front of the cameras again on Monday and this happened:

Oh, so now he publicly advertises we have troops in Poland training the Ukrainians?

Brilliant.

And now [you had to walk *that* back, too](https://www.breitbart.com/politics/2022/03/29/white-house-clarifies-joe-biden-claim-u-s-troops-training-ukrainians-poland/):

“There are Ukrainian soldiers in Poland interacting on a regular basis with U.S. troops, and that’s what the President was referring to,” a White House official said, clarifying Biden’s remarks.

Right. Got it.

Biden also denied he was walking back anything he said, despite you guys doing just that. Is he in control, or are you? **(READ MORE from Scott McKay:**[**Who Will Beat the Left?**](https://spectator.org/who-will-beat-the-left/)**)**

And shouldn’t Congress be sprinting to make major changes to the War Powers Act in an effort to make sure Biden can’t bumble his way into a war none of us want?

[As Tucker Carlson noted](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gsOnnLts-4U), Joe Biden is leading us dangerously close to a major war that we would be in real danger of losing, with massive casualties not just to our servicemen being fed into the meat grinder but among civilian Americans as well.

It’s too much to ask the obvious and, likely, inevitable — that the 25th Amendment be invoked to put this deranged, senile old man out of his professional misery. That isn’t even an attractive option, because we’ve seen plenty enough of Kamala Harris to know she’s a sparkling fiasco in her own right; thanks a lot for giving her to us as a vice president.

So since getting rid of Biden isn’t in the cards, we’re back to our original request: shut him up, and shut him down. The less we see and hear of this atrocious, drooling, disgrace of a president, the better.

**The Cost of Doing Business**

The Federal Election Commission [fined](https://www.scribd.com/document/567292942/Fec#download) Hillary Clinton’s campaign this week for lying about the discredited Steele Dossier in campaign filings.

The FEC said Hillary for America violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 — which requires political committees to disclose payments over $200 per year and notate the purpose of the funds properly — by falsely attributing the money used to orchestrate the Russian collusion hoax as “legal services” on finance filings.

As Special Counsel John Durham’s investigation revealed, Perkins Coie, the law firm hired by the Clinton campaign, paid Fusion GPS more than $1 million, $175,000 which was used to fund opposition research designed to undermine then-Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump. Fusion GPS then hired Christopher Steele to compile negative and false secondhand accounts designed to tie Trump to the Kremlin that were subsequently fed to corporate media reporters and government officials.

This coordinated effort by Clinton allies, some of whom have been indicted for [lying to the FBI](https://thefederalist.com/2022/03/18/spygate-101-a-primer-on-the-russia-collusion-hoaxs-years-long-plot-to-take-down-trump/), to lie about their political enemies sparked the Obama administration’s efforts to spy on Trump and his campaign under knowingly false pretenses.

For lying about the purpose of campaign funds, the FEC ordered Clinton’s campaign to pay $8,000 to the commission in the next 30 days. The Democratic National Committee was also fined $105,000 for the same violation.

The news comes one week after former President Donald Trump announced he [is suing](https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.flsd.610157/gov.uscourts.flsd.610157.1.0.pdf) Clinton and a myriad of other Democrat operatives for peddling false information that he was colluding with Russia to steal the 2016 election.

“Acting in concert, the Defendants maliciously conspired to weave a false narrative that their Republican opponent, Donald J. Trump, was colluding with a hostile foreign sovereignty. The actions taken in furtherance of their scheme — falsifying evidence, deceiving law enforcement, and exploiting access to highly-sensitive data sources — are so outrageous, subversive and incendiary that even the events of Watergate pale in comparison,” the complaint states.

In my opinion, this is far too little far too late. I recall Spiro Agnew became Vice President with the Nixon campaign. He had to raise money for his campaign, just like all candidates do. He broke campaign finance laws and was forced to resign before Nixon was even impeached. This is real action to back the law.

Hillary earns more in interest on her dark money held in hundreds of dark accounts around the world than the FEC charged her for her crimes. She not only should have been forced to resign, she should be banned from holding public office, as should anyone receiving funds from any account held by her. It is time to deliver us form this evil once and for all.

**Green Wars**

On Thursday’s broadcast of MSNBC’s “All In,” Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm stated that many hoped “we would be focusing solely on clean energy solutions, renewable, making that transition,” but the war in Ukraine has thrown a wrench into that and said that “we have got to use this reason to become energy independent with clean energy.”

Host Chris Hayes said that he would probably take a similar approach to President Joe Biden because people need gas to get around and gas price increases harm people, but “At the same time, it just seems so depressingly insane that we are here in 2022 and it’s like, let’s drill baby, drill, let’s get more oil on those markets, this is the solution. And it’s like it’s always the next cigarette is the one we’re going to give up, but for now, we need to buy another carton. Why should I not be depressed by this?”

Granholm responded, “I totally get it, Chris, believe me. I think a lot of us came into this hoping that we would be focusing solely on clean energy solutions, renewable, making that transition, but we didn’t anticipate that Vladimir Putin would wage war on Ukraine and cause these markets to go out of control. And so, that’s why the president said this is a two-step solution. One is, let’s increase supply right now because we’re on a wartime footing. And we want to reduce people’s pain at the pump and safeguard them against this incredible volatility. But second, we have got to use this reason to become energy independent with clean energy. We don’t want to be relying upon fossil fuel markets that are incredibly volatile or from countries that don’t have our interests at heart. So, ultimately, the best solution is to go clean.”

She continued, “And that’s why the second part of what he announced was invoking the Defense Production Act to help increase the building of batteries for electric vehicles in the United States. He also referred to the Weatherization Assistance Program, which — we released $3.2 billion to the states to make sure that people don’t use as much energy as they are right now because their homes may be leaky. We want to invest in renewables. We want to invest in the technologies that decarbonize the fossil fuel industry. And that’s why this second part, to become energy independent with clean energy, is the medium-to-long-term strategy.”

BTW, this is woman who shouted “run for your lives,” when Trump won the 2016 election.

**More Agency Terrorism**

The Biden



The goal is to add 4 million acres of farmland to the Conservation Reserve Program, which takes land out of production to blunt agriculture’s environmental impact.

The Biden administration announced on Wednesday that it would expand a program that pays farmers to leave land fallow, part of a broader, government-wide effort to cut greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030. The new initiative will incentivize farmers to take land out of production by raising rental rates and incentive payments.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) was [created](https://thefern.org/ag_insider/usda-harnesses-conservation-reserve-for-climate-mitigation/) in 1985 to incentivize landowners to leave some of their marginal land unplanted. This was designed originally before the Carter Administration to protect the environment by reducing agricultural runoff into streams and rivers. The actual intention was to stop the wild boom and bust swings in wheat prices. In the early 1980’s million-bushel flathouses were built to store and distribute American Northwest wheat production. After farmers were paid to fallow their land indefinitely, a welfare class of farmer was created, and wheat production fell to the levels you see today. None of that land has grown anything edible for more than 40 years.

In recent years, the number of acres enrolled in CRP has fallen, possibly because USDA’s rental payments have not been competitive with the open market, Chuck Abbott [reported](https://thefern.org/ag_insider/usda-harnesses-conservation-reserve-for-climate-mitigation/) for FERN News. Younger farmers came of age and decided to ditch the welfare check to join the 2% of Americans who feed the world. They also began earning money, instead of hanging their head in the farm towns as lazy freeloaders. Equipment got better. Seeds got better. Yields got better. Co-ops shared the cost of seasonal equipment, and began competing on a global scale and winning.

Virtual Joe’s new announcement is designed to remove 4 million more acres of land from food production to add to the Federal government’s total land bank of 25 million acres, the current program limit. “Sometimes the best solutions are right in front of you,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack in a press release.

They want less food made in America, so that we are more dependent on foreign sources, like Ukraine, for food. Ukraine grows 13% of the world’s wheat. They won’t be planting anything this year. Next year, there will be a global wheat famine. America will not be able to meet that demand, because Virtual Joe is doing exactly the opposite of what good planning should be about.

All told, the increased rental rates and expanded incentive payments—which pay farmers extra for growing buffer strips and promoting wildlife habitats—will increase CRP spending by about 18 percent, totaling $300 million or more in annual spending. This is nothing less than economic terrorism on Americans. Farmers are being coerced into parking their tractors and selling out to the federal landlords.

“Overall, we think the changes are good, but also they could still be better,” said Anne Schechinger, senior economic analyst with the Environmental Working Group. CRP typically only takes land out of production for 10 years at a time, and many farmers opt not to renew after a decade—many of the environmental benefits are erased as soon as the soil is plowed under and crops are replanted.

Schechinger published a report that found almost 16 million acres were taken out of the reserve between 2007 and 2014 after landowners opted not to re-rent them to the USDA. The government had spent more than $7 billion to prevent those acres from making food. “A huge amount of money was essentially paid and then lost when those acres go back into farming,” Schechinger said.

You get that? They are complaining that they lost money by farmers deciding to earn a living rather than becoming slaves to the Global Syndicate. The kids of these farmers decided to become sovereign and masters of their own destinies, rather than sitting at the local coffee shop waiting for a Chinese check to not produce food.

Asked about this issue in a press call on Thursday, Vilsack was vague. “The key here is to make sure that we continue to have a commitment to CRP as one strategy, one of many strategies,” he said. “An acre here may change, but there may be additional acres over there that weren’t in a program that are in a program. Over time you make significant improvement toward a net-zero future.”

What the hell is a net-zero future? Are any of you planning for a net-zero future? Should any of you have as life goal a net-zero future? So far, there’s been little motion from Vilsack’s office and the Global Syndicate-controlled Congress on mandatory regulations designed to mitigate agriculture’s environmental impact. They will have the USDA pass the law, knowing that we the people have no representation in that government. That is the tyrannical seizure of free and private property by the Global Syndicate.

To be clear, this is not a market-based economy. This is a Syndicate think tank based economy. They are actually claiming that there is climate threatening carbon was [sequestered in the soil](https://thecounter.org/soil-sequestration-carbon-farming-biden-climate-strategy/). When you plow, you let that carbon out into the air. Say nothing of the millions of tons of carbon that the crops planted on that land would change into oxygen. It’s the carbon locked under the soil that is dangerous.

The Global Syndicate demands an expansion of the [CLEAR30 pilot program](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSA-Public/usdafiles/FactSheets/crp-clear30-pilot.pdf), which rents land for 30 years at a time and requires farmers to implement water-friendly conservation measures. In other words, don’t water anything. Let all the plants die. Let your topsoil blow away, and let the organic nutrients in the soil wash out to the sea. Make no mistake. They are appealing to the welfare mindset of people. What do you think will happen if farmers refuse to comply? What do you think will happen if they insist on planting and harvesting as good stewards of the land? Exactly right. Their land will be taken from them, one USDA court case at a time. You don’t believe me? Just as Dwight and Steven Hammond who went to Federal prison for refusing to vacate the land their family had owned and managed for more than 100 years. Their cattle were burned alive. Their water supply was fenced off. People that went to defend their rights went to prison, and one was murdered in cold blood under the criminal orders of Oregon’s governor, Kate Brown.

Virtual Joe and his gang of criminals can only ask for voluntary cooperation. But in the next few weeks, the CRP land larceny is going to use climate change and the environment as a thermonuclear bomb against the farming sector. Their land will uninhabitable for 30 years. Establishment party soldiers have favored a less business-friendly approach: Senator Cory Booker [introduced a moratorium](https://thecounter.org/two-new-bills-booker-cafo-factory-farms-environment/)on the construction of new Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations in 2019, which emit the potent greenhouse gas [methane](https://www.sierraclub.org/iowa/blog/2021/04/dont-believe-hype-around-factory-farm-biogas), and Senator Bernie Sanders championed [broader enforcement](https://berniesanders.com/issues/revitalizing-rural-america/) of the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts during his presidential campaign. That means no dairies, no ranches, no herds of beef, flocks of sheep, chickens, pigs, etcetera. So far, there’s been little motion from Vilsack’s office and the Democrat-controlled Congress on mandatory regulations designed to mitigate agriculture’s environmental impact. That only means that the think tanks are crafting their Agri-omnibus bill that will seize control of all commercial food production in America.

“I really think regulations are the only way we’re going to accomplish anything,” Schechinger said. “We can keep doing some voluntary—CRP is good, retiring land is a great thing—but it’s not going to be enough to get us where we need to be with mitigating climate change.”

Why does she say that? Because we the people don’t know what they are doing as long as they don’t attempt to debate a law making their land grab legal. If they don’t have to pass a law, the bureaucrats can do it from the dungeons of DC. But now you know. If you live near a farm, work on a farm, and eat anything grown on a farm, you should be calling your Congressman and demanding a stop to this tomorrow. And if they won’t stop this CRP land terrorism, then replace them with someone who will. Don’t let Mexico or China become our breadbasket. We have our own magic land.

**Musical Exercise**

The next time you're not able to get out to the gym, maybe spin some records instead: new research suggests the positive impact on mental health from singing, playing, or listening to music is around the same impact experienced with exercise or weight loss.

That's based on a [meta-analysis](https://www.sciencealert.com/meta-analysis) covering 26 previous studies and a total of 779 people. The earlier research covered everything from using [gospel music as a preventative measure against heart disease](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32277749/) to how [joining a choir can help people recovering from cancer](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22837766/).

A growing [number of studies](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1757913917740391) are finding links between music and wellbeing. However, the level of the potential boost and exactly why it works are areas that scientists are still looking into – and that's where this particular piece of research can be helpful.

"Increasing evidence supports the ability of music to broadly promote wellbeing and health-related quality of life ([HRQOL](https://www.cdc.gov/hrqol/index.htm))," write the researchers in their [published paper](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2790186).

"However, the magnitude of music's positive association with HRQOL is still unclear, particularly relative to established interventions, limiting inclusion of music interventions in health policy and care."

All of the 26 studies included in the new research used the widely adopted and well regarded [36-Item Short Form Survey](https://www.rand.org/health-care/surveys_tools/mos/36-item-short-form.html) (SF-36) on physical and mental health, or the shorter alternative with 12 questions (SF-12), making it easier to collate and synthesize the data.

The results of the studies were then compared against other research looking at the benefits of "non-pharmaceutical and medical interventions (e.g., exercise, weight loss)" on wellbeing and against research where medical treatments for health issues didn't include a music therapy component.

According to the study authors, the mental health boost from music is "within the range, albeit on the low end" of the same sort of impact seen in people who commit to physical exercise or weight loss programs.

"This meta-analysis of 26 studies of music interventions provided clear and quantitative moderate-quality evidence that music interventions are associated with clinically significant changes in mental HRQOL," [write the researchers](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2790186).

"Additionally, a subset of 8 studies demonstrated that adding music interventions to usual treatment was associated with clinically significant changes to mental HRQOL in a range of conditions."

At the same time, the researchers point out that there was substantial variation between individuals in the studies regarding how well the various musical interventions worked – even if the overall picture was a positive one. This isn't necessarily something that's going to work for everyone.

The researchers hope that studies such as this one will encourage health professionals to prescribe some kind of music therapy more often when it comes to helping patients recover from illness or maintain good mental health.

For many of us, listening to music or singing are pleasurable activities and perhaps wouldn't feel as challenging as getting out for exercise or sticking to a diet – further reasons why they could be helpful as forms of therapy.

"Future research is needed to clarify optimal music interventions and doses for use in specific clinical and public health scenarios," [write the researchers](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2790186).

**When Syndicate Crime Bosses Go Down**

The robbing of the middle class has been at the core of the Global Syndicate for thousands of years. It is when justice is delayed and denied that they reap their greatest wealth. When we turn our faces to the rising sun, and refuse to look at the trail of blood from the previous day, demons in the flesh become proud and boastful and throw caution to the wind. They do not fear men or their laws.

Such corruption has been around for a long time.

The biblical prophets assailed it as an affront to God. Amos speaks for them all:

They have sold for silver those whose cause is just  
And the needy for a pair of sandals  
Who trample the heads of the needy into the ground  
And make the humble walk a twisted course.  
Father and son go into the same girl  
And so profane My holy name.

At first, they tremble with fear. They never rest, but are tormented to and fro by the beasts of their guilt. But then they grow numb to the pain of darkness. They embrace it. They laugh at the weeping faces of the victims, both the living and dead. They know God will not worry about them at all.

Eventually they all fall to the same force. The resonant energy with which they built their empires so effortlessly, because no sane human would ever go there, is not longer supported with careful input, and before long, entropy begins to decay that empire. Amos was talking of a nation set up under divine laws but which still went off the rails. Profaning God’s holy name means that people can actually bring discredit to God through their perversion of power, the power that God wishes us to use for good and necessary ends. They apply glory to bad things for self-gratification. It will work for a while, because glory itself is so powerful.

So, it should not be surprising that our government of the people, by the people, and for the people could and has at times become the playground for corrupt people. Even in the cabinet of Abraham Lincoln, an exceptional politician in any age, there was corruption. Carl Sandburg writes of how Rep. Thad Stevens complained that Secretary of War Simon Cameron was so dishonest that the only thing he wouldn’t steal was a red-hot stove. Cameron, of course, took offense, and Lincoln tried to calm things down by asking Stevens to retract. “All right,” goes a version of how Stevens replied, “I will retract. He would steal the stove, too.”

In the words quoted, Amos skewered the use of power to obtain sex as well as money. History confirms that this too is a proclivity of powerful people. Whether we speak of the constant parade of women through the bedchambers of such monarchs as Charles II of Britain or Louis XV of France, or of similar parades through the chambers of the Kennedy White House or of wherever Bill Clinton went, or the line of the powerful who flew on the Lolita Express, there is much evidence that power is a supreme aphrodisiac. In grimmer governments, force was used instead (which was made the object of very dark cinematic humor in the British masterpiece *The Death of Stalin*).

Implicit in Amos’ words is that there is an inevitable price to pay for tolerating corruption. Skilled politicians, adept at feeling the pulse of the people, lose their sharpness through their indulgences. As their corruption increases, competence decreases. Managing the many pretenses that hide its ill-gotten benefits takes up more and more time and energy. Lies need more lies to hide them and so the story keeps getting more and more complicated and less and less plausible. Leaks spring in the dike that quickly become controllable. The collapse can come very quickly.

Boss Tweed ran New York City politics after the Civil War. He found ways to please enough people by whatever means to keep him and his ring in power. He used that power to extract off-the-book deals with all city contractors. Anyone doing business with the city would pump up his bill, collect that inflated bill from the city, and then give back that pumped-up portion of the bill to Tweed and his ring. Public account books showed only the normal fee; Tweed’s crooked auditor kept a second, secret book that detailed the real cost to the city.

Tweed built up a grand fortune and his friends in his ring feasted from the crumbs. But then Tweed stumbled.

The occasion was a happy one, a wedding. Tweed felt, as many do, the need to have a fabulous blowout of an affair, and to make it as grand as he could afford — which was grand indeed. All the newspapers attended and reported on the magnificence of the fabulous party he threw, of the incredibly expensive gifts, and of the magnificent, bejeweled attire of the hordes of the rich and powerful who attended.

Historian David McCullough wrote of it:

The wedding was the high-water mark of the Ring’s opulence and for Tweed it was a great blunder. The public, dazzled and delighted at first, began to ask questions afterwards. How could a man who spent his whole life working in moderately paid position with the city live in such style?

Suddenly, the reality of the corruption was exposed. It did not last long. Within a short span, Tweed’s empire would crash in ruins and he would die in jail, convicted of having stolen tens of millions from the city he ran.

What will be the Tweed wedding of the current corruption? When does the aha moment come when the razzle-dazzle of the high-tech self-styled elite no longer obscures our vision and suddenly, the enormity of the grim truth grabs everyone’s minds?

Perhaps the moment came with the*New York Times*‘ backhanded acknowledgment that the Hunter Biden laptop poses some extremely troubling questions about the integrity of the Bidens. This was stunning, as readers of *The American Spectator*know all too well how the *New York Times*and all the court media did a very successful job of effectively censoring this story, which would have been deadly to Joe Biden’s campaign had it been believed.

Has some moment of realization come? A pattern begins to become dominant. Maybe it is the simple question that McCullough wrote of — how did a person who has spent his entire life in public service amass such a family fortune?

Many things start to connect and interlink: the organized suppression of the truth about the laptop and its compromising evidence; the incompetence of the humiliating rout in Afghanistan, the chaos at the southern border; the tossing away of American energy independence, the return to begging oil of despots who hate us, and the flat-footed non-response to Putin’s poorly disguised threat to Ukraine.

There is a stench of corruption and rot. This is not just a question of a different approach of competent people to a lively democracy. It is the presence of decay, of a cancer that is sucking the life force from the body politic.

We are reaching the point where the pretenses behind which corruption hides have become transparent. They hide the ugly truth from fewer and fewer people. This has nothing to do with conservatism or liberalism. It is about whether our democracy will regain its health and thrive again. We should have common cause with a vast majority of our fellow citizens.

Let’s make this our top priority. Reagan showed us how to do this. Our ideological nuances come later. We need the republic to survive for those nuances to mean anything much.

Help the truth emerge from its prison. Once we let justice claim its own, the people will be able to smile again and walk without fear.

**Justice Denied**

Thursday morning a federal judge heard arguments on former Clinton Campaign attorney Michael Sussmann’s motion to dismiss the Special Counsel’s criminal case against him. Imagine someone trying to stop a six-season program for Perry Mason based on the premise that it might not be long enough to get to the conclusion. The bad guy is not going break down and confess. Then, after taking the motion under advisement, presiding Judge Christopher Cooper considered a variety of housekeeping matters. Here’s what we learned from Thursday’s hour-long proceedings.

**1. Sussmann Is Likely to Lose His Motion and Face a Jury**

Thursday’s hearing began shortly after 10:00, with Judge Cooper, a Barack Obama appointee, first considering Sussmann’s motion to dismiss the criminal indictment returned in September of last year. That indictment charged the former Clinton Campaign attorney with making false statements to the FBI General Counsel James Baker on September 19, 2016, when Sussmann provide Baker with “white papers” and data ostensibly showing a secret communications channel existed between the Trump organization and the Russia-connected Alfa Bank.

According to the one-count indictment, when Sussmann met with Baker, Sussmann falsely claimed he was not acting on behalf of a client. In fact, though, the indictment charged that at the time Sussmann was working both for the Clinton Campaign and an unnamed “U.S. technology industry executive,” since identified as Rodney Joffe. That lie, according to the indictment, constituted a false statement violative of Section 1001 of the federal criminal code

Thursday’s hearing opened with Sussmann’s attorney, Michael Bosworth from the law firm of Latham & Watkins, reiterating to the court many of the arguments Sussmann’s legal team had presented to the court in the Motion to Dismiss it filed in February. In that motion, Sussmann’s attorneys argue that even if Sussmann had lied to Baker — a fact Sussmann disputes — the lie was not “material.” And since Section 1001 criminalizes only “a *materially*false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation,” Sussmann’s legal team argued that he committed no crime.

Over the course of the hour-long hearing, Sussmann’s attorney argued that his client’s alleged lie was immaterial from a variety of angles. With every argument for dismissal presented, however, Judge Cooper challenged Bosworth, and at one point, Sussmann’s attorney even acknowledge that he would move on as the court seemed to see his argument “not that persuasive.”

While Judge Cooper likewise peppered Special Counsel Durham’s lead prosecutor, Andrew DeFilippis, with questions on the issue of materiality, the court’s queries strongly suggested Sussmann’s attempt to have the criminal charge tossed will fail. And from a legal perspective, as I [explained](https://thefederalist.com/2022/03/07/5-new-special-counsel-arguments-against-a-russia-hoaxers-attempt-to-escape/) following the briefing, it should fail.

The court, however, did not rule from the bench but instead took the motion under advisement, telling the parties who were participating remotely that he would issue a decision “sooner rather than later,” which likely means an order will issue by early next week.

**2. The Crossfire Hurricane Team Was Inept**

Although Thursday’s substantive hearing focused solely on Sussmann’s Motion to Dismiss, the arguments presented revealed several interesting tidbits. For instance, both parties agreed that Baker’s testimony would be that he did not ask Sussmann if he was representing a client; rather, Sussmann volunteered to the FBI General Counsel that he was not there on behalf of any client.

The more intriguing revelation, though, comes from what else the FBI did not ask Sussmann. According to Bosworth, at no point did the FBI ask Sussmann where the data and white papers came from. Bosworth stressed this point to argue that the Special Counsel’s claim that the lie was material was “nonsensical.”

In arguing the lie was material, the Special Counsel’s office had noted that it intended to call a government witness who would testify that the “first thing you ask is where was the data from.” In his rebuttal argument, Bosworth stressed that the government’s claim that the FBI would have asked where the data came had Sussmann not lied is “nonsensical” because “at no point” did anyone involved in the investigation ask Sussmann where he got the data from that he presented to Baker.

Initially, this argument cuts against Sussmann’s position because, as the government pointed out, Sussmann’s lie “lulled” the FBI into believing the data came from a legitimate disinterested source when it did not. But the bigger takeaway from this exchange is that the Crossfire Hurricaneteam was so inept, biased, or blind that it didn’t ask that very basic question: Where did this data showing a Trump-Russia secret communication channel come from?

That the Crossfire Hurricaneteam failed in this basic respect, however, does not help Sussmann, because in determining if a lie is material, the focus is on a hypothetical “objective” government official and not on how any one individual would have acted had they known the truth.

More significantly, though, this exchange shows that the Special Counsel’s team will present government witnesses who will establish that, yes, a reasonable, objective FBI agent’s first step would be to determine the data source — proving Comey’s team was anything but reasonable or objective.

**3. Jury Instructions Will Be Key**

The oral argument also revealed just how significant jury instructions will be to whether Sussmann is convicted.

Throughout the argument, Bosworth stressed the defense’s position that for a lie to be “material” it must have a sufficient nexus to the subject of the investigation, rather than be ancillary to the investigation. Further, the purported false statement must be something “that is more than trivial” and “more than negligible.”

Bosworth initially argued that the alleged lie in this case could not pass these standards, as a matter of law. “As a matter of law” means that it is a question for the judge to decide, as opposed to a jury, and Bosworth argued that in this case, the court should dismiss the case.

However, Sussmann’s attorney then noted that if it is a jury question, the jury must be “properly instructed” that the lie must be something “more than trivial” — “it must matter.” And it is important that the jury be instructed the lie cannot be about an “ancillary” or “non-determinative fact,” Bosworth added, before noting that “we will fight this at the jury instruction stage.”

This preview provides an interesting insight into the future of this case, with the parties likely jockeying over the precise explanation of “materiality” the jury will receive. If Sussmann succeeds in having the jury instructed that the lie must be “more than trivial” and that it cannot be “ancillary” to the criminal case, Sussmann’s chances of acquittal will increase substantially because a talented trial attorney can convey the impression that something material is trivial. But the jury instruction battle is still several motions away.

**4. A Flurry of Motions In the Works**

While the jury instruction fight will not happen for some time, there are several other disputes likely to monopolize the court’s time in the interim, as revealed after the court moved on to the “status conference” portion of the hearing.

After announcing his intent to take the case under advisement, Judge Cooper noted (using the applicable jargon) he had a few issues of discovery related to classified material to resolve and then asked if there were any issues. At this point, Sussmann’s attorney noted it would be filing various motions, including one related to what is called rule 404(b) evidence.

Rule 404(b) evidence is “character evidence” or evidence showing the defendant engaged in other crimes or wrongful acts. The government notified Sussmann’s legal team of its intent to admit at least two separate pieces of Rule 404(b) evidence and Bosworth noted that the defense would be filing a motion to exclude that evidence. There was no discussion, however, as to the content of that evidence.

Sussmann next raised a concern over the government’s disclosure of an expert witness it intended to call in support of its case against Sussmann. Bosworth argued that the government’s notice of its intent to present expert testimony was untimely because with a mere six weeks until trial, it does not provide Sussmann time to find an expert to counter the prosecution’s expert.

A discussion then followed on the intended scope of the expert testimony, with DeFilippis explaining that it intended merely to provide background or a “tutorial” about DNS data, but that if Sussmann attempted to argue that the Alfa Bank data was accurate, that the government would use its expert to counter that point. Sussmann’s legal team objected to the use of the expert to challenge the Alfa Bank data and noted that it would be filing a motion soon if they could not reach an agreement.

Finally, Bosworth raised with the court a complaint over the Special Counsel’s intent to try to pierce attorney-client privilege being asserted by Hillary for America, the DNC, and Fusion and to present evidence obtained from those third parties at trial against Sussmann. A challenge at this late date, Sussmann’s lawyer argued “would be wildly untimely” and now, with only six weeks before trial, implicates Sussmann’s due process rights. “In our view,” Bosworth continued,” it is “an ambush” and could potentially change the entire parameter of the case.

DeFilippis noted in response that the Special Counsel’s office has been working with the “privilege holders,” meaning the clients, naming them as Joffe, the Clinton Campaign, and “another political organization,” and has been busy hashing out the issue of privilege. But, a motion will need to be presented, DeFilippis added, providing for purposes of illustration that the Clinton Campaign is claiming privilege over communications with Joffe that they are not even copied on. Sussmann’s legal team again objected to the lateness of the hour to resolve these questions—something his attorneys will surely argue when the motion is forthcoming.

The judge then directed the parties to discuss a schedule for briefing these three motions and adjourned the hearing.

**5. The Case Will Not Be Over Anytime Soon**

After this morning’s hearing, one final point is clear: This case will not be over soon unless Sussmann is acquitted.

Soon after he was indicted, Sussmann insisted on a speedy trial, and one is set to start with jury selection on May 16, 2022. If the jury acquits the former Clinton campaign attorney, the case will be over then.

But if a jury convicts Sussmann, he has already previewed several arguments for an appeal, including his claim that his purported lie is immaterial as a matter of law. If he loses, he will also likely challenge any refusal by the court to provide his desired jury instructions. Then he has the “due process” arguments he floated Thursday based on the lateness of the hour to pierce the attorney-client privilege of third parties, such as Joffe and the Clinton Campaign.

Given Bosworth’s near-flawless execution during Thursday’s argument, even when holding a losing argument, it seems clear that even if Sussmann is guilty, convicting him is not going to be an easy task, and obtaining a conviction that withstands appeal will be even more difficult.