

World News

In the world of chemical explosives, one of the most powerful is China Lake compound number 20, referred to as CL-20 [1]. The US defense contractor, Northrup Grumman, currently manufactures an estimated 10,000 – 20,000 pounds of CL-20 per year [2]. However, China has developed a method to improve safety, allowing it to mass produce the explosive [3]. Thus, even though the US discovered the explosive, China is out producing us.

One report indicates classified Chinese military research was conducted in Wuhan to make bat viruses infectious to humans, just prior to COVID-19 [4]. Another report indicates the first people to contract COVID-19 were conducting research on novel coronaviruses at the Wuhan Institute of Virology [5]. For example, Ben Hu, who led WIV's gain-of-function research on coronaviruses, was among the "patients zero" [6]. This new information suggests China has been deceiving the West of the origins of the virus.

Every once in a while, mother nature provides a teachable moment. Case in point, wildfires in Canada were responsible for an air quality disaster for the North East US [7]. So, for all the green environmental controls, we have no protection against events in another country. Thus, given the air is not stationary, exporting industry to places like China and India, does not reduce nor improve global air pollution.

1. Kadam, Tanmay, Eurasian Times, *Pioneered By The US, China 'Racing Ahead' Of Its Arch Rival In 'CL-20' Tech That Propels PLA's Deadly Mis-* (Continued on page 2)

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Ukraine War

Approximately 25 drones attacked the Russia capital, Moscow, hitting several buildings [1]. Drones were also used to attack Russian oil facilities located in two border towns [2]. Then, a drone hit a residential building located in southwestern Russia [3]. Meanwhile, one report indicates Russian forces blew up a dam [4]. The destruction triggered an emergency and destroyed a hydroelectric generating

station [5]. The dammed water was used to cool nuclear power sites that have since were shut down [6]. One report suggests at least 16 deaths are due to the flooding [7]. Meanwhile the war entered a new deadly phase. One report indicates nuclear weapons have been positioned inside Belarus [8]. President Putin warned the nuclear weapons would be used to prevent a strategic defeat in the Ukraine [9].

What's more, President Putin advisor, Professor Karaganov, is warning that a nuclear first strike must be a viable option [10]. This comes as President Biden is receptive to a plan to get Ukraine included within NATO [11]. Finally, the much anticipated, Ukraine counter-offensive has begun [12].

1. New York Post/
Reuters, *Drones strike*

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Special points of interest:

- Drones Attack Moscow
- CPI 4.Falls to 4.0%
- Fed Leaves Interest Rate the Same

Ukraine War

(Continued from page 1)

- Moscow as fresh wave of Russian air attacks hit Ukraine, May 30, 2023.
- Farberov, Snejana, New York Post, *Drones attack two Russian oil refineries as Ukrainian artillery again pounds border town*, May 31, 2023.
 - Keaten, Jamey, and Kozłowska, Joanna, AP/ABC News, *Drone hits residential building in southwestern Russia near border amid surge in Ukraine fighting*, June 8, 2023.
 - Griffin, Allie, New York Post, *Ukraine says Russia blew up major dam near Kherson, prompting mass evacuations*, June 6, 2023.

- Stepanenko, Vasilisa, and Blann, Susie, AP, *Major dam collapses in southern Ukraine, flooding villages as Moscow and Kyiv trade blame*, June 6, 2023.
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West, *Putin says Russian tactical nukes are being put in Belarus to stop a 'strategic defeat'*, June 16, 2023.

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- Ward, Alexander, and Mcleary, Paul, Politico, *Biden 'open' to plan that eases Ukraine's path to NATO membership*, June 15, 2023.
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Liberty doesn't work as well in practice as it does in speeches.—Will Rogers

(Continued from page 1)

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- Wolfe, Frank, Defense Daily, *CL-20 Used in Switchblade 300, May See Wider Use in JASSM-ER, LRASM, Other Munitions*, March 28, 2023.
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Wuhan Institute of Virology alongside Chinese military 'were combining world's most deadly coronaviruses to create mutant strain capable of sparking a pandemic just before the Covid outbreak began', June 11, 2023.

- Griffin, Allie, New York Post, *Wuhan lab scientists researching coronavirus were the first to contract COVID-19: report*, June 13, 2023.
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- Elamroussi, Aya, and Mascarenhas, Lauren, CNN, *Where the smoke from Canadian wildfires is headed next*, June 8, 2023.

Terrorism

In France knife attacks continue. Case in point, a 31-year-old Syrian, refugee, stabbed four children [1].

Meanwhile, terrorism in Africa continues. For example, at least 9 people were killed by Al-Shabaab militant fighters attack on the Pearl Beach Hotel in the Somalian capital Mogadishu [2]. In Uganda, Terrorists tied to the Islamic State attacked a school, killing at least 40 people [3]. The

terrorists hacked and burned the students [4].

1. BBC News, *France stabbing: Children attacked by knifeman in Annecy playground*, June 8, 2023.
2. Kennedy, Niamh, and Orie, Amarachi, CNN, *Al-Shabaab militants kill nine in hotel siege in Somalia's capital*, June 10, 2023.
3. BBC News, *Uganda school attack: 40 killed by mili-*
4. South China Morning Post/AFP, *At least 41 killed, children slashed with machetes in brutal militant attack on school in Uganda, worst for a decade*, June 17, 2023.

*Whoever won't fight when
the President calls him,
deserves to be kicked back
in his hole and kept there.*

—Lyndon B. Johnson

Economy

While the US is trying to contain inflation, China appears to be doing quite well. Case in point, there are fears that China will experience deflation [1].

Meanwhile, the US unemployment rate rose to 3.7% [2].

More good news. The consumer price index (CPI) in May increased 4% year over year [3]. As a consequence, the Federal Reserve decided not to increase the interest rate for this monthly cycle [4].

1. Pesek, William, Asia Times, *Deflation risk stalking China's economic recovery*, May 30, 2023.
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3. Evans, Brian, and Subin, Samantha, CNBC, *Stocks rise as inflation levels slow to the lowest since early 2021*, June 13, 2023.
4. Schneider, Howard, and

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*That's the good thing
about being president, I
can do whatever I want.—
Barack Obama*

