

World News

North Korea tested another intercontinental ballistic missile that was airborne for 74 minutes [1]. The significance, it could hit a target anywhere on Earth. The north is also threatening a nuclear first strike in protest to an American submarine visit to South Korea [2]. For its part, South Korea is developing a 3,000 KM range ballistic missile that carries a 8 ton warhead [3]. While the missile is supposed to be conventional, it has the capacity to carry nuclear warheads. Meanwhile, China is constructing a new type 054B frigates that is larger than its replacement [4].

During the 17th century, the world experienced a little ice age. Science has suggested the cause was due to low sunspot activity [5]. Since the beginning of July through the second week, sunspot activity has been unusually extreme [6,7]. Concurrently, record temperatures were seen on the North American, European, and Asian continents [8]. Some have blamed Climate change and El Niño for the record temperatures [9]. The question here is how much is the unusually active sun contributing to temperature increases?

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2. Choi, David, Stars and Stripes, *US submarine's visit to peninsula may warrant nuclear response, North Korea warns*, July 21, 2023.
3. Honrada, Gabriel, Asia Times, *Hyunmoo-V missile built for S Korea's nucle-*

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Ukraine War

The war moved closer to toward nuclear conflict. Case in point, the Wagner Group, during its failed coup attempt, tried to secure backpack sized nuclear devices [1]. Had they been successful, they might have been able to start a nuclear war all by themselves.

Meanwhile, following an attack on the bridge connecting the Crimea with Russia, Russian forces launched drone attacks against the Ukrainian port city of Odessa [2]. Additionally, Ukrainian forces de-

stroyed an ammunition depot located in Russian occupied Crimea [3].

The cost of the war is slowly wearing down Ukrainian forces. For instance, on average the Ukrainian forces are losing 4-5 people for a few hundred feet of gain [4].

The war continues to include targets within Russia. For instance, Russia claims it shot down a Ukrainian missile over the city of Taganrog [5]. Separately, there are reports of a large explosion in the city's center [6]. Them at least one drone

struck a non-residential office building in Moscow [7].

The cost of the war is helping some countries. For example, North Korea is selling poor quality missiles to the Ukraine [8].

Another report indicates around 100 Wagner Group mercenaries were seen moving toward the Polish border [9]. There is fear they could pose as migrants and slip across the border into Poland [10].

1. Farberov, Snejana,

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Special points of interest:

- Fed Hike Interest Rate 0.25%
- Second Quarter GDP 2.4% Rate

Ukraine War

(Continued from page 1)

- New York Post, *Wagner mercenaries reportedly tried to steal backpack-size nukes during mutiny*, July 11, 2023.
2. Dana, Felipe, ABC News/AP, *Russia targets Ukraine's port of Odesa and calls it payback for a strike on a key bridge to Crimea*, July 18, 2023.
 3. Nechyporenko, Kostan, and Carey, Andrew, CNN, *Ukraine hits Crimea ammunition dump, sparking evacuations and disrupting transport*, July 22, 2023.
 4. Shoaib, Alia, Business Insider, *Ukraine is losing on average 4-5 men to advance a few hundred feet in its counter-offensive, causing morale to suffer*, report says, July 23, 2023.
 5. Pavlova, Uliana, CNN, *Russia says it shot down Ukrainian missile over southern city with 14 injured*, July 28, 2023.
 6. Pennington, Josh, et. al., CNN, *Ukrainian drones intercepted across Russia, military says*, July 30, 2023.
 7. Austin, Henry, NBC News, *Explosion rocks Russian city close to Ukraine border*, July 28, 2023.
 8. Vlamis, Kelsey, Business Insider, *Ukraine got its hands on North Korean rockets that troops say are wildly unpredictable and 'do crazy things,' and they're lobbing them at the Russians*, July 28, 2023.
 9. Goillandeau, Martin, et. al., CNN, *Wagner troops moving towards Polish border and could try sneaking across, PM says*, July 29, 2023.
 10. Easton, Adam, & Gregory, James, BBC News, *Wagner could pose as migrants to enter EU, PM Morawiecki warns*, July 29, 2023.

*The happiness of society is
the end of government.*—

John Adams

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- ar ambitions*, July 21, 2023.
4. Honrada, Gabriel, Asia Times, *China cranking up production of game-changing frigate*, July 18, 2023.
 5. Schilling, Govert, Science, *Did Quiet Sun Cause Little Ice Age After All?*, May 26, 2011.
 6. Guenot, Marianne, Business Insider, *The sun has produced a record number of sunspots – and it could mean power outages, ground-*
 7. Bartels, Meghan, Scientific American, *Stunning, Hours-Long Solar Flare Unleashes Plasma Blob*, July 18, 2023.
 8. Mishra, Stuti, Independent, *What is driving the record-breaking global heat-waves across three continents?*, July 19, 2023.
 9. Price, Kiley, Space, *Global temperatures were the hottest on record for 3 days in a row in July*, July 13, 2023.

Terrorism

China has one of the toughest gun control laws anywhere [1]. However, this did not stop a knife-wielding man from attacking a kindergarten, killing six [2].

It is not uncommon for feuding Mexican drug cartels to block roads leading into the US [3]. However, we are now starting to see terrorist tactics used in the middle east. For example, in the West Mexican township of Tlajomulco, a drug cartel set off a coordinated series of seven roadway bombs, killing at least four police officers [4].

In Auckland, New Zealand, a man armed with a pump shotgun went on a shooting spree, killing two people [5]. A motive is still not known.

1. Yeung, Jessie, and George, Steve, CNN, *China and the US were*

both born from armed conflict. They're now polar opposites on gun control, September 20, 2021.

2. Ng, Kelly, and Wingfield-Hayes, Rupert, BBC News, *China kindergarten stabbing: Six dead in Lianjiang*, July 10, 2023.
3. AP, *Feuding Mexican cartels block roads near US border*, May 2, 2023.
4. Stevenson, Mark, ABC News/AP, *Roadway bombs planted by drug cartel in Mexico kill 4 police officers, 2 civilians*, July 12, 2023.
5. Subramaniam, Tara, CNN, *Gunman kills two in Auckland hours before Women's World Cup opening ceremony*, July 20, 2023.

Men willingly believe what they wish.—Julius Caesar

Economy

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation metric for June continued to cool with a year-to-year rate of 3% [1].

Meanwhile, the Fed increased the interest rates by 0.25% [2].

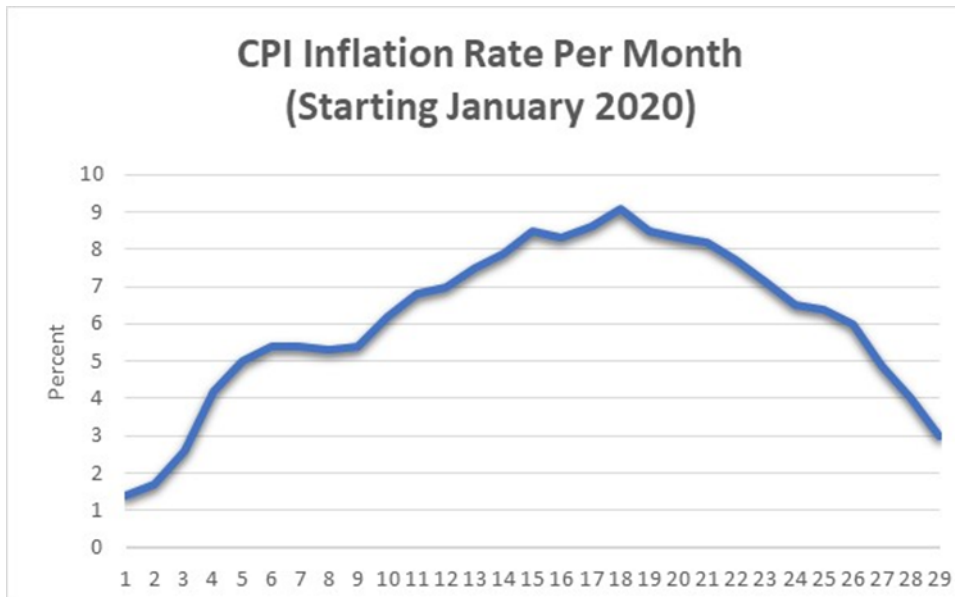
Overall. The economy looks okay. Case in point, the Gross Domestic Product grew at a 2.4% rate for the second quarter [3].

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ly, July 12, 2023.

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3. Ivanova, Irina, CBS News, *What recession? Latest GDP data shows economy is holding firm*, July 27, 2023.



*Remember upon the
conduct of each depends
the fate of all.—Alexander
the Great*
