**Kill Switch**

The federal gov’t and silicon valley are looking to clamp down on your freedom of movement. Your ability to move about as you please does not fit with their goals for the future of our world. Automotive-related freedoms, including access to fuel, allow us to be free to move without the permission of silicon valley and the federal government. Automotive freedoms are not only hobby related; they are essential to preventing yet another step along the road to serfdom at the hands of woke corporations and federal bureaucrats.

Virtual Joe recently signed into law a [requirement](https://dailycaller.com/2021/11/29/barr-bidens-infrastructure-bill-contains-backdoor-kill-switch-for-cars/) that all vehicles produced after 2026 be fitted with a remote kill switch. Electric vehicles are already equipped with this capability via internet-connected “superchargers.” These corporations can sell you a product for tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars, then prevent you from using them. Worse yet, if the law is not challenged or repealed, these kill switches will have a “back door” that allows government agencies to shut your vehicle off remotely as well.

Thanks to programs like this one, the people are waking up to the reality that corporate managers are not on our side, this should be among our top concerns. Internal combustion vehicles, so far, are free of the sorts of nanny state controls that are standard on electric vehicles, so preserving our access to gasoline and diesel fuel is an absolute necessity

**Right to repair** is also an important issue. It is not, as some techno-authoritarians [claim](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/the-era-of-e2-80-98the-car-you-own-forever-e2-80-99-is-coming-to-an-end/ar-AAWKFUi), a simple matter for tinkerers. Rather, it is a critical component of our ability to maintain freedom of movement. Right to repair ensures that we are able to hire independent professionals to repair our vehicles and other products rather than being forced to pay astronomical [prices](https://www.thedrive.com/news/41493/teslas-16000-quote-for-a-700-fix-is-why-right-to-repair-matters) to manufacturers. It means we can build our own houses, raise our own children, and much, much more.

Now that the environmental superiority of electric vehicles is being [called](https://arstechnica.com/science/2022/05/elephant-in-the-room-clean-energys-need-for-unsustainable-minerals/) into question, the real agenda behind climate [hysteria](https://issuesinsights.com/2022/04/06/here-comes-another-climate-deadline-that-will-pass-without-notice/) is clear: climate change fear mongers want us poorer and unable to travel and commute as we see fit. As Virtual Joe and his gang of criminals’ intentional policy of high gas prices hits the average American in the pocket book, it’s important to note that the [cost](https://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/renewable/electric-vehicle-battery-costs-soar/) of EV batteries is also rising. Subsidized demand for these batteries has led to a massive increase in the prices of conflict minerals, such as lithium and cobalt, that make up these batteries. There is only a 3-year supply of Lithium in the world presently being mined. It takes years to get a mine ready to go, because it, along with cobalt and other rare minerals, are an environmental disaster to get out of the ground and prepare for making batteries.

Electric vehicle are not lower than those of internal combustion vehicles. Currently the average [price](https://www.cnbc.com/2021/12/29/electric-vehicles-are-becoming-more-affordable-amid-spiking-gas-prices.html#:~:text=The%20average%20transaction%20price%20for,an%20entry%2Dlevel%20luxury%20car.) of an electric vehicle is $56,000. What does this say about your ability to travel freely in the coming years if the federal government effectively bans our use of internal combustion vehicles? There is niche where these types of vehicles are more economical, but the industry as a whole has ignored that niche completely. Why? Because it is not about saving the planet from warming. It is about saving the planet for the ultra elite political class. It is about moving wealth from your hands into theirs, and grounding you for the next few generations.

Bottom of Form

Further, the Global Media Empire wants you too blind to see the horrifying human rights record associated with cobalt and lithium mining. Child [slavery](https://humantraffickingsearch.org/resource/modern-slavery-the-true-cost-of-cobalt-mining/), extremely poor working conditions, and poisoned [rivers](https://tibet.net/lichu-river-poisoned-case-of-minyak-lhagang-lithium-mine-protest/) are just a few of the problems that plague the extraction of these minerals. One could reasonably ask the Virtual Joe administration why the American public is being forced to [subsidize](https://www.manhattan-institute.org/html/short-circuit-high-cost-electric-vehicle-subsidies-11241.html) the horrifying human rights record associated with the mining of these resources.

Though the near-magical power of innovation is an article of faith for many, technological change does not always benefit the average person. There is nothing inevitable about these so-called innovations or the politically-driven subsidies that enable them. There is nothing inevitable about the burdens that this technological change will put on the average person. We need only have the courage of our convictions, combined with the backing of knowledgeable groups like the SEMA Action Network, to ensure that we are not forced to subsidize real environmental [hazards](https://slate.com/business/2021/05/ford-f150-lightning-electric-weight.html), human rights [abuses](https://www.realclearenergy.org/articles/2022/03/09/joe_bidens_electric_car_plans_support_the_worlds_worst_humanitarian_abuses_820821.html), and the restriction of our own freedom of movement.

**The Real China**

One of the world’s top experts on China’s forced organ harvesting industry told Congress on Thursday the Communist Party may be “harvesting” as many as 50,000 concentration camp victims, killing them to sell their organs, a year.

Ethan Gutmann – a senior research fellow in China studies at the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation and co-author of the landmark works on the subject, “Bloody Harvest” and “The Slaughter” – noted each healthy individual killed to extract his or her organs could yield two or three organs, meaning China would be selling as many as 150,000 organs from these victims.

Gutmann testified alongside several other experts – including Enver Tohti, a surgeon from East Turkistan who claims to have been forced to harvest organs from a political prisoner in 1995 – at a hearing organized by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), the chair of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, on Thursday titled “Forced Organ Harvesting in China: Examining the Evidence.”

The hearing followed the publication of years of evidence that China was killing healthy people to sell their organs on the black market to wealthy buyers, most recently a study published by researchers at Australian National University (ANU) in April [accusing](https://www.breitbart.com/asia/2022/04/06/study-china-conducting-execution-by-heart-removal-for-lucrative-organ-trade/) China of “execution by heart removal.”

China has built a network of upwards of [1,000 concentration camps](https://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2018/12/01/reuters-reveals-up-to-1200-muslim-gulags-built-in-china/) in occupied East Turkistan, its westernmost region and home to the majority of members of the Uyghur ethnic group, in the past half-decade, using them to torture, indoctrinate, enslave, rape, and kill Uyghurs and other members of religious and ethnic minorities. Chinese officials [do not deny](https://www.breitbart.com/asia/2018/09/13/china-muslim-torture-camps-are-necessary-education-centers/) the existence of the camps, but claim they are “vocational training centers” where indigenous people Beijing perceives as backwards learn trade skills to compete in the modern Chinese economy.

Citing interviews with concentration camps survivors, Gutmann [told](https://humanrightscommission.house.gov/sites/humanrightscommission.house.gov/files/documents/GUTMANN%20-%20Witness%20Testimony%20Template.pdf) Congress that testimonies indicate that China screens concentration camp victims to see if their organs would be useful for transplants and those who pass the test abruptly disappear.

“There are two kinds of people who leave the camps early: The first are young people, about 18 years old. The announcement that they are ‘graduating’ is often made during lunch. Sometimes light applause is encouraged,” Gutmann explained. “‘Graduation’ is a euphemism for forced labor, often at a factory out east.”

“The second group’s average age is usually 28 or 29 – the exact stage of physical development that the Chinese medical establishment prefers for organ harvesting,” he continued. After medical tests, he noted, those chosen in this group “vanished in the middle of the night. Witness testimony from approximately twenty camps is strikingly consistent: between 2.5% to 5% annual disappearances for the 28-year-old age group.”

“If we assume that at any given time since 2017, there are approximately a million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz and Hui in the camps, my estimate is that 25,000 to 50,000 camp detainees are being harvested every year,” Gutmann explained.

“Twenty-eight-year-olds from the Xinjiang [East Turkistan] camps can be theoretically harvested for two or three organs, translating into a minimum of 50,000 organs or a maximum of 150,000 organs,” he further concluded.

Gutmann and Tohti both noted in their testimonies that Chinese airports have express lanes for shipping organs and this phenomenon appears most prominent in airports in East Turkistan. Gutmann stated that he believes he has identified at least one “probable end user near Shanghai” that connects to an airport in Aksu, East Turkistan: “First Hospital Zhejiang Province.”

[](https://media.breitbart.com/media/2016/06/mock-harvesting-China-ap.jpg)

*File/Falun Gong practitioners simulate organ harvesting in a mock Chinese labor camp in front of the Presidential Office in Taipei, Taiwan, April 23, 2006, in protest against China’s suspected abuse and killing of Falun Gong members. (Getty)*

“First Hospital liver transplants increased by 90 percent in 2017. Kidney transplants increased by 200 percent,” Gutmann observed.

Gutmann called for the free world to cut all ties to the Chinese transplant industry and ban Chinese doctors with ties to the industry from cooperating in any way with their Western counterparts.

“This catastrophe was created by Beijing, yet it was continuously enabled by a handful of Western doctors who thought they could ride the Chinese dragon and come back home as if everything was normal,” he testified. “I don’t know the policy mechanisms that can reverse that. But the precedent is clear. We need to abolish all Western contact with the Mainland Chinese transplant industry. No Chinese transplant surgeons in our medical journals, our universities, and our conferences. And a freeze on all sales of surgical equipment, pharmaceutical development, and testing in China.”

Tohti [narrated](https://humanrightscommission.house.gov/sites/humanrightscommission.house.gov/files/documents/Witness%20Testimony%20Dr%20Enver%20Tohti.pdf) his experience as a young surgeon in 1995, dragged to an execution site and forced to rapidly cut the heart out of a political prisoner killed in front of him. He referred to East Turkistan as “a gigantic open-top human laboratory” that he accused the Chinese of using not just for live organ harvesting, but for copious nuclear weapons tests and, potentially, bioweapons research.

“A former Colonel Ken Alibek, of the Russian Red Army laboratory in Kazakhstan reported in his book that Chinese may have tested bioweapon in Xinjiang in 1980,” Tohti noted. “I certainly remember that – that was the first year of my medical university, that many students were late for registration because of the barricade from plague and typhoid fever in southern part of Xinjiang.”

Tohti’s testimony concluded with an ominous anecdote:

In October 2017, Taipei, after I gave a talk on organ harvesting, a Taiwanese man approached me said: my brother went to Tianjing for his kidney, since he was aware of Falungong situation, that he asked his surgeon that he does not want Falun gong organs, his surgeon assured him that: now, all organs are coming from Xinjiang!

Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), who chairs the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, called for an “immediate concerted effort to stop this barbaric practice—not only in China, but also by its global enablers” at the hearing on Thursday. Smith [introduced](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1592/text?r=2&s=1) legislation last year to sanction individuals found engaging in forced organ harvesting or the traffic of organs stolen from political prisoners called the Stop Forced Organ Harvesting Act of 2021. The bill would also require the State Department and Health and Human Services to provide regular annual reports on the topic so that lawmakers can properly know who to sanction and what further actions to take.

**2000 Jack Asses**

They are not mules. Mules are hybrids and cannot breed. These criminals breed like bacteria. The ones who have been identified and tracked should be arrested and tried for tampering with am election. If found guilty, which should be pretty easy given the video proof, they should serve a year in prison.

Well, that effort is ongoing, but it is not moving fast enough. Why? Because the powers that paid for it don’t want it stopped. They know that election fraud using jack asses to stuff ballot boxes will come to a halt if they are facing 12 months in prison. So what are they doing to protect their precious business model?

A lead investigator in the independent probe of alleged 2020 election ballot trafficking featured in the film ["2000 Mules"](https://www.2000mules.com/) said he and his witnesses have become the target of Georgia state officials instead of the people he believes delivered fraudulent votes to help Joe Virtual Joe win the White House.

Gregg Phillips, who teamed with True the Vote founder Catherine Engelbrecht in the probe, said in an interview with reporter Emerald Robinson that days before the release of "2000 Mules," Georgia election officials issued subpoenas to get him to turn over his sources and witnesses.

He emphasized that the witnesses came forward because they were promised their identity would be protected.

"This is a very, very dangerous escalation in this. I believe that somebody’s going to get killed if they’re not careful," Phillips said.

"The (Georgia) investigator himself and the people who fashioned this subpoena are going to get someone killed," he continued. "They don’t understand what they're dealing with.

"I'm not going to reveal the source. I don't care what they do," Phillips said. "They can cuff me."

In a Twitter post of Phillips' remarks to Robinson, the survey company Rasmussen Reports said its "Georgia sources indicate there is much, much more moving behind the scenes and witness intimidation and worse are afoot in both the Stacy (sic) Abrams camp & Kemp's GBI," the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Democratic activist Stacey Abrams, known for her get-out-the-vote activism, is running again for governor of Georgia after narrowly losing to the current governor, Brian Kemp, in 2018. Kemp is running for reelection.

By the way, when the jack asses are sentenced, they should make them a deal to cut their sentence in half, if they agree to testify against the person who paid them. Keep going up the org chart with stiffer and stiffer penalties, and then don’t back down. War is justice denied.

**Hunger Games**

When soaring food, energy (and everything else) prices, reach a certain point, street protests move up a notch. Protests are playgrounds for the FBI, and putting a few hundred in a dungeon for a couple of years is a form of entertainment for DC politicians. Well, food prices have recently exploded to fresh record highs, far surpassing the levels hit in 2011 after Obama destroyed the housing market and dumped billions of US dollars into European banks.

[Chart, line chart

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/FAO%20world%20food%20prices.jpg?itok=_pLdhwrb)

And as food prices keep rising, the protests across poor nations keep escalating, and on Thursday [protests broke out in Iran](https://www.foxnews.com/world/iran-protests-break-out-skyrocketing-food-prices)leading to at least 22 arrests, after the government cut subsidies for food, sending prices through the roof as authorities braced for more unrest in the following weeks, Fox News reports.

In videos shared on social media, protesters can be seen marching through Dezful and Mahshahr in the southwestern province of Khezestan, chanting “Death to Khamenei! Death to Raisi!” referring to Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi has promised to create jobs, lift sanctions, and rescue the economy.

Iranian state media has not publicly addressed the protests, but they have been covered by the National Council of Resistance of Iran, an opposition group. Footage shared by the NCRI shows protesters setting fire to a Basij military base in Jooneghan, a city in the Central District of Jooneghan county.

"Every so often we see these types of protests in Iran. Each time it is under a different premise – the price of eggs, the price of gas, the price of bread, but the underlining message which is supported by the slogans heard throughout the demonstrations is the same; they are protesting the entirety of a brutal regime," Lisa Daftari, Iran expert and editor-in-chief of the Foreign Desk, said in a statement.

"It is also evident in the fact that these protests are no longer just contained to Tehran, the capital city, and other urban areas. We are seeing protests throughout the country in urban and rural areas and throughout the very vast and diverse Iranian population."

Daftari is right, and not just about Iran (and Iraq), but also Sri Lanka, where protesters angry at the soaring prices of everyday commodities including food, **have burned down homes belonging to 38 politicians as the crisis-hit country plunged further into chaos, with the government ordering troops to "shoot on sight."**

Before you say, ‘Oh that is Iran. That would never happen here.’ Recall the words of the four horse’s asses of the apocalypse. Or the words of Chuck Schumer. Or the words of hundreds of Hollywood celebrities. It will happen here soon enough.

Police in the island nation said Tuesday that in addition to the destroyed homes, 75 others have been damaged as angry Sri Lankans continue to defy a nationwide curfew to protest against what they say is the government's mishandling of the country's worst economic crisis since 1948.

The Ministry of Defense on Tuesday ordered troops to shoot anyone found damaging state property or assaulting officials, after violence left at least nine people dead since Monday, [according to CNN](https://www.cnn.com/2022/05/10/asia/sri-lanka-protests-police-shoot-intl-hnk/index.html); it is unclear if all of the deaths were directly related to the protests. More than 200 people have been injured.

The nation of 22 million is grappling with a devastating economic crisis, with prices of everyday goods soaring, and there have been widespread electricity shortages for weeks. Since March, thousands of anti-government protesters have taken to the streets, demanding that the government resign.

The military had to rescue the country's outgoing Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa in a pre-dawn operation on Tuesday, hours after he resigned following clashes between pro- and anti-government protesters. The military were called after protesters twice tried to breach the Prime Minister's Temple Trees private residence compound overnight, a senior security source told CNN.

Rajapaksa's resignation came after live television footage on Monday showed government supporters, armed with sticks, beating protesters at several locations across the capital, and tearing down and burning their tents. Dozens of homes were torched across the country amid the violence, according to witnesses CNN spoke to. Americans would not be armed with sticks.

Armed troops were deployed to disperse the protesters, according to CNN's team on the ground, while video footage showed police firing tear gas and water cannons.

It remains unclear if the curfew and the Prime Minister's resignation will be enough to keep a lid on the increasingly volatile situation in the country.

Many protesters say their ultimate aim is to force President Gotabaya Rajapaksa -- the Prime Minister's brother -- to step down, something he has so far shown no sign of doing. We have the same exact issue here in America. We want Virtual Joe to step down and take his whore VP with him. No one should be able to use sexual favors to get elected, let alone hold the nuclear codes.

\* \* \*

Going back to the same soaring food prices which tend to have quite a deadly and destabilizing impact on the world's mostly poor people, the ones who have no social safety net, Goldman recently published a Q&A on global food inflation (available to Professional Subscribers in the usual place), in which the bank look at the consequences of the global food crisis which is only getting worse by the day. Below we excerpt several sections from the Q&A:

***Q. How large is the shock to global food prices?***

A. Quite large but not unprecedented, and less large than the shock to energy prices.

Our GSCI Agriculture and Livestock index has increased by 17% over the past year and by 75% since the start of the pandemic (Exhibit 1, LHS). These moves are similar to those in 2008 and 2012 but less large than the current rise in energy prices. **Our GSCI Energy index has increased by 70% over the past year and by 110% since the start of the pandemic.**Agriculture commodities have seen sharper price gains than livestock commodities with increases in the GSCI Agriculture Index of 21% over the last year and 90% since early 2020 (Exhibit 1, RHS). Wheat prices have risen particularly sharply since 2020H2 due to unfavorable weather conditions and higher input costs.

[Chart, bar chart, histogram

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/2022-05-13_15-02-26.jpg?itok=_DFQa4Q9)

***Q. How is the war in Ukraine affecting global food prices and what is the outlook?***

A. War-related supply disruptions have contributed to the rise in wheat and oilseed prices. ***Our commodity strategists expect wheat prices to rise up to 15% over the next few months, with upside risk for the next year.***

The war in Ukraine has severely disrupted shipments of grains and oilseeds from the region. Combined dry bulk shipping activity in Russia and Ukraine ports has dropped by 50% compared to the 2021 average (Exhibit 2, LHS). The war is also likely to depress future production by disrupting Ukrainian spring planting of corn and sunseed and tillering of wheat. Russia and Ukraine together account for 13% and 8% of global wheat and oilseeds production, respectively (Exhibit 2, RHS), with CEEMEA countries especially relying on food imports from the region. As a result, wheat and oilseed futures have increased by 30% and 25% since the invasion, respectively, from already high levels.

[Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/russia%20ukraine%20food%20price.jpg?itok=F5sDIyaB)

Although the region plays an important role in global food production, Russia’s share in global energy production is even higher. This helps to explain why energy prices have generally risen more since the invasion than food prices.

***Q. How does the hit from higher food prices to consumer purchasing power compare across economies?***

A. The contribution from food and beverages to year-over-year headline CPI inflation is the largest in CEEMEA (7.1pp, PPP-weighted average), followed by Latin America (2.8pp). The contributions are less large in EM Asia excluding China (2.3pp), in DMs (0.8pp), and China (-0.5pp).

The food contribution to inflation is larger in EMs than DMs, although it is not unprecedented for Latin America and EM Asia (excluding China). While less elevated than in comparison to EMs, the current DM food contribution of 0.8pp is the highest on record, going back to 1996 (Exhibit 3, LHS).

[Chart, bar chart, histogram

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/food%20and%20beverage%20contribution.jpg?itok=AoqHL9OU)

By country, the food contribution is the largest in Turkey (23pp) and Russia (4pp), but negative in China at -0.5pp (Exhibit 3, RHS). The very large contribution in Turkey reflects sharp currency depreciation, reliance on imports of cereal, oilseeds, and oils from Russia and Ukraine, and droughts. The large food contribution in Russia partly reflects recent war-triggered demand from hoarding of non-perishable food. Finally, food deflation in China reflects oversupply of hogs.

\* \* \*

**The Proxy War with Liberty**

The Fake Stream News is playing the War with Russia song over and over again. Inflation, food shortages, taxes, lockdowns, and a massive multi-billion dollar machine designed to censor free speech in real time are all being employed to fight a war against liberty. Wait. Not Russia?

No. This Russia song is nothing but a proxy war to smash liberty from existence. They don’t want ethnic Russians in Donbass to be free. They have been using modern weapons and Nazi soldiers to kill them off since Victoria Nuland and John McCain overthrew the Ukrainian government in 2014. They massacred hundreds of civilians in the streets and drove the country’s president Victor Yanukovych into exile.

They were preparing to invade Crimea on March 23rd of this year, and Putin parking 100 thousand soldiers and tons of equipment just outside the border didn’t make them change their plans. As soon as the fighting season began, they were marching into Crimea like their blitzkrieg grandfathers and taking one of the richest oil deposits in the world by force.

Putin preempted the invasion with Operation Z and stopped the Nazis at great expense. It was necessary to save Russia, but it has turned out to be necessary to protect liberty all over the world.

Now, you see who is fighting whom. Virtual Joe and his gang of criminals is at war with you. You already knew that, but now it is getting personal and hitting you where it hurts. Right now, you feel like the Na’avi, right? You’re shooting arrows at airborne armor. It doesn’t feel very effective, does it? You want some bigger guns, don’t you?

You can’t wait for election day, right? Well, before you get all excited, like you were in 2020, you must know that the Cheat-by-Mail business plan is still fully funded and staffed and ready to do it again. Your vote won’t count any more than it did in 2018 or 2020. There will be no red wave, because the blue wall is too high and too thick to get through.

Nothing has been done but to clear away the bushes hiding the wall. Their fortress wall is still there, and no amount of money in the world can scratch it. Like Virtual Joe told us live on TV. “If you’re going to go against us, you’re going to need F-16’s and nuclear bombs.”

When you’re ready let me know. I will be at the front.

**The Ocean is Losing Its Memory**

If you read Revelation 21: 1-4 it says:

I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

The oceans that surround us are transforming, again and continuously. As our climate changes, the world's waters are shifting too, with abnormalities evident not only in the [ocean's temperature](https://www.sciencealert.com/ocean-warming-has-smashed-a-new-record-for-the-sixth-year-in-a-row), but also its [structure](https://www.sciencealert.com/fundamental-changes-to-our-oceans-are-occurring-much-faster-than-we-thought), [currents](https://www.sciencealert.com/global-warming-speeds-up-currents-in-the-deepest-parts-of-the-ocean), and [even its color](https://www.sciencealert.com/climate-change-will-alter-the-colour-of-the-oceans).

As these changes manifest, the usually stable environment of the ocean is becoming more unpredictable and erratic, and in some ways the phenomenon is akin to the ocean losing its memory, scientists suggest. The Earth itself is a sentient being, and it has a symbiotic relationship with man, as we are sentient beings as well.

"Ocean memory, the persistence of ocean conditions, is a major source of predictability in the climate system beyond weather time scales," researchers explain in a [new paper](https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.abm3468) led by first author and climate researcher Hui Shi from the Farallon Institute in Petaluma, California.

"We show that ocean memory, as measured by the year-to-year persistence of sea surface temperature anomalies, is projected to steadily decline in the coming decades over much of the globe."

In the research, the team studied sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the shallow top layer of the ocean, called the upper-ocean mixed layer (MLD).

Despite the MLD's relative shallowness – extending only to a depth of about 50 meters down from the ocean's surface – this upper layer of water exhibits a lot of persistence over time in terms of thermal inertia, especially compared to the variations seen in the atmosphere above.

In the future, however, modeling suggests that this 'memory' effect of thermal inertia in the upper ocean is set to decline globally over the rest of the century, with dramatically greater variations in temperature predicted over coming decades.

"We discovered this phenomenon by examining the similarity in ocean surface temperature from one year to the next as a simple metric for ocean memory," [explains Hui](https://www.hawaii.edu/news/2022/05/06/earth-suffers-ocean-amnesia/).

According to the researchers, [shoaling effects](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wave_shoaling) in the MLD will introduce greater levels of water-mixing in the upper ocean, effectively thinning out the top layer.

This is expected to lower the ocean's capacity for thermal inertia, rendering the upper ocean more susceptible to random temperature anomalies.

Just [what that means for marine wildlife](https://www.sciencealert.com/we-re-pummeling-towards-a-dinosaur-ending-scale-mass-extinction-of-marine-life) is unclear, but [the researchers note](https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.abm3468) that "consequential impacts on populations are likely", although some species are expected to fare better than others in terms of adaptation.

On another note, the ocean memory decline is expected to make it significantly harder for scientists to forecast upcoming ocean dynamics, reducing reliable lead times for all sorts of predictions related to SSTs. This will hinder our ability to project monsoons, marine heatwaves (MHWs), and periods of extreme weather, among other things.

As extreme weather is [predicted to become more frequent in the future](https://www.sciencealert.com/climate-change-is-making-extreme-weather-events-more-frequent-globally), our need to accurately forecast measurements for things like ocean temperature, precipitation levels, and atmospheric anomalies becomes only more important – but if the ocean loses its memory, we risk going the other way, the researchers say.

"The projected decline in ocean memory is likely to hinder ocean prediction efforts by reducing the lead times at which SST forecasts, including those for MHWs, are skillful," [the authors write](https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.abm3468).

"Future warming-induced MLD shoaling may also alter the statistics of temperature extremes … which combined with reduced lead time for persistence-based predictions of ocean surface conditions will pose challenges for ecosystem management and marine hazard preparation."

**The J6 War on America**

Well, of course.

Here’s the headline this week from — where else — the [*Washington Post*](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/05/12/jan6-committee-subpoenas-mccarthy/):

Jan. 6 committee subpoenas five House Republicans, including Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy

Reports the paper:

The committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol by a pro-Trump mob has subpoenaed five Republican members of Congress, including House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (Calif.), after they refused to cooperate with the panel’s inquiry.

Rep. Bennie G. Thompson (D-Miss.), who chairs the select committee, said Thursday that the panel has subpoenaed McCarthy and Reps. Mo Brooks (Ala.), Andy Biggs (Ariz.), Scott Perry (Pa.) and Jim Jordan (Ohio).

Notice this line? The subpoenas were issued “after they refused to cooperate with the panel’s inquiry.”

This is rich.

Every single member of this committee, both Democrats and the two Trump-hating Republicans, Wyoming’s Liz Cheney and Adam Kinzinger of Illinois, are participating in a corrupt process designed to produce a Stalin-style show trial with the outcome already arranged.

That outcome is to charge former President Donald Trump with “inciting” an “insurrection” on January 6. And to prosecute him if possible.

But this committee is itself guilty of an insurrection against the American system of justice. Will the committee subpoena its own members? Will the committee make public all their own texts, emails, and phone records for the American people to see for themselves the behind-the-scenes records of this “high-tech lynching” (to borrow from Justice Clarence Thomas)? Of course not.

As my colleague Melissa Mackenzie has correctly [noted](https://spectator.org/nancy-pelosis-january-6th-special-committee-hoax/) of the January 6 committee:

It is a political witch hunt. It is, again, the Democrats using all levers of the government against their political opposition à la the Russia Collusion hoax. These people hate Trump so much they’re willing to throw out the rule of law, and their so-called beloved “norms” to destroy their political opposition and anyone who would stand against them.

Bingo.

And note that one of the subpoena recipients is Ohio’s Rep. Jim Jordan. It was Jordan who was named by House Republican Leader McCarthy to be one of the two GOP members of this committee, the other being Indiana’s Jim Banks.

But both Jordan and Banks were blocked by Speaker Nancy Pelosi in a move that deliberately kept McCarthy from fulfilling his rightful role in appointing the Republican members of the committee. Why? Because both would demand an honest, bipartisan investigation. And for continuing that demand now, Jordan has been served with a subpoena.

And just who are the members of the committee who are corruptly conducting this show trial?

Those Democrats would be:

Rep. Bennie Thompson of Mississippi (Chairman)

Rep. Zoe Lofgren of California

Rep. Adam Schiff of California

Rep. Jamie Raskin of Maryland

Rep. Pete Aguilar of California

Rep. Stephanie Murphy of Florida

Rep. Elaine Luria of Virginia

The two Republicans, as noted, are Cheney and Kinzinger.

It isn’t rocket science to see on the spot that this is not a legitimate committee. It’s a lynch mob. And it is corruptly going about its corrupt business, the members going out of their way to protect Pelosi and themselves.

As Melissa has also [noted](https://spectator.org/nancy-pelosi-is-collecting-phone-records-conservative-movement/), the other subpoenas already issued to AT&T, Verizon, Sprint, T-Mobile, and others who are carriers of texts, emails, and phone records included

all individuals on the subscriber’s account and everyone those people messaged or spoke to. The time frame the committee demands data on is far-reaching: any and all contact with the individual for two to three months prior to January 6 and all the way to January 31, 2021. This is tens of thousands of moms, children, clergy, reporters, and Republican and conservative influencers who were in touch with everyone from White House aides to prominent activists.

So what to do about all of this?

Easy. Republicans are heavily expected to win back the House in November. And when they take office in January 2023, they should use their new investigative power to investigate each and every member of this corrupt committee. And they can begin by issuing subpoenas.

And once their investigation is complete, the House should take disciplinary action on every committee member — and former Speaker Pelosi.

Enough of this is enough.

**Finland Wants to Join Nato?**

Finland is a bad credit risk. They have defaulted on their electricity bill. So, the power provider, Russia, turned out the lights. Now, Finland wants to join NATO so they can get their power back on. Using what? Well, their proximity to Russia for Pan-European missile launchers for one thing.

Russian state firm RAO Nordic cut off all exports of electricity to Finland early Saturday.

There is no longer any Russian electricity coming to Finland, as Finnish majority-state-owned utility Fortum had already suspended electricity imports via a transmission line to Imatra on the eastern border.

State transmission system operator Fingrid had also limited remaining Russian exports in late April, so that they only accounted for about 10 percent of Finland's consumption.

Finland need not worry about an electricity shortage, according to **Reima Päivinen**, Senior Vice President of Finland's. However, he said that the Russia cut-off will push up the price of electricity, which has already risen significantly this year.

RAO Nordic is the Finnish subsidiary of the state-owned utility Inter RAO. It said on Friday evening that it would suspend the export of electricity to Finland at 1 am Saturday.

RAO Nordic said it has had difficulty receiving payments for the electricity it sells due to sanctions.

"Since the 6th of May funds have not yet been credited to our bank account. This situation is exceptional and happened for the first time in over 20 years of our trading history," the company said in a statement. "We hope that the situation will get improved [sic] soon and the electricity trade with Russia could resume," it added.

Asked by the news agency Reuters whether payments had been required to be made in roubles, a spokesperson for the European power exchange Nord Pool said: "We have never had settlements in roubles, only in euros, Norwegian crowns, Swedish crowns and Danish crowns, in line with our standard procedures."

**"Finland doing quite well without Russian electricity"**

Since late April, Russian electricity has only accounted for a tenth of Finland's total consumption.

"Of course, it's the spring-summer season so consumption has decreased from the winter peak in consumption," Fingrid's Päivinen told Yle.

"Finland is doing quite well without Russian electricity. We'll replace it with electricity from domestic production or imports, mainly from Sweden and the Baltic countries," he said.

He said it came as a surprise that RAO Nordic decided to halt imports so soon, although the cut-off had been anticipated.

**"Questionable timing"**

**Jukka Leskelä**, Managing Director of the Finnish Energy industry association, said that the timing of RAO Nordic's decision was questionable.

RAO's statement came a day after President **Sauli Niinistö** and Prime Minister **Sanna Marin** (SDP) said that they supported Finland's Nato membership, a response to Russia's attack on Ukraine.

"Such a sudden announcement raises the question of whether the reason given by RAO Nordic is genuine," Leskelä said, adding that he believes the Russian electricity cut-off is linked to Finland's pending application for Nato membership.

**More wind and nuclear coming online**

The wholesale price of electricity is likely to increase due to higher demand on the Nordic electricity market.

"This means that the price of electricity in Finland will be more expensive [on Saturday] than in Sweden, for example," said Leskelä.

However, as most consumers buy their electricity on contracts or at fixed prices, the shutoff of Russian electricity will not have an immediate impact on the average consumer, said Fingrid's Päivinen.

"Of course, when the wholesale price rises, it is also passed on to consumer prices over time," he noted.

On 22 April, Fingrid reduced the maximum capacity of Russian imported electricity from 1,300 MW to 900 MW, citing "the changing international situation".

At the time, Päivinen said that the move was related to preparing for possible hybrid measures by Russia during the Nato application process, which is likely to take several months.

"Finnish authorities have stated that there may be external interference with the infrastructure in connection with the Nato debate," Päivinen said.

Finland's self-sufficiency in electricity production is growing due to an increase in domestic wind power production and the Olkiluoto 3 nuclear reactor, which is expected to be fully operational in [September](https://yle.fi/news/3-12422726). In early May, plans for a new Russian-Finnish nuclear plant were cancelled.

"This year alone, an additional 2000 megawatts of new wind power is expected to come online. Finland is expected to become self-sufficient in electrical energy in 2023," Fingrid said on Friday.

Russia is protesting Finland’s joining of NATO. The two nations have been fighting for centuries, and only stopped fighting when Finland wanted to buy cheap Russian electricity. Sounds a peace plan to me. The NATO plan sounds like war, doesn’t it?

**SCOTUS Wars**

Over the years, you have heard me talk about the reign of the judges. This reign has been an open war against American families. President Donald Trump led a decisive turn in this war that has been raging for more than 50 years, when he appointed three justices to the supreme court and nearly 1 thousand federal judges. You will notice what he did not do, which every Democrat president has done since the second world war, was fire US attorneys.

He left them in place and let them bring their war to the judges, who were able to right the ship of justice with the constitution. That has also allowed attorney representing Americans seeking redress against the government’s oppression to make some progress. Case by case, over the past 5 years, they have made their way to the supreme court.

One such case brought to the supreme court has been corrected in relation to firearms ownership. Free speech, and yes the operation of a multi-billion dollar fetal farming industry financed by the Democrats. Each year, they send more than $500 million of your tax payments to a global corporation called Planned Parenthood to subsidize abortion mills operating in poor, black and Hispanic neighborhoods ripping babies apart in the womb and selling their organs to a trillion-dollar pharmaceutical industry. Each year, they kick back more than $50 million to the DNC to pay for campaigns to reelect those same Democrats. They pay zero dollars to Republicans or to Democrats trying to change the incumbents who benefit from those dollars. Collectively, hundreds of millions of working Americans over the decades have shared in the blame for this genocide. This genocide has killed more black babies that are born alive each year.

Finally, a case had made its way to the Supreme Court for a decision that will overturn the bloodiest act of the reign of the judges. Of course, a massive and violent battle has begun to stop them from doing just that. U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas has called the shocking [leak](https://www.theepochtimes.com/t-leak) of the draft Roe v. Wade opinion a major violation of trust that has “fundamentally” changed the high court.

[A person wearing glasses

Description automatically generated with medium confidence](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/Clarence-Thomas-700x420_0.jpg?itok=FrnK9SI9)

Thomas made the remarks at a May 13 conference in Dallas, Texas, in which he decried the leak of a draft Supreme Court opinion suggesting that the court is poised to overturn Roe v. Wade, with major implications for access to abortion.

**“I do think that what happened at the court is tremendously bad,”**he said, referring to the May 2 leak of the opinion to Politico, adding that **some time ago it would have been unthinkable for even “one line of one opinion” to have been disclosed without authorization.**

The Supreme Court has confirmed the authenticity of the draft opinion, but has called it preliminary. A ruling in the case is expected in June.

Chief Justice John Roberts has ordered a probe into the leak. Thomas said its unauthorized disclosure undercut confidence in the Supreme Court and its internal processes.

**“When you lose that trust, especially in the institution that I’m in, it changes the institution fundamentally,”** he said.

“You begin to look over your shoulder. It’s like kind of an infidelity that you can explain it, but you can’t undo it.”

**“I wonder how long we’re going to have these institutions at the rate we’re undermining them,”** Thomas said, echoing [earlier remarks](https://www.theepochtimes.com/courts-cant-be-bullied-into-delivering-outcomes-people-demand-clarence-thomas_4451822.html) in which he expressed concern about a “different attitude of the young” toward respect for institutions and the law, suggesting that this is on the decline relative to past generations.

Thomas was also critical of liberal protests outside the homes of conservative Supreme Court justices.

***“You would never visit Supreme Court justices’ houses when things didn’t go our way. We didn’t throw temper tantrums. I think it is … incumbent on us to always act appropriately and not to repay tit for tat,”*** he said.

Besides pickets in front of the homes of several conservative justices, a flurry of protests and counterprotests broke out outside the Supreme Court after Politico [obtained and published the draft opinion](https://www.theepochtimes.com/supreme-court-has-decided-to-overturn-roe-v-wade-leaked-opinion-suggests_4441941.html) that would uphold a Mississippi law banning abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy and overturn the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion nationwide.

The protests [have been loud](https://www.theepochtimes.com/pro-life-and-pro-abortion-protesters-shout-outside-the-supreme-court_4446697.html), but mostly peaceful, though [there have been reports](https://www.theepochtimes.com/pro-abortion-protestors-hit-pastors-outside-supreme-court-and-go-free_4447170.html) that pro-abortion activists have attacked pro-life pastors.

In a bid to prevent violence, police [have surrounded](https://www.theepochtimes.com/supreme-court-likely-barricaded-in-case-of-violence-police-say_4448555.html) the Supreme Court with a set of 9-foot-high metal barricades, with an officer telling an Epoch Times reporter that the move was made “just in case.”

Speaking at a May 6 judicial conference in Atlanta, Thomas said that government institutions must not allow themselves to be strong-armed into delivering outcomes that people demand.

**“We are becoming addicted to wanting particular outcomes, not living with the outcomes we don’t like,”**he said, [according to Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/world/us/after-abortion-leak-justice-thomas-warns-supreme-court-cant-be-bullied-2022-05-06/).

**“We can’t be an institution that can be bullied into giving you just the outcomes you want.”**

**The CCP is Broke**

Lately, there has been a steady marketing campaign to prepare the world for war against the CCP. Or, should I say, the CCP’s war against the free world. They are broke. The insolvency of Evergrand is just a symptom of the untenable debt the CPP has accumulated in the past 30 years. They have buried their people hopelessly. They are actively seeking to expand their larceny by force to build back their losses.

They mercilessly went after the trillion-dollar financial district in Hong Kong. **Hong Kong saw a net outflow of 65,295 and 66,334 residents in February and March respectively, according to the city’s official immigration data. The trend will remain strong, as a new poll revealed that nearly 80 percent of Hong Kong residents surveyed were interested in emigrating.**

[A city next to a body of water

Description automatically generated with medium confidence](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/GettyImages-844143084-1200x800-700x420.jpg?itok=hphEWR-N)

In mid-March, Bartra interviewed nearly 500 Hong Kong residents aged 18 and above through an online questionnaire. According to the poll, 79 percent of the respondents indicated that they are considering emigration or will consider this in the future; 48 percent indicated that it was “possible in the future,” and 31 percent indicated that they were “considering” the move.

The **top three reasons** for the consideration were for a **better living** environment (51 percent), to seek **better education for their children** (29 percent), and to **obtain multiple foreign residence status** and nationality (27 percent).

In addition, more than 40 percent of the respondents prefer investment emigration because it is simpler and more direct.

Bartra regional director Jeffrey Ling said the company received about 500 immigration enquiries in the first quarter of this year. In the past, 80 percent of successful immigration cases were professionals with stable income; and many high-income families in Hong Kong had the intention of emigrating. He believes that with the slowdown of the epidemic in Hong Kong and the cancellation of entrepreneur visas in the United Kingdom, it is expected that the number of applications to immigrate to Ireland this year will increase.

Lin said that with the immigration policy of the UK looking uncertain, and its complicated tax system, he expected some of his Hong Kong customers to consider immigrating to Ireland instead of the UK or Taiwan.

Ireland’s investment immigration program only requires immigrants to stay in Ireland for one day a year to retain their right of residence, making it easier for investors to manage existing businesses with greater flexibility.

**Citi Survey: Hong Kong Millionaires Plummet By 15 Percent**

Meanwhile, on April 26, Citibank released its “Hong Kong Multi-millionaire Survey Report 2021.”

**It is estimated that by the end of last year, there were 434,000 “millionaires” with net assets of HK$10 million or more in Hong Kong, accounting for about 7.4 percent of Hong Kong’s population, or 1 millionaire for every 13 people.** However, compared with a similar survey from the same period in 2020, that number had decreased by 15 percent, or 81,000 people. The 2021 survey was conducted between October 2021 and January 2022, with 3,786 Hong Kong residents aged 21 to 79 randomly interviewed by telephone.

In Hong Kong, a “multimillionaire” is defined as a wealthy person with a total net worth of HK$10 million (approximately $1,274,300) or more, and liquid assets of at least HK$1 million (approximately $127,400). The median net worth of these multi-millionaires was HK$15.7 million (about $2 million), a slight increase of 1.3 percent from HK$15.5 million (about $1,975,200) in the same period in 2020. About 70 percent of their assets are properties and the rest are current assets.

The report shows that the median current assets increased from 3.5 million to 4 million. Most people’s liquid assets are nearly half in cash, nearly 30 percent in stocks, and more than 20 percent in funds and bonds.

**More than 30 percent said their investment strategy had shifted to a more conservative approach because the epidemic; they tended to hold more cash, with reduced stock holdings, reduced new investments, with new invests in low-risk products.**

After two years of the pandemic, more than 70 percent of people said that their total assets had returned to pre-epidemic levels, and nearly 25 percent of them said that their total assets had increased compared to before the epidemic.

Around 30 percent of the multi-millionaires said they expect slight economic growth this year, with 24 percent feeling optimistic about the property market in the next 12 months, and**nearly 60 percent taking a wait-and-see attitude.**

**Hong Kong’s Ultra-Rich Once Surpassed New York**

**In fact, Hong Kong was once the city with the most ultra-rich in the world.**

According to the “The World Ultra Wealth Report 2018” published by Wealth-X **in September 2018, Hong Kong surpassed New York, with more than 10,000 people having assets of at least HK$235 million (about $30 million).**

According to the report, in 2017, the number of ultra-rich people in Hong Kong increased by 31 percent to about 10,000 people; New York is the city with the largest population of ultra-rich people in the United States, with nearly 9,000 people; Tokyo ranks third. At that time, the total number of ultra-rich people in the world was about 256,000, with total assets of $31.5 trillion.

As of 2020, New York ranked in first place with 113 multi-millionaires, followed by Hong Kong and the technology hub San Francisco in the second and third places respectively. In 2021, New York was still on the list, but Hong Kong and San Francisco had dropped off.

**In 2021, China’s richest people had their worst year since Bloomberg began recording the wealth of the world’s richest in 2012.**Regulations by the Chinese authorities targeting large private companies, especially high-tech industries, resulted in the loss of nearly $61 billion in assets for China’s richest.

They are also setting their sites on other sovereign nations that cannot defend themselves like Taiwan, and have openly threatened Japan, if they com to their aid.

The good news is that the CCP can only conquer nations that cannot defend themselves. They have never won a war outside their own territory, because they lack the three things any conqueror must have in order to win.

* They need reliable advanced weaponry.
* They need supply lines for an advancing army and navy.
* They need a motivated and loyal fighting force.

They have been sold advanced weaponry by American traitors. They do not make a quality product that can hold up in combat. Even their rifles are crap. Their planes cannot carry payloads, because they are cheap copies that can barely carry their own weight. They don’t build airlines. They don’t build operational naval vessels, as we often discover in war games with them. They have a populace that wants to escape at every chance they get. Their largest cities are building with people who want to be free, but who are locked into their apartments or are slaves in syndicate factories cranking out solar panels, wind generators, phones, and computers for export to industrialized nations who remain free to do so.

The CCP has an enemy against which they will eventually lose; the Chinese people.

**In desperation, the CCP is getting ready to go asymmetric in their suicidal plan to destroy the world.**

**Recent satellite images provide a rare glimpse into China’s naval development as a commercial satellite caught a Chinese submarine in a dry dock for apparent upgrades.** It is unclear if the submarine is a new type of vessel altogether or an upgraded class of nuclear-powered attack submarine.

[[A picture containing text, indoor

Description automatically generated](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/ChinaSub-1200x800.png?itok=Qw6WrVG6)A People's Liberation Army Navy submarine sits in dry dock in Huludao Port in Liaoning province, China. Image captured by Planet Labs PBC, 3 May 2022.](https://www.zerohedge.com/s3/files/inline-images/ChinaSub-1200x800.png?itok=Qw6WrVG6)

Images taken by private satellite imagery provider Planet Labs [show](https://www.reuters.com/world/china/satellite-images-raise-prospect-new-class-chinese-submarine-2022-05-10/) the submarine in dry dock in Huludao Port in Liaoning province some weeks ago. The submarine was out of water from April 24 to May 4, before being resubmerged.

**The parts of the vessel behind its superstructure and stern were shrouded with a cover, effectively concealing the area where missile launch tubes or a new, more silent propulsion system could be.**

The images were too limited to identify the vessel definitively, but it appears to be a Shang-class, Type 093 nuclear-powered attack submarine. The Type 093 is colloquially referred to as a “hunter-killer” for its combat role in seeking out and destroying other naval vessels, and weighs about 7,000 tons, making it marginally more lightweight than the U.S. Navy’s Virginia-class submarines.

China’s naval force, the People’s Liberation Army Navy (PLAN), has been evolving its submarine fleet over several years to tackle a growing range of potential demands including the protection of its burgeoning aircraft carrier fleets to hunting down enemy ships. The possible appearance of a vertical launch system (VLS) for guided [missiles](https://www.theepochtimes.com/t-missiles), however, could significantly augment the PLAN’s capabilities by introducing increased range and accuracy to the missiles used by its submarines.

Chinese state-run media China Daily [wrote](https://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-04/03/content_19989106.htm) in 2015 that future iterations of the Type 093 would have VLS **capable of launching China’s YJ-18 cruise missile.**

A report ([pdf](https://media.defense.gov/2021/Nov/03/2002885874/-1/-1/0/2021-CMPR-FINAL.PDF)) released by the Pentagon in November warned that the PLAN was introducing VLS to a number of its surface combatants, and said that it would also soon have the capability to engage enemies at long range using its submarines.

“In the near-term, the PLAN will have the capability to conduct long-range precision strikes against land targets from its submarine and surface combatants using land-attack cruise missiles, notably enhancing the PRC’s global power projection capabilities,” the report said, using an acronym for China’s official name. “The PRC is enhancing its anti-submarine warfare capabilities and competencies to protect the PLAN’s aircraft carriers and ballistic missile submarines.”

“By the mid-2020s, the PRC will likely build the Type 093B guided-missile nuclear attack submarine. This new Shang class variant will enhance the PLAN’s anti-surface warfare capability and could provide a clandestine land-attack option if equipped with land-attack cruise missiles.”

**The revelation coincides with the**[**release**](https://www.theepochtimes.com/china-testing-missiles-to-strike-ships-in-port-new-images-reveal_4463202.html)**of another set of commercial satellite images taken by Maxar Technologies**over western China’s Taklamakan Desert. Those images revealed a previously unknown missile testing site which suggested that the Chinese military could be experimenting with new, more accurate missiles intended to launch a first strike against enemy ports.

The PLAN maintains the largest navy in the world, with more than 355 ships and submarines, including more than 145 major surface combatants. Among those are six nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines and nine nuclear-powered attack submarines.

Importantly, the apparent appearance of a Type 093 submarine in dry dock is consistent with Pentagon assessments that the PLAN could work to retrofit its existing nuclear attack submarines with new weapons rather than build new submarines from scratch.

“**The PLAN could also retrofit its older surface combatants and submarines with land-attack capabilities as well**,” the November report said.

“The addition of land-attack capabilities to the PLAN’s surface combatants and submarines would provide the [PLA](https://www.theepochtimes.com/t-pla) with flexible long-range strike options. This would allow the PRC to hold land targets at risk beyond the Indo-Pacific region from the maritime domain.”

Such a development would be in line with ongoing [efforts](https://www.theepochtimes.com/china-is-studying-how-us-fights-designing-systems-intended-to-defeat-america-air-force-secretary_4443378.html) by the Chinese military to develop a fighting force capable of ejecting the United States and its allies from the Indo-Pacific, or else of deterring Western powers form interfering in its regional conflicts.

**War is Justice Denied**

I have explained to you before that humanity goes through a cycle of four areas of focus. Mostly, they are driven by the people, not elected leaders. Why? Because the human race has its most formidable power in the people. The four cycles are Mercy, Peace, Justice, and war.

After a cataclysm, when history begins anew, the people are overcome with a desire for mercy. War is horrible, of course. All people want to see an end to it, and they pray always for mercy. We are a merciful people, often turning the other cheek to those who harm us. We write our social laws to allow for it.

But there are those who take advantage of this as a sign of weakness. Meekness was never weakness, but victims are easy to find in a people who are trusting and charitable. So we set up police to take care of the 2-3% of the population that commits crime against the people. We incarcerate them to protect our homes and children and our money. This works for a while, until the criminals get into power and begin using the State to protect themselves from the people.

Finally the people will go to war when justice cannot reach those who commit these terrible crimes. It becomes necessary when the criminals make their way to the top. In our case, it is Congress and the Executive branch. Let me share a little history with you.

King James, who succeeded Good Queen Bess in 1603, was appalled at the whole institution of Parliament. He said once to Spain’s ambassador, “At their meetings, nothing is heard but cries, shouts, and confusion. I am surprised that my ancestors should ever have permitted such an institution.”

For its part, Parliament believed — rightly — that the king was trying to expand his power at their expense. They became increasingly assertive of their privileges, even as they sought to limit the king’s. A constitutional crisis began to brew that would not be over until, under the rule of James’ son and successor, the land would be bathed in blood during the English Civil War.

How does such a fight get settled? How can a just rule be found that could authoritatively resolve this and any other future fight over who is to wield the powers of the state?

Out stepped a man with a solution that England would reject, but a century and a half later, America would embrace — an independent supreme judiciary that could settle such conflicts on the basis of the deepest, constitutional substrate of the law. Scholarly, energetic, courageous, and already a sitting judge, Edward Coke argued that all just power is derived from the law. Therefore, one should turn to the law to settle the question of who properly and justly has power. And who tells what the law says? The judges!

Coke’s idea of a Supreme Court that would have the final say on constitutional questions appealed to neither James nor his Parliament. Both sides could unite in denying supremacy to a third branch of government. The king sought to subdue the judges to his will, and after James failed to control Coke’s assertions by appointing him to the King’s Bench, had him dismissed. Parliament looked to its own ability to fight the king rather than diminish their own claims themselves by setting another power over them. Coke realized he had lost, and joined the Parliamentarians. The judges, chastened by Coke’s example, began more dependably to measure their own rulings to fit the king’s desire.

With the judiciary firmly in his hand, James’ son Charles sought to undo by royal fiat Parliament’s firmest base of independence — its exclusive power to levy taxes. He pretended that forcing people to lend money to him was not a tax and when some knights refused to comply, had them arrested. In what legal history calls the Case of the Five Knights or Darnell’s Case, the knights defended themselves vigorously by claiming the taxes were unconstitutional. Charles responded and made the case, as the royal prosecutor put it, that whenever kings asserted a power as belonging to his prerogative, “there is great reason of state so to do, or else they would not do it.” The judges in the case agreed with this reasoning, meekly agreeing that law gave judges no authority to deny a king’s assertion of prerogative,

Parliament angrily rejected this circular reasoning that asserted in effect that any power the king asserted must be his legitimately. This resulted in its monumental assertion of constitutional power in the Petition of Right, which spurred Charles in turn to dissolve Parliament and rule on his own for a decade.

The English judiciary became a negligible player in the great constitutional questions of the day. The great Common Lawyer and constitutionalist John Selden was one of the lawyers for the defense in the Case of the Five Knights and saw firsthand how a judiciary subject to political control was unable to preserve constitutional freedoms. He joined Coke and others in Parliament in asserting the rights of Parliament against the king in the Petition of Right. Charles responded as most tyrants do by closing Parliament until such time as it would no longer contest him, and had Selden and others sentenced to imprisonment.

Many years later, Selden reflected with barely restrained bitterness on the uselessness of a compromised judiciary in upholding justice and the law.

We see the pageants in Cheapside, the lions and the elephants, but we do not see the men that carry them; we see the judges look big like lions, but we do not see who moves them.… There could be no mischief done in the commonwealth without a judge.

Selden had been jailed by Charles for reasons of state, not violation of any particular law. He was held in prison with no charge. That was the stick; Charles then held out a carrot: Selden could be paroled if he would acknowledge the king’s power to imprison anyone at will for unspecified matters of state. Selden should beg the king’s mercy, and stop claiming a *habeas corpus* right not to be imprisoned at the royal whim. Judges who had no independence from the king upheld Selden’s imprisonment. When judges are under the thumb of political force, the law’s protection is only for those who have power.

A little more than a century later, when the aggrieved American colonists complained that both Parliament and King were trampling upon their liberty, they could not appeal to any independent judiciary with their constitutional grievances. Their only resort then was to call on the higher law by whose right all just government has power, and on that bedrock, found an independent state that would soon write its Constitution down and enshrine a pioneering independence in its judiciary.

The Constitution takes pains to make the judiciary independent and co-equal, and so be able to hold all the powers of the government accountable to highest law, so no new revolution would be needed. A judiciary removed as removed from political pressure as possible, so it could uphold the rights of the least powerful against those with the most power, whether a legislature, a chief executive, or a passionate and powerful group seeking to shortcut the Constitution’s protections because they feel they have the power to do so.

Obama/Virtual Joe has shown its contempt for our independent constitutional judiciary from the outset. Obama’s shameful castigation of the Supreme Court during his State of the Union well reflects the shrewd and poisonous character of his opposition. In that as in so much else, Obama rarely sought an open and truthful discussion of genuine issues, but depended rather  on feint and misdirection to achieve ends he knew most would find disagreeable or abhorrent. He cared as little about Constitutional limitations, and with subtle strong-arming aimed to undercut everything in the Constitution that stood in the way of his stealth agenda.

Virtual Joe bought into Obama back then, and continues to go along with the Obama agenda, cynically dismissive of the American experiment and the genius of its Constitution. But while Obama was and remains very, very good at presenting himself as intelligent and non-threatening, Old Joe can’t conceal the destructive chaos these policies are unleashing. Incompetent in everything his high office requires, nowhere is his inadequacy more clearly revealed than in his inability to communicate. His indifference in the face of the mobs trying to thwart the process of justice and to have law decided on a basis of force rather than the People’s Constitution is not proving a winning political strategy. It may be more profoundly alienating than anything he has done yet, and that is saying a lot.

The assault of the woke believers in power *über alles* on the independent judiciary allies them with the tyrants of history more clearly than anything they have done, and that is saying a lot. The People see this. They will not forget. They will no longer forgive and have mercy. They will fall like the sword of Damocles and cut through to the truth. My prayer is that someone will call for mercy before we destroy our Constitution in the process.

**The Durham Offensive**

Rather than read the entire Durham indictment, which is damning but complex, I will share with you how the 2020 election must be decertified. The world must be set back to September of 2020, and we must try again to have a free and fair election. Let me say without equivocation, there is no going forward without correcting what has already happened.

The Global Syndicate will never let the 2022 election happen, if we do not bring these criminals organizations down once and for all. Cheat by mail was the most successful business model they ever invented, and now we know that more than 50 thousand mules stuffed ballots into metal boxes in State-sponsored and privately funded election tampering on an unprecedented scale to stop 74 million Americans who voted to put American first.

Tech executive Rodney Joffe may assert attorney-client privilege for communications he had with employees of Fusion GPS because those communications furthered Joffe and the Clinton campaign’s common interest, a federal judge presiding over the criminal case against Michael Sussmann ruled yesterday. Prosecutors will now be greatly limited in the material they may elicit from one of the two witnesses granted immunity in exchange for their testimony against Sussmann.

Sussmann, whose trial in a D.C. federal court on a false statement charge is set to begin on Monday, scored a victory Thursday when presiding judge Christopher Cooper rejected Special Counsel John Durham’s attempts to present the jury copies of emails previously withheld by Joffe, the Clinton campaign, and the Democratic National Committee as privileged. The ruling came in response to Durham’s motion to compel Fusion GPS to provide the court, for *in camera*review, 38 emails the investigative research firm withheld from the grand jury based on the Clinton campaign’s claim of attorney-client privilege and work-product privilege. The latter protects notes, memoranda, and other communications capturing the mental impressions of an attorney, or those helping an attorney prepare for litigation.

Of the 38 emails, the court held that the Clinton campaign “had no valid basis to withhold 22 of” them. Those emails, the court concluded, did not concern legal advice but involved Fusion GPS employees’ interactions “with the press as part of an affirmative media relations effort by the Clinton Campaign.” “That effort,” the court noted, “included pitching certain stories, providing information on background, and answering reporters’ questions.”

Among the emails related to the “ordinary media-relations work” undertaken on behalf of the Clinton campaign were “internal Fusion GPS discussions about the underlying data and emails circulating draft versions of one of the background white papers that was ultimately provided to the press and the FBI.” Because those emails were not written in anticipation of litigation, but instead related “solely to disseminating the information they and others had gathered,” the court held the emails were not protected by either attorney-client privilege or work-product privilege.

Although the court held those 22 emails and the related attachments were not protected by attorney-client privilege, Judge Cooper nonetheless concluded that the special counsel’s office waited too long to file its motion to compel. “As a matter of principle,” the court explained, it would not “put Mr. Sussmann in the position of having to evaluate the documents, and any implications they might have on his trial strategy, at this late date.” Accordingly, the court held, “the government will not be permitted to introduce the emails and attachments that the Court has ruled are not subject to privilege.”

In reaching this conclusion, Judge Cooper noted that the emails did not appear “particularly revelatory,” suggesting there will be little harm to the special counsel’s case against Sussmann from the court’s ruling that the emails will be inadmissible at trial. And beyond the Sussmann case, the court’s ruling inures to the special counsel’s benefit because it establishes a precedent for Durham’s team to seek access to other communications withheld based on the Clinton campaign’s claims of attorney-client privilege. In total, there were nearly 1,500 other documents Fusion GPS withheld as privileged that the special counsel’s office may move to compel the production of as part of future grand jury proceedings or trials.

While that aspect of yesterday’s ruling proves positive for the broader special counsel’s investigation, the court’s conclusion that 16 of the 38 other emails remain privileged creates larger problems for Durham’s team. Eight of those emails also involved internal communications among Fusion GPS employees, the court noted, but because the court was “unable to tell from the emails or the surrounding circumstances whether they were prepared for a purpose other than assisting Perkins Coie in providing legal advice to the Clinton Campaign in anticipation of litigation,” the court deferred to claims by Fusion GPS’s attorney Joshua Levy and Clinton campaign attorney Marc Elias that the emails related to legal advice.

Given that Elias maintained all the emails were protected by attorney-client privilege, the court’s unquestioningly accepting his word seems strange. And if a court applies the same standard to assess whether the remaining approximately 1,500 emails are privileged, the special counsel’s office may face challenges obtaining much that matters.

But it was the court’s ruling concerning the final eight emails that has the most immediate effect on the special counsel’s office, namely its prosecution of Sussmann for allegedly lying to former FBI General Counsel James Baker. The last eight emails, with attachments, consisted of two email chains initiated by Joffe to both Sussman and Fusion GPS employee Laura Seago. In opposing disclosure of the email threads, Joffe asserted that “the purpose of the [] communications at issue was to obtain [Fusion’s] assistance in cybersecurity and technical matters to allow Mr. Sussmann to provide [Mr. Joffe] competent, informed legal advice.”

The court held that Joffe’s communications to Sussmann were protected by attorney-client privilege even though the emails included a non-lawyer, Seago, because attorney-client privilege extends to communications by third parties that an attorney hires to facilitate “the effective consultation between the client and the lawyer.” In reaching this conclusion, the court reasoned that Seago’s “involvement related to the technical analysis of the data, which would naturally inform Mr. Sussmann’s advice to his client about the data.”

The court, however, ignored the fact that Fusion GPS, for whom Seago worked, was hired by Perkins Coie to assist the Clinton campaign and the DNC, *not* Joffe. And Joffe did not pay for Fusion GPS’s services, nor did Perkins Coie charge Joffe. Further, as the special counsel noted in its briefing of the issue, “Perkins Coie also had no agreement, contract, or other arrangement reflecting that Fusion GPS was providing services specifically to aid Perkins Coie’s legal representation of [Joffe].”

Nonetheless, the court held the email threads between Joffe, Sussmann, and Seago were protected by attorney-client privilege based on case law holding communications that further “a common interest” are protected. What the court didn’t say, though, but what must be true under privilege law and “the common interest rule” is that the court believed the communications furthered a common goal of Joffe and the Clinton campaign.

“The joint defense privilege,” or “the common interest rule,” is “an extension of the attorney-client privilege that protects from forced disclosure communications between two or more parties and/or their respective counsel if they are participating in a joint defense agreement.” The common interest rule “protects communications between the parties where they ‘are part of an on-going and joint effort to set up a common defense strategy’ in connection with actual or prospective litigation.” That rule applies to communications subject to the attorney-client privilege, including communications with technical experts retained to assist in the legal defense.

In this case, as prosecutors stressed in their briefing, there was no “formal or informal legal relationship” between Joffe and the DNC and the Clinton campaign. Case law holds, however, that the “parties need not agree in *writing* to pursue a common interest; the doctrine permits an exchange of confidential information when the parties have clearly and specifically agreed in some manner to pool information for a common goal.” But “without a written agreement, the party’s burden of proving that a statement was made in the common interest will undoubtedly be more difficult.”

Yet, even without a written agreement, the court found a “common interest” existed to protect Joffe’s communications with Fusion GPS’s Seago, who was hired by Elias to provide legal support to the Clinton campaign. And what was that “common interest?”

According to Joffe, he hired “Sussmann to assist him in a specific legal matter – namely, to advise him how to share sensitive information concerning an extremely litigious Presidential candidate with either investigative journalists or Government agencies without revealing his identity and exposing himself to potential liability, frivolous litigation, and/or threats of violence and/or harassment.”

So, in concluding a “common interest” existed between Joffe and the Clinton campaign, the court implicitly also found “the parties have clearly and specifically agreed in some manner to pool information for a common goal,” here the goal of feeding the press and the government the Alfa Bank hoax.

The end results then are that the special counsel’s office cannot compel Fusion GPS to turn over the eight emails between Joffe, Sussmann, and Seago. But yesterday’s holding has broader consequences for the trial because, in closing its 11-page opinion, the court noted that it “will apply the principles set forth above to any assertions of privilege during witness testimony at trial.”

That means if prosecutors seek to elicit testimony from Seago, or any other employee of Fusion GPS for that matter, on various communications with Joffe, the court could rule the questions out of bounds based on attorney-client privilege. Given that the special counsel was forced to provide Seago with immunity to obtain her testimony at Sussmann’s trial, the court’s ruling yesterday represents a setback to Durham’s case.

Durham does have a few options, including asking the appellate court to resolve the issue of privilege before the trial starts. Prosecutors may instead decide to push forward and play any claim of privilege by Seago on the stand to their advantage, using it as further evidence that Sussmann was representing Joffe and the Clinton campaign when he presented Baker with the Alfa Bank material. They may also point to the “common interest” underlying the privilege analysis as proof that yes, there was a joint venture between the Clinton campaign, Joffe, and others, sufficient to overcome the defendant’s hearsay objections to other evidence.

Whether yesterday’s ruling represents an overall loss to Sussmann or the special counsel is yet to be seen, but what is clear is that it is another damning indictment of Hillary Clinton.