

U.S. Bioweapon Development and COVID-19

**Links to Documents Revealing
The Origin of the Coronavirus Pandemic**

January 2021

U.S. Bioweapon Development: A Timeline

Introduction

Where Did COVID-19 Come From?

COVID-19 has spread rapidly throughout the world, in late 2020 having infected almost 58 million people and killing more than 1 million in what has been described as a “black swan” event. It has been likened to the 1918 influenza pandemic and earlier epidemics caused by viruses and bacteria occurring in nature.

However, the record of actions taken by various individuals, governments, and organizations over the past 70 years demonstrates how pathogens in nature have been deliberately manipulated to make them more contagious and virulent than they would be if they were occurring purely in nature. The attached timeline includes evidence that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that has produced the current pandemic, has been genetically manipulated to make it highly transmissible -- and dangerous.

This manipulation of pathogens to make them more dangerous than they would be in their natural state is called “gain of function” (GoF) research. It began in the U.S. as part of a growing and increasingly lavishly funded bioweapon program. Today, thousands of microbiologists working in high level biosafety containment laboratories carry out this type of research in the U.S. and abroad. Many accidents and leaks which have injured and killed people have occurred and continue to occur.

The outcome – a global pandemic – was probable, predictable, and inevitable.

Although bioweapon development is called “defensive,” the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates there is no such thing when it comes to germ warfare. Viruses and bacteria make no distinction between those on “our” side and those on a designated enemy’s side.

The state we are in today is clearly due to a continued stream of military funding for all kinds of weapons: conventional, nuclear, chemical and biological. Corporations, private companies, universities, institutes and individuals profit greatly from this largess. There is no doubt that fear-driven escalation, scientific curiosity, and even altruistic pursuit of health have also led to this highly dangerous research.

But if we do not learn from this lesson and end gain of function research, we will face more “black swan” health crises in the future, with devastating consequences for human health and life here in the U.S. and around the world.

U.S. Bioweapon Development: A Timeline

Highlights Related to COVID-19

The attached timeline provides dates, sources, headlines, excerpts and links to testimony, articles and videos demonstrating that COVID-19 is a result of decades of U.S. bioweapon development. The chronology tells the story of the push for such development and the opposition to it. Here are key but little-known facts from the compilation:

- The timeline and its attachment show that by the 1940's the U.S. military had begun researching and developing biological weapons.
- In 1969, prior to the emergence of HIV/AIDS, a Department of Defense spokesman at a congressional appropriations hearing stated that for \$10 million in congressional funding a research program could be funded to study the feasibility of developing a synthetic infective microorganism, an “agent that does not naturally exist and for which no natural immunity could have been acquired.” Such agent, he said, “might be refractory” [i.e., destructive] “to the immunological and therapeutic processes upon which we depend to maintain our relative freedom from infectious disease.” HIV/AIDS emerged a few years later. (There is no vaccine for this devastating disease.)
- Although the U.S. ratified the *1972 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction* and enacted into law the *Biological Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act of 1989* making bioweapon development a criminal offense punishable with life in prison, bioweapon development continued.
- By the 1980's, both government and private money was flowing to biosafety labs (BSL's) to study pathogens. The highest levels of these labs – BSL 3 and 4 – gave dangerous viruses “gain of function” (GOF) to make them more lethal and transmissible; i.e., to weaponize them. This was accomplished primarily through both genetic manipulation (engineering) of viruses and the passing of wild viruses through live animals until they mutated into a form that could pose a pandemic threat.
- Bioweapon expert Dr. Francis Boyle explained that by the late 1980's scientists at many American universities or working for U.S. government laboratories were abusing DNA genetic engineering. Under U.S. government (usually military) contracts or subcontracts, the work pattern was to develop an offensive biological agent, then to develop an allegedly “defensive” vaccine, then to make the agent airborne (aerosolized), then to test the aerosolized agent to make sure it killed animals akin to human beings, such as pigs, and then turn the products of their “research and development” over to the Pentagon.
- Following the September 11, 2001 attacks, the U.S. launched the “War on Terror” and substantially increased military funding, including funding for biological weapon development. Massive amounts of federal funds were made available to universities and other organizations to sponsor such work. By the early 2000's, there were hundreds of BSL labs and thousands of researchers working on pathogens in the labs.

- In 2005, 750 of the nation’s leading microbiology researchers formally protested the growing focus on funding for “biodefense.”
- *Newsweek* reported in 2020 that a decade earlier more than 200 scientists called for gain of function work to be halted. The problem, they said, is that it increased the likelihood that a pandemic would occur through a laboratory accident.
- After dangerous accidents occurred in some of the labs, in 2014 the Obama administration imposed a partial moratorium on gain of function funding on influenza, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The moratorium was lifted in 2017.
- In response to the 2014 moratorium, some of the gain of function work being done at U.S. labs, such as one at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, was outsourced to a relatively new BSL in Wuhan, China – the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV). The WIV was licensed to receive U.S. funding and was funded by the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), directed by Dr. Anthony Fauci. It was accredited by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- The coronavirus known as COVID-19, which emerged in 2019 and was pandemic by 2020, is a SARS-CoV-2 virus which virologists have found was genetically engineered to both attach to and then penetrate human cells.
- A shocking finding emerged as experts examined the COVID-19 virus. French virologist Luc Montagnier, who won the 2008 Nobel prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery of HIV (in 1984), found that the HIV virus had been genetically manipulated into the SARS-CoV-2 virus to produce COVID-19. Montagnier and an associate published a lengthy technical paper demonstrating this finding in August 2020. A link to the paper is included in the excerpt discussing Montagnier’s findings on page 18 of the timeline.
- A detailed article about the origin of COVID-19 by researcher and author of several novels and non-fiction books Nicholson Baker is published in the January 4, 2021 issue of *New York Magazine*. See page 19 of the timeline.

All facts and content in this timeline come from the experts and journalists who wrote the articles and books referenced and quoted in the timeline. The articles were compiled in 2020-early Jan. 2021 by deeply concerned Americans in the hope that as more Americans learn about bioweapon development and its consequences such development can and will be ended.

What you can do

If you agree that gain of function research on dangerous pathogens and bioweapon development in general must be ended:

- Send this document to your friends and colleagues, with a short message from you.
- Send it to any and all media sources you can: local newspapers, radio/TV commentators, independent blogs and websites.
- Send it to your senators and congressional representative and ask:
 - a) for a congressional investigation into the origin of COVID-19 and
 - b) that the investigation include why the U.S. National Institutes of Health/NIAID outsourced research on the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) virus to the Wuhan Institute of Virology in Wuhan, China after the U.S. put a moratorium on funding that research in 2014 and why the moratorium was lifted in 2017.

Tell them that the people must have a full, complete understanding of the nature of the virus. To avoid addressing the origin of COVID-19 is to perpetuate the disease- and death-dealing cowardice of leaders which has so contributed to the spread of this genetically engineered virus.

- Discuss the history of U.S. biological weapon development with colleagues and members of relevant advocacy groups in your area. Insert the subject of vaccine in relation to genetically modified viruses: how safe/ effective can a vaccine be, given the engineered composition of the virus? To protect yourself and those you love from possible vaccine injury, learn everything you can about vaccine against pathogens which have been genetically altered in a lab.

U.S. Bioweapon Development: A Timeline

From Government, Mainstream/Corporate and Independent Sources

1969 (See additional events before and after 1969 in the article by Tom Burghardt at the end of this document.)

DoD Says U.S. Policy is to Develop and Maintain a Defensive Chemical-Biological Capacity.

Timing and Funding to Study a Synthetic Microbiological Agent to Destroy the Human Immune System is Discussed in a Congressional Hearing.

"It is the policy of the United States to develop and maintain a defensive chemical-biological (CB) capability...." Office of the Secretary of Defense position paper in the Department of Defense Appropriations for 1970; Hearings Before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, June 9, 1969, p. 10

At the above hearing, subcommittee witness Dr. Donald MacArthur, Deputy Director (Research and Technology), D.D.R. & E. stated, "Molecular biology is a field that is advancing very rapidly, and eminent biologists believe that within a period of 5 to 10 years it would be possible to produce a synthetic biological agent, an agent that does not naturally exist and for which no natural immunity could have been acquired." He provided the following observations made by "a small body of experts":

1. "All biological agents up to the present time are representatives of naturally occurring disease and are thus known by scientists throughout the world. They are easily available to qualified scientists for research, either for offensive or defensive purposes.
2. "Within the next 5 to 10 years, it would probably be possible to make a new infective microorganism which could differ in certain important aspects from any known disease-causing organisms. **Most important of these [aspects] is that it might be refractory to the immunological and therapeutic processes upon which we depend to maintain our relative freedom from infectious disease.** (*emphasis added*)
3. "A research program to explore the feasibility of this could be completed in approximately 5 years at a total cost of \$10 million...." *Ibid.*, p. 129

The context of MacArthur's presentation was a perceived need for the U.S to develop such a biological agent before other countries did in order to "devise defensive measures." *Ibid*, p., 129

The time projected at this hearing for how long it would take to "explore the feasibility" of developing a synthetic biological agent fits with the beginnings of HIV/AIDS, which emerged in the 1970's and was at epidemic levels by the early 1980's.

1969-1973

Offensive Biological Warfare Program Is Wound Down.

“To its great credit, during the Nixon administration the U.S. government did eventually wind down its offensive biological warfare program. But most ominously, there lurked in the bowels of the Pentagon the remnants of the old Chemical and Biological Warfare unit, waiting, wishing, hoping, planning, and scheming to spring back into life.” (Boyle, Francis A., *Biowarfare and Terrorism*, Clarity Press, Inc., 2005, p. 17)

1971

CIA Link to Cuban Pig Virus Reported: 1971 Mystery

San Francisco Chronicle, January 10, 1977, Front page:

“With at least the tacit backing of U.S. Central Intelligence Agency officials, operatives linked to anti-Castro terrorists introduced African swine fever virus into Cuba in 1971. Six weeks later an outbreak of the disease forced the slaughter of 500,000 pigs to prevent a nationwide animal epidemic. **A U.S. intelligence source told Newsday last week he was given the virus in a sealed, unmarked container at a U.S. Army base and CIA training ground in the Panama Canal Zone, with instructions to turn it over to the anti-Castro group.** The 1971 outbreak, the first and only time the disease has hit the Western Hemisphere, was labeled the "most alarming event" of 1971 by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization. African swine fever is a highly contagious and usually lethal viral disease that infects only pigs and, unlike swine flu, cannot be transmitted to humans. All production of pork, a Cuban staple, halted, apparently for several months.”

<https://www.uky.edu/~rmfarl2/cubabio1.htm>

1975

U.S. Ratifies the Bioweapons Convention.

“Eventually the United States supported the negotiation, conclusion and ratification of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972, which entered into force on 26 March 1975 (hereinafter referred to as the BWC)” (*Ibid.*, p. 16)

Francis A. Boyle drafted the BWC and the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1989 and authored the 2005 book *Biowarfare and Terrorism*, cited extensively in this document. Currently (2020), he is international law professor at the University of Illinois School of Law. Here is a highly informative 2020 interview with him: "**Creator of Bioweapons Act Says Coronavirus is Biological Warfare Weapon.**"

<https://www.informationclearinghouse.info/53001.htm>

1981

Biological Warfare Program is Wound Up.

“Then in 1981 the Reagan administration came to power, staffed with many of its self-styled Neoconservative operatives, who were embedded at the Pentagon....The Reaganites took the position that America would exploit its technological superiority in all facets of scientific endeavor for war-related purposes: nuclear, chemical, biological, space lasers, computers, etc. So, the Reaganites began to pour massive amounts of money into researching and developing biological agents for what they alleged to be “defensive” purposes.” (Boyle, *Ibid.*, p. 17)

Late 1980's

Genetic Engineering on Biological Agents and Vaccine Creation Increases.

“By the late 1980's, it became patently obvious that scientists at many American universities or working for U.S. government laboratories were abusing DNA genetic engineering (1) to develop an offensive biological agent; (2) then an allegedly ‘defensive’ vaccine; (3) aerosolizing the agent; (4) testing the aerosolized agent to make sure it killed animals akin to human beings such as pigs; and then (5) turning the products of their ‘research and development’ over to the Pentagon.” (Boyle, *Ibid.*, p. 21)

1989

The Biological Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act of 1989 is Passed Unanimously by Both Houses of Congress and Signed into Law by President H.W. Bush. It states:

“Whoever knowingly develops, produces, stockpiles, transfers, acquires, retains, or possesses any biological agent, toxin, or delivery system for use as a weapon, or knowingly assists a foreign state or any organization to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for life or any term of years, or both. There is extraterritorial Federal jurisdiction over an offense under this section committed by or against a national of the United States.” <https://www.congress.gov/bill/101st-congress/senate-bill/993/text>

1990

U.S Soldiers Are Inoculated with Anthrax and Botulin Toxin in Violation of Nuremburg Code

“In the late fall, in preparation for (the first) war against Iraq, Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney orders ‘all U.S. armed forces deploying for the zone of hostilities to be inoculated with experimental vaccines for anthrax and botulin toxin....’ This is done prior to FDA approval of the vaccines and without the soldiers’ informed consent and is therefore in “clear-cut violation of the Nuremburg Code on Medical Experimentation.” (Boyle, *Ibid.*, pp. 35-36)

2001

Super-Weapons-Grade Anthrax Developed Through DNA Genetic Engineering Is Used Following the 9/11 Attacks

Soon after the 9/11 attacks, anthrax is mailed to Senators Daschle and Leahy and others, killing five people and injuring others. The letters contained super-weapons-grade anthrax that had been treated to eliminate electrostatic charges so it could float in the air. (Boyle, *Ibid.*, p. 40, citing *New York Times* articles on Oct. 25, 2001 at pages A1 and B6)

The *New York Times* reports that with funding provided during the Clinton administration:

- “A U.S. government agency was developing an immune resistant strain of anthrax by means of DNA genetic engineering.
- “A U.S. government agency had developed super-weapons grade anthrax in quantities and strengths that had no legitimate “defensive” purpose whatsoever.
- “A U.S. government agency had constructed a biowarfare bomb factory where they were testing their capability to ‘produce’ biological weapons.”

(Boyle, *Ibid.*, pp. 37-38, citing a NYT story on Dec. 13, 2001, p. A1)

2002

“Since December 2002, the United States government has had in place an official policy providing the policy framework it would need in order to initiate, fight and ‘win’ a war of aggression by means of nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) weapons of mass destruction. (WMD)” (Boyle, *Ibid.*, p. 53)

2005

Massive Amounts of Government Funds Are Devoted to Biowarfare Development.

After the attacks of 9/11 and the related anthrax attacks, “massive amounts of government funds devoted to biowarfare development by the Bush Jr. administration...co-opt and divert the U.S. biotech industry toward biowarfare purposes. According to Rutgers University molecular biologist Richard H. Ebright, over 300 scientific institutes and 12,000 individuals...have access to pathogens suitable for biowarfare and terrorism, with an increasing number of researchers having no prior experience in this area.” (Boyle, *Ibid.*, p. 26, citing Nick Schwellenbach, *A Plague of Researchers, Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*, May/June 2005, pp. 14-16)

Seven hundred and fifty of the nation’s leading microbiological researchers protest shift to “biodefense” spending. Signatories to the protest letter, including at least five past presidents and the then acting president of the American Society for Microbiology, ask the Bush Jr. administration to “return the nation’s scientific focus to more basic pathogens, contending that the shift in emphasis to ‘biodefense’ spending represents a ‘misdirection’ of priorities that has caused a ‘crisis’ in microbiological research.” (Boyle, *Ibid.*, p. 23, citing Michael Scherer, *Health Warning, Mother Jones*, March 1, 2005)

2006

“Donald Rumsfeld Makes \$5m Killing on Bird Flu Drug”

“2006-03-12, *Independent* (one of the UK's leading newspapers): The US Defense Secretary has made more than \$5m (£ 2.9m) in capital gains from selling shares in the biotechnology firm that discovered and developed Tamiflu, the drug being bought in massive amounts by Governments to treat a possible human pandemic of the disease. More than 60 countries have so far ordered large stocks of the antiviral medication - the only oral medicine believed to be effective against the deadly H5N1 strain of the disease - to try to protect their people. The United Nations estimates that a pandemic could kill 150 million people worldwide. **The drug was developed by a Californian biotech company, Gilead Sciences. Mr. Rumsfeld was on the board of Gilead from 1988 to 2001 and was its chairman from 1997.** He then left to join the Bush administration but retained a huge shareholding. The 2005 report showed that, in all, he owned shares worth up to \$95.9m, from which he got an income of up to \$13m. The firm made a loss in 2003, the year before concern about bird flu started. Then revenues from Tamiflu almost quadrupled, to \$44.6m, helping put the company well into the black. Sales almost quadrupled again, to \$161.6m last year.” <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/donald-rumsfeld-makes-5m-killing-on-birdflu-drug-6106843.html> Summary from www.WanttoKnow.info

2009

“Letting the Beast Out of the (Corporatist) Bottle: Obama Channels Bush on Bioweapons”

Detailed article by Tom Burghardt describing the then-new Obama administration's refusal to revive negotiations on a verification protocol for the Biological Weapons Convention and how the “Alliance for Biosecurity, a Big Pharma lobby shop” of over thirteen pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, lobbies for increased funding for biological weapon development. (*Blacklisted News*, December 19, 2009) <https://www.uncommonthought.com/mtblog/archives/2009/12/20/letting-the-bea.php>

2010

“Biolabs Multiplying Like Rabbits”

“Earlier this year, during an audit of the nation's largest Level-4 Biosafety Lab (BSL-4) at Fort Detrick (in Frederick, Maryland), 9,220 vials of Ebola, anthrax, botulinum, equine encephalitis virus, and other deadly germs were discovered in the proverbial dusty old storage area. No one even knew the vials existed and thus no one knows for sure whether any are missing.... But the most important question remains unanswered: can any BSL-4, the labs with the deadliest, often highly contagious, bacteria and viruses, ever be truly fail-safe?” *Huffington Post*: https://www.huffpost.com/entry/biolabs-multiplyinglike_b_358985

2014

Obama Administration Bans Funding to Weaponize Three Diseases

The US government bans all federal funding on efforts to weaponize influenza, Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). The moratorium is lifted in 2017. <https://www.newsweek.com/dr-fauci-backed-controversial-wuhan-lab-millions-us-dollarsrisky-coronavirus-research-1500741> See also <https://www.nature.com/news/us-suspends-risky-diseaseresearch-1.16192>

2015

U.S. Funds Wuhan (China) Institute of Virology to Continue Banned Research.

"Why US outsourced bat virus research to Wuhan: US-funded \$3.7 million project approved by Trump's COVID-19 guru Dr Anthony Fauci in 2015 after US ban imposed on 'monster-germ' research"

"Back in October 2014, the US government had placed a federal moratorium on gain-of-function (GOF) research – altering natural pathogens to make them more deadly and infectious – as a result of rising fears about a possible pandemic caused by an accidental or deliberate release of these genetically engineered monster germs. This was in part due to lab accidents at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in July 2014 that raised questions about biosafety at US high-containment labs. At that time, the CDC had closed two labs and halted some biological shipments in the wake of several incidents in which highly pathogenic microbes were mishandled by US government laboratories: an accidental shipment of live anthrax, the discovery of forgotten live smallpox samples and a newly revealed incident in which a dangerous influenza strain was accidentally shipped from the CDC to another lab. A CDC internal report described how scientists failed to follow proper procedures to ensure samples were inactivated before they left the lab, and also found 'multiple other problems' with operating procedures in the anthrax lab. As such in October 2014, because of public health concerns, the US government banned all federal funding on efforts to weaponize three viruses – influenza, Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). In the face of a moratorium in the US, Dr Anthony Fauci – the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and currently the leading doctor in the US Coronavirus Task Force – outsourced in 2015 the GOF research to China's Wuhan lab and licensed the lab to continue receiving US government funding. The Wuhan lab is now (2020) at the center of scrutiny for possibly releasing the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus and causing the global COVID-19 pandemic. It is understandable that the Chinese lab likely struggled with safety issues given the fact US labs share similar problems, and indeed in January 2018 the US Embassy in Beijing sent cables warning about the safety of the Wuhan lab and asked for help. Additionally, the embassy warned that researchers 'showed that various SARS-like coronaviruses can interact with ACE2, the human receptor identified for SARS-coronavirus.'" <https://asiatimes.com/2020/04/why-us-outsourcedbat-virus-research-to-wuhan/>

Newsweek reports "Dr. Fauci Backed Controversial Wuhan Lab with U.S. Dollars for Risky Coronavirus Research"

In a Feb. 28, 2020 article, *Newsweek* reported, "The program followed another \$3.7 million, 5-year project for collecting and studying bat coronaviruses, which ended in 2019, **bringing the total to \$7.4 million**....Many scientists have criticized gain of function research, which involves manipulating viruses

in the lab to explore their potential for infecting humans, because it creates a risk of starting a pandemic from accidental release....SARS-CoV-2, the virus now causing a global pandemic, is believed to have originated in bats. U.S. intelligence, after originally asserting that the coronavirus had occurred naturally, conceded last month that the pandemic may have originated in a leak from the Wuhan lab....According to Richard Ebricht, an infectious disease expert at Rutgers University, the project description refers to experiments that would enhance the ability of bat coronavirus to infect human cells and laboratory animals using techniques of genetic engineering. In the wake of the pandemic, that is a noteworthy detail.... Dr. Fauci is renowned for his work on the HIV/AIDS crisis in the 1990s. Born in Brooklyn, he graduated first in his class from Cornell University Medical College in 1966. As head of NIAID since 1984, he has served as an adviser to every U.S. president since Ronald Reagan.... A decade ago, during a controversy over gain-of-function research on bird-flu viruses, Dr. Fauci played an important role in promoting the work. He argued that the research was worth the risk it entailed because it enables scientists to make preparations, such as investigating possible anti-viral medications, that could be useful if and when a pandemic occurred....The work in question was a type of gain-of-function research that involved taking wild viruses and passing them through live animals until they mutate into a form that could pose a pandemic threat. Scientists used it to take a virus that was poorly transmitted among humans and make it into one that was highly transmissible—a hallmark of a pandemic virus. This work was done by infecting a series of ferrets, allowing the virus to mutate until a ferret that hadn't been deliberately infected contracted the disease.... The work entailed risks that worried even seasoned researchers. More than 200 scientists called for the work to be halted. The problem, they said, is that it increased the likelihood that a pandemic would occur through a laboratory accident." <https://www.newsweek.com/dr-fauci-backedcontroversial-wuhan-lab-millions-us-dollars-risky-coronavirus-research-1500741>."

For more on U.S. funding for Wuhan lab research see this National Public Radio story: <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/04/29/847948272/why-the-u-s-government-stoppedfunding-a-research-project-on-bats-and-coronavirus>

2017

U.S. Lifts Moratorium on Altering Germs to Make Them More Lethal.

***New York Times*: “A Federal Ban on Making Lethal Viruses Is Lifted”**

“Federal officials on Tuesday ended a moratorium imposed three years ago on funding research that alters germs to make them more lethal.

“Such work can now proceed, said Dr. Francis S. Collins, the head of the National Institutes of Health, but only if a scientific panel decides that the benefits justify the risks.

“Some scientists are eager to pursue these studies because they may show, for example, how a bird flu could mutate to more easily infect humans, or could yield clues to making a better vaccine.

“Critics say these researchers risk creating a monster germ that could escape the lab and seed a pandemic.” <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/19/health/lethal-viruses-nih.html>

“The U.S. Is Funding Dangerous Experiments It Doesn’t Want You to Know About”

2019-02-27, *Washington Post* “In 2014, U.S. officials imposed a moratorium on experiments to enhance some of the world’s most lethal viruses by making them transmissible by air, responding to widespread concerns that a lab accident could spark a global pandemic. Apparently, the government has decided the research should now move ahead. **In the past year, the U.S. government quietly greenlighted funding for two groups of researchers ... to conduct transmission-enhancing experiments on the bird flu virus. Neither the approval nor the deliberations or judgments that supported it were announced**

publicly. This lack of transparency is unacceptable. Making decisions to approve potentially dangerous research in secret betrays the government’s responsibility to inform and involve the public when approving endeavors ... that could put health and lives at risk. **Hundreds of researchers ... publicly opposed these experiments** when they were first announced. In response to these concerns, the government issued a framework in 2017 for special review of “enhanced” pathogens that could become capable of causing a pandemic. The framework ... requires that experts in public-health preparedness and response, biosafety, ethics and law, among others, evaluate the work, but it is unclear from the public record if that happened. This secrecy means we don’t know how these requirements were applied, if at all, to the experiments now funded by the government.” https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-us-isfunding-dangerous-experiments-it-doesnt-want-you-to-know-about/2019/02/27/5f60e934-38ae-11e9a2cd-307b06d0257b_story.html Above summary from www.WanttoKnow.info

“Trump’s Top Coronavirus Doctor Called for Health Emergency Fund Back in 2017, Warned U.S. Would Face a ‘Surprise Outbreak’”

2020-03-12, *Newsweek*. “Dr. Anthony Fauci, a leading health expert and member of President Donald Trump’s coronavirus task force, predicted three years ago that the administration would have to deal with a surprise disease outbreak. **The director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) told a Georgetown University event on pandemic preparedness in January 2017 that there was ‘no doubt’ President Trump’s team would face ‘challenges that their predecessors were faced with’ over infectious diseases.** He also called for the creation of a ‘public health emergency fund’ aimed at handling situations such as a surprise virus outbreak, adding that waits for funding had been ‘painful’ in the past. Delivering a keynote speech at the Georgetown University Medical Center event, Dr. Fauci said: ‘If there’s one message that I want to leave with you today... is that there is no question that there will be a challenge to the coming administration in the arena of infectious diseases. Both chronic infectious diseases in the sense of already ongoing disease, and we have certainly a large burden of that, but also there will be a surprise outbreak. And I hope by the end of my relatively short presentation you will understand why history ... will tell the next administration that there’s no doubt in anyone’s mind that they will be faced with the challenges that their predecessors were faced with.’ He went on to note that over his career he had advised several presidents on a range of emerging infectious diseases.” <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-coronavirus-doctor-predicted-outbreak-called-e...> Above summary is from www.WanttoKnow.info, which adds this note:” How could Fauci possibly have known with such certainty back in 2017 that there would be a surprise outbreak?”

Washington Post: “State Department Cables Warned of Safety Issues at Wuhan Lab Studying Bat Viruses “

“Two years before the novel coronavirus pandemic upended the world, U.S. Embassy officials visited a Chinese research facility in the city of Wuhan several times and sent two official warnings back to Washington about inadequate safety at the lab, which was conducting risky studies on coronaviruses from bats. The cables have fueled discussions inside the U.S. government about whether this or another Wuhan lab was the source of the virus — even though conclusive proof has yet to emerge.

“In January 2018, the U.S. Embassy in Beijing took the unusual step of repeatedly sending U.S. science diplomats to the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV), which had in 2015 become China’s first laboratory to achieve the highest level of international bioresearch safety (known as BSL-4). WIV issued a news release in English about the last of these visits, which occurred on March 27, 2018. The U.S. delegation was led by Jamison Fous, the consul general in Wuhan, and Rick Switzer, the embassy’s counselor of

environment, science, technology and health. Last week, WIV [erased](#) that statement from its website, though it remains archived on the Internet....

“The Chinese researchers at WIV were receiving assistance from the Galveston National Laboratory at the University of Texas Medical Branch and other U.S. organizations, but the Chinese requested additional help. The cables argued that the United States should give the Wuhan lab further support, mainly because its research on bat coronaviruses was important but also dangerous.

” As the cable noted, the U.S. visitors met with Shi Zhengli, the head of the research project, who had been publishing studies related to bat coronaviruses [for many years](#). In November 2017, just before the U.S. officials’ visit, Shi’s team had [published research](#) showing that horseshoe bats they had collected from a cave in Yunnan province were very likely from the same bat population that spawned the SARS coronavirus in 2003.”

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/04/14/state-department-cables-warned-safety-issueswuhan-lab-studying-bat-coronaviruses/>

(It should be noted that the bat caves are in southern China, over 1,000 miles from the large city of Wuhan, where the bats were being studied in the Wuhan Institute of Virology, or perhaps also in the nearby Wuhan Center for Disease Control and Prevention lab, which operates at biosecurity level 2. There was no connection to a “wet market” where seafood, animals and such were sold for consumption. The “wet market” theory appears to be a cover-up for work on viruses – whether from bats or other source -- being conducted in labs. Josh Rogan, the author of the above-quoted article, wrote, “As my colleague David Ignatius [noted](#), the Chinese government’s original story — that the virus emerged from a seafood market in Wuhan — is shaky. Research by Chinese experts published in [the Lancet](#) in January showed the first known patient, identified on Dec. 1, had no connection to the market, nor did more than one-third of the cases in the first large cluster. Also, the market didn’t sell bats.”)

USNORTHCOM Branch Plan 3560 Pandemic Influenza and Infectious Disease Response 06 January 2017, a 103-page unclassified military draft report; this statement is found on lines 54-56:

(f) Biological threats will continue to evolve through natural agent mutation, zoonotic spillover, amplification, spread of disease, and **intentional engineering**. (emphasis added)

<https://www.scribd.com/document/454422848/Pentagon-Influenza-Response>

2019

“Deadly Germ Research Is Shut Down at Army Lab Over Safety Concerns”

2019-08-05, *New York Times* “Safety concerns at a prominent military germ lab have led the government to shut down research involving dangerous microbes. ‘Research is currently on hold,’ the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, in Fort Detrick, Md., said in a statement. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention decided to issue a ‘cease and desist order’ last month to halt the research at Fort Detrick because the center did not have sufficient systems in place to decontaminate wastewater from its highest-security labs. The C.D.C. cited ‘national security reasons’ as the rationale for not releasing information about its decision. The institute is a biodefense center that studies germs and toxins that could be used to threaten the military or public health, and also investigates disease outbreaks. The problems date back to May 2018, when storms flooded and ruined a decades-old steam sterilization plant that the institute had been using to treat wastewater from its labs. The damage halted research for months, until the institute developed a new decontamination system using chemicals. The new system

required changes in certain procedures. **During an inspection in June, the C.D.C. found that the new procedures were not being followed. Inspectors also found mechanical problems with the chemical-based decontamination system, as well as leaks. In 2009, research at the institute in Fort Detrick was suspended because it was storing pathogens not listed in its database.”**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/05/health/germs-fort-detrick-biohazard.html>

The above summary is from www.WanttoKnow.info, which added this note: “Check out credible evidence that links the Fort Detrick lab shutdown with the start of the Coronavirus outbreak on <http://www.lankaweb.com/news/items/2020/03/16/COVID-19-further-evidence-that-the-virus-originated-inthe-us/>”

2020

“Did this virus come from a lab? Maybe not — but it exposes the threat of a biowarfare arms race: Dangerous pathogens are captured in the wild and made deadlier in government biowarfare labs. Did that happen here?”

2020-3-24, SALON, article by Sam Hussein

“Deadly pathogens discovered in the wild are sometimes studied in labs — and sometimes made more dangerous. That possibility, and other plausible scenarios, have been incorrectly dismissed in remarks by some scientists and government officials, and in the coverage of most major media outlets. Regardless of the source of this pandemic, there is considerable documentation that a global biological arms race going on outside of public view could produce even more deadly pandemics in the future.” This in-depth article provides detailed information and important links to documents on COVID-19 origin and bioweapon development in the U.S. [HTTPS://WWW.SALON.COM/WRITER/SAM-HUSSEINI](https://www.salon.com/writer/sam-hussein)

“Scientists Shouldn't Rule Out Lab as Source of Coronavirus, New Study Says”

2020-05-17, *Newsweek*

“A new scientific analysis of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) has argued that scientists should not rule out the possibility that the virus originated in a laboratory setting. The [new study](#) ... was published on the site bioRxiv hosted by Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. ‘Our observations suggest that by the time SARS-CoV-2 was first detected in late 2019, it was already pre-adapted to human transmission to an extent similar to late epidemic SARS-CoV. However, no precursors or branches of evolution stemming from a less human-adapted SARS-CoV-2-like virus have been detected,’ the authors of the study explained in the abstract. The analysis explains that there is still no clear evidence to point to a precise origin of the virus. Based on the genetic makeup and samples of the virus, it remains unclear whether SARS-CoV-2 adapted inside an intermediary animal host, within a human, or in a laboratory setting. It could have potentially jumped from species to species within a lab. In conclusion, the study cautions that various possibilities for how the outbreak began in humans means that we need to take precautions against each scenario to prevent re-emergence. As *Newsweek* reported on April 27, the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency updated an assessment of the origins of the novel coronavirus pandemic to suggest that it could have accidentally leaked from a laboratory in Wuhan, China.” <https://www.newsweek.com/scientists-shouldnt-rule-out-lab-source-coronavirus-...>

More gain of function (GOF) information is publicized in independent media: viruses are made more transmissible and lethal through gain of function manipulation by microbiologists in level 3 and 4 biosafety labs (BSLs) in a number of countries. Examples of such publicity:

“US gave \$3.7 million to Wuhan laboratory for conducting experiments using virus from bats”

2020-04-12, *International Business Times* (See also year 2015 for more on U.S. funding to Wuhan lab.) “The US [provided a] \$3.7 million grant to the Wuhan-based laboratory carrying out research on virus derived from bat caves. **The Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV) was conducting the coronavirus experiments on mammals, with funds received from the United States National Institute of Health.** The NIH has been listed as a partner by the Wuhan Institute of Virology. Other American institutes that have partnered with the research lab include: University of Alabama, University of North Texas Eco Health Alliance [and] Harvard University. WIV... has more than 1,500 strains of deadly viruses stored and specialises in research of 'the most dangerous pathogens,' in particular the viruses carried by bats. The project released its first research in November 2017... titled 'Discovery of a rich gene pool of bat SARS-related coronaviruses provides new insights into the origin of SARS coronavirus.' Hitting out at the US government, US Congressman Matt Gaetz said: **‘I’m disgusted to learn that for years the US government has been funding dangerous and cruel animal experiments at the Wuhan Institute, which may have contributed to the global spread of coronavirus.’**

Conspiracy theories have been hinting at the possibility of the virus being developed in the WIV. Last week, Cao Bin, a doctor at the Wuhan Jinyintan Hospital...revealed that out of the first 41 cases found positive for coronavirus, 13 had no contact with the wildlife market, raising the doubts that the virus was in fact lab originated. 'It seems clear that the seafood market is not the only origin of the virus,' he said.”
<https://www.ibtimes.sg/us-gave-3-7-million-wuhan-laboratory-conducting-experi...> Above summary from www.WanttoKnow.info

Video of Chris Martenson, Ph.D., who explains that “gain of function research refers to research in which the pathogenicity or transmissibility of pathogens is enhanced. In other words, pathogens are manipulated in various ways to make them deadlier, and/or allow them to infect humans with greater ease. Microbiologists also take viruses that are harmless to humans and conduct experiments to make them transmissible to humans.” As noted by Martenson, “while this kind of research is justified by saying we need to know how viruses adapt and mutate so we can more easily figure out how to combat them should they gain these functions naturally, there’s not a shred of evidence suggesting we’ve learned anything about how to combat SARS-CoV-2. If we’re not actually learning how to treat illnesses through gain-of function, then why are we doing it?”

<https://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2020/05/19/smoking-gun-proving-sars-cov-2-was-labcreated.aspx>

“Researchers Uncover New Evidence Showing COVID-19 Was Lab Created”

“A team of Australian scientists has produced new evidence that the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 is optimized for penetration into human cells rather than animal cells, undermining the theory that the virus randomly evolved in an animal subject before passing into human beings, and suggesting instead that it was developed in a laboratory.” https://fort-russ.com/2020/05/major-researchers-uncover-newevidenceshowingCOVID19waslabcreated/?utm_medium=ppc&utm_source=wp&utm_campaign=push&utm_content=new-article

“SARS-CoV-2 Origin — Deadliest Cover-Up in Human History”

“Evidence indicating it (COVID-19) is an engineered virus include the Antiviral Research paper² ‘The Spike Glycoprotein of the New Coronavirus 2019-nCoV Contains a Furin-Like Cleavage Site Absent in CoV of the Same Clade,’ published in April 2020, and ‘Furin, a Potential Therapeutic Target for COVID-19,’ posted in February 2020.”

“According to these papers, SARS-CoV-2 is the only coronavirus with a furin cleavage site. Not even distant relatives of SARS-CoV-2 have it, and the coronaviruses that do have it share only 40% of SARSCoV-2’s genome. Attempts have, however, been made to introduce a furin cleavage site onto the spike of a coronavirus, and successfully so.

“While neither of these papers makes any claims about how this gain-of-function might have come about, others have pointed out that this novel function couldn’t possibly have arisen naturally.” See summary of Chris Martenson’s and Yuri Deigin’s⁹ reviews of these findings in [The Smoking Gun Proving SARSCoV-2 Is an Engineered Virus](#).

“Coronavirus Began 'As an Accident' in Chinese Lab, Says Former MI6 Boss”

2020-06-03, *The Telegraph* (One of the UK's leading newspapers)

“A former head of MI6 has said he believes the coronavirus pandemic ‘started as an accident’ when the virus escaped from a laboratory in China. Sir Richard Dearlove pointed to a scientific paper published this week by a Norwegian-British research team who claim to have discovered clues within COVID-19’s genetic sequence suggesting key elements were ‘inserted’ and may not have evolved naturally. In their paper, the scientists claim to have identified ‘inserted sections placed on the SARS-CoV-2 Spike surface’ that explain how the virus binds itself to human cells. ‘The SARS-CoV-2 spike is significantly different from any other SARS that we have studied,’ the paper says. Two laboratories in Wuhan studying bat coronaviruses – the Wuhan Institute of Virology and the Wuhan Centre for Disease Control – have been suggested as the possible true sources of the outbreak. Sir Richard suggested scientists may have been conducting secret gene-splicing experiments on bat coronaviruses when COVID-19 somehow escaped. Sir Richard said he did not believe the Chinese had released the virus deliberately but accused Beijing of subsequently covering up the scale of its spread. Last month, the US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, claimed there was ‘enormous evidence’ that the coronavirus outbreak originated in a Chinese laboratory, but did not provide any proof. However, the US National Intelligence Director's office later said it had been determined that the COVID -19 virus ‘was not man-made.’”

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/06/03/exclusive-coronavirus-began-accid...> Above summary from www.WanttoKnow.info

“Exclusive: The Military Knew Years Ago That a Coronavirus Was Coming”

The Nation, April 1, 2020: “Despite President Trump’s repeated assertions that the COVID-19 epidemic was ‘unforeseen’ and ‘came out of nowhere,’ the Pentagon was not just well aware of the threat of a novel influenza but even anticipated the consequent scarcity of ventilators, face masks, and hospital beds, according to a 2017 Pentagon plan obtained by *The Nation*.” “The most likely and significant threat is a novel respiratory disease, particularly a novel influenza disease,” the military plan states. COVID-19 is a respiratory disease caused by the novel (meaning new to humans) coronavirus. The document specifically refers to coronaviruses on several occasions, in one instance saying, ‘Coronavirus infections [are] common around the world.’ Titled ‘USNORTHCOM Branch Plan 3560: Pandemic Influenza and Infectious Disease Response,’ the draft plan is marked FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY and dated January 6, 2017.

The plan was provided to *The Nation* by a Pentagon official who requested anonymity to avoid professional reprisal. Denis Kaufman, who served as head of the Infectious Diseases and Countermeasures Division at the Defense Intelligence Agency from 2014 to 2017, stressed that US intelligence had been well aware of the dangers of coronaviruses for years. (He retired from his decades-long career in the military in December 2017.) ‘The intelligence community has warned about the threat from highly pathogenic influenza viruses for two decades, at least. They have warned about coronaviruses for at least five years,’ Kaufman said in an interview.” <https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/covid-military-shortage-pandemic/>

Nobel Prize Recipient: “HIV Possibly Genetically Engineered Into COVID-19”

Luc Antoine Montagnier, a French virologist who won the 2008 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery of HIV, found that the HIV virus is probably in COVID-19. (For background on Montagnier see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luc_Montagnier.) He argued that the COVID-19 pandemic was man-made in a laboratory and that it might have been the result of an attempt to create a vaccine for HIV/AIDS. An August 2, 2020 article authored by Montagnier and Jean Claude Perez (<https://zenodo.org/record/3975589#.X1o9G2dKi8o>) concluded, “Through the 14 facts relating to each of the 14 paragraphs of this article, everything converges towards possible laboratory manipulations...which contributed to modifications of the genome of COVID_19, but also, very probably much older SARS, with perhaps this double objective of vaccine design and of "gain of function" in terms of penetration of this virus into the cell. This analysis...is dedicated to the real authors of Coronavirus COVID_19. It belongs only to them to describe their own experiments and why it turned into a world disaster: 650 000 lives (on 26 July 2020), more than those taken by the two atomic bombs of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We, the survivors, should take lessons from this serious alert for the future of humanity. We urge our colleagues scientists and medical doctors to respect ethical rules as expressed by Hippocrates oath: do not harm, never and never!

“Gain-of-Function Ghouls: SARS-CoV-2 Isn’t the Scariest Thing That Could Leak From a Lab”

10/14/2020 Organic Consumers Association, article by Alexis Baden Mayer & Ronnie Cummins

“Lab accidents happen. When the first Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-1) pandemic ended in 2003, lab-acquired infections continued. The situation was so bad that Science magazine warned, ‘health experts fear that the next SARS epidemic may be more likely to emerge from a research lab than from the presumed animal reservoir.’ It’s been less than a year since SARS-2 somehow escaped from a lab in Wuhan, China....And yet, almost like a Hollywood horror movie, dangerous experiments on viruses and bacteria even more lethal than COVID-19 are taking place in military and biomedical research facilities around the world, with potentially catastrophic consequences.” This article provides much detail on the origin of COVID-19 and related information. <https://www.organicconsumers.org/blog/gain-function-ghouls-sars-cov-2-isnt-scariest-thing-could-leak-lab>

“The genetic structure of SARS-CoV-2 does not rule out a laboratory origin: SARS-COV-2 chimeric structure and furin cleavage site might be the result of genetic manipulation”

10/16/ 2020 Segreto, R., & Deigin, Y. (2020). BioEssays, e2000240.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/bies.202000240>. **Abstract** Severe acute respiratory syndrome-coronavirus (SARS-CoV)-2’s origin is still controversial. Genomic analyses show SARS-CoV-2 likely to be chimeric, most of its sequence closest to bat CoV RaTG13, whereas its receptor binding domain (RBD) is almost

identical to that of a pangolin CoV. Chimeric viruses can arise via natural recombination or human intervention. The furin cleavage site in the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 confers to the virus the ability to cross species and tissue barriers, but is previously unseen in other SARS-like CoVs. Might genetic manipulations have been performed in order to evaluate pangolins as possible intermediate hosts for bat-derived CoVs that were originally unable to bind to human receptors? Both cleavage site and specific RBD could result from site-directed mutagenesis, a procedure that does not leave a trace. Considering the devastating impact of SARS-CoV-2 and importance of preventing future pandemics, researchers have a responsibility to carry out a thorough analysis of all possible SARS-CoV-2 origins.

2021

“The Lab-Leak Hypothesis: For decades, scientists have been hot-wiring viruses in hopes of preventing a pandemic, not causing one. But what if ...?”

Article by Nicholson Baker, January 4, 2021, *New York Magazine*

“The World Health Organization is beginning an investigation into the scientific origins of the coronavirus. They’ve assembled a blue-ribbon panel of doctors, researchers, and scientists to get to the bottom of the mystery. As it turns out, investigative reporter Nicholson Baker did most of the work for them. Writing in *New York Magazine*, Baker reveals a horror story about an accidental release of the coronavirus deliberately created in a lab funded by U.S. tax dollars. With meticulous research and some shocking interviews with scientists involved in the project, Baker crafts a narrative both frightening and convincing that includes the direct role Dr. Anthony Fauci had in pushing for the creation of the specific SARS-2 coronavirus.” Excerpt from PJ Media <https://pjmedia.com/news-and-politics/rick-moran/2021/01/05/terrifying-report-u-s-funded-specific-research-at-wuhan-lab-that-led-to-coronavirus-1306170> See also <https://nymag.com/intelligencer/article/coronavirus-lab-escape-theory.html>

See also:

Documentary “Plandemic” – <https://www.bitchute.com/video/4u7rt61YeGox/>

“EcoHealth Alliance Gets Big Bucks for Risky Virus Research”

research.aspx?cid_source=dnl&cid_medium=email&cid_content=art1HL&cid=20200917Z1&mid=DM654198&rid=966657133 <https://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2020/09/17/gain-of-function>

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. on Antony Fauci, Gain of Function, French virologist Luc Montagnier and Wuhan lab Starting at 32:45 on this video: https://childrenshealthdefense.org/news/truth-with-robert-f-kennedy-jrand-health-freedom-advocate-taylor-winterstein-how-is-covid-affecting-vaccine-safetyadvocacy/?utm_source=salsa&eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=29620478-dc3b-4b0c-a1229b7dca73d17a

***Baseless, My Search for Secrets in the Ruins of the Freedom of Information Act* by Nicholson Baker, Penguin Press, 2020** “In his lucid and unassuming style, Baker assembles what he learns, piece by piece, about Project Baseless, a crash Pentagon program begun in the early fifties that aimed to achieve ‘an Air Force-wide combat capability in chemical and biological warfare at the earliest possible date.’” (from the book cover) This book is a terrific read, notwithstanding its sickening subject.

When China Sneezes: From the Coronavirus Lockdown to the Global Politico-Economic Crisis

Edited by Cynthia McKinney, Ph.D., articles by 14 well-known contributors, Clarity Press, Inc., 2020

Attachment

Biological Warfare and the National Security State by Tom Burghardt August 10, 2009, *Blacklisted News*

<https://newslog.cyberjournal.org/tom-burghardt-biological-warfare-and-the-national-security-state/>

The history of bioweapons research in the United States is a history of illicit—and illegal—human experiments.

From the Cold War to the War on Terror, successive American administrations have turned a blind eye on dubious research rightly characterized as having “a little of the Buchenwald touch.”

While the phrase may have come from the files of the Atomic Energy Commission as Pulitzer prizewinning journalist Eileen Welsome revealed in her 1999 book, *The Plutonium Files*, an investigation into secret American medical experiments at the dawn of the nuclear age, it is as relevant today as the United States pours billions of dollars into work on some of the most dangerous pathogens known to exist in nature.

That Cold War securocrats were more than a little concerned with a comparison to unethical Nazi experiments is hardly surprising. After all, with the defeat of the Axis powers came the triumphalist mythmaking that America had fought a “good war” and had liberated humanity from the scourge of fascist barbarism.

Never mind that many of America’s leading corporations, from General Motors to IBM and from Standard Oil to Chase National Bank, were sympathizers and active collaborators with the Third Reich prior to and even during World War II, as documented by investigative journalists Charles Higham in *Trading With The Enemy*, and Edwin Black in *IBM and the Holocaust*. Like much else in American history, these were dirty little secrets best left alone.

Soon enough however, these erstwhile democrats would come to view themselves as mandarins of a new, expanding American Empire for whom everything was permitted. In this context, the recruitment of top German and Japanese scientists who had conducted grisly “medical” experiments whilst waging biological war against China and the Soviet Union would be free of any moralizing or political wavering. As the Cold War grew hotter and hotter, America’s political leadership viewed “former” Nazis and the architects of Japan’s Imperial project not as war criminals but allies in a new undertaking: the global rollback of socialism and the destruction of the Soviet Union by any means necessary.

This tradition is alive and well in 21st century America. With the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and subsequent anthrax mailings as a pretext for an aggressive militarist posture, the national security state is ramping-up research for the production of genetically-modified organisms for deployment as new, frightening weapons of war.

According to congressional testimony by Dr. Alan M. Pearson, Director of the Biological and Chemical Weapons Control Program at the Washington D.C.-based Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, with very little in the way of effective oversight or accountability, tens of billions of dollars “have been appropriated for bioweapons-related research and development activities.” Pearson reveals that

approximately \$1.7 billion “has been appropriated for the construction on new high containment facilities for bioweapons-related research. ‘By high containment facilities I mean facilities that are designed for work with agents that may cause serious or potentially lethal disease through exposure to aerosols (called Biosafety Level 3 or BSL-3 facilities) and facilities that are designed for work with agents that pose a “high individual risk of life-threatening disease, which may be transmitted via the aerosol route and for which there is no available vaccine or therapy” (called Biosafety Level 4 or BSL-4 facilities). Prior to 2002, there were three significant BSL-4 facilities in the United States. Today twelve are in operation, under construction, or in the planning stage. When completed, there will be in excess of 150,000 square feet of BSL-4 laboratory space (as much space as three football fields). The number of BSL-3 labs is also clearly growing but ascertaining the amount of growth is difficult in the absence of accurate baseline information. There are at least 600 such facilities in the US.” (Alan M. Pearson, Testimony, “Germs, Viruses, and Secrets: The Silent Proliferation of Bio-Laboratories in the United States,” House Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, October 2007)

Chillingly, one consequence of this metastatic growth “is that the very labs designed to protect against bioweapons may become a source for them.” As the 2001 anthrax attacks amply demonstrated, the threat posed by a biological weapons’ incident may be closer to home than any of us care to think. Pearson writes, “Nor should we ignore the possibility that a US biologist may become disgruntled or turn rogue while working in one of these labs.”

According to Edward Hammond, the Director of the now-defunct Sunshine Project, while “biological arms control is currently in ... its worst crisis since the signing of the Bioweapons Convention (BWC) in 1972, the American Bioweapons-Industrial Complex has embarked on the exploitation of biotechnology for weapons development.” Indeed, Hammond relates that active programs utilizing genetic engineering techniques have “been employed in offensive biowarfare programs in order to make biowarfare agents more effective.”

But increases in state subsidies for such work have generated new risks to the public. A recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report faulted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for lax security at three of the nation’s five BSL-4 labs currently in operation that “handle the world’s most dangerous agents and toxins that cause incurable and deadly diseases.” Agents such as Ebola, Marburg and smallpox are routinely studied at these facilities. And yet, as GAO auditors found, “Select agent regulations do not mandate that specific perimeter security controls be present at BSL-4 labs, resulting in a significant difference in perimeter security between the nation’s five labs. According to the regulations, each lab must implement a security plan that is sufficient to safeguard select agents against unauthorized access, theft, loss, or release. However, there are no specific perimeter security controls that must be in place at every BSL-4 lab. While three labs had all or nearly all of the key security controls we assessed, our September 2008 report demonstrated that two labs had a significant lack of these controls.” (Government Accountability Office, *Biosafety Laboratories: BSL-4 Laboratories Improved Perimeter Security Despite Limited Action by CDC*, GAO-09-851, July 2009)

As *Global Security Newswire* revealed in June, a “recently completed inventory at a major U.S. Army biodefense facility found nearly 10,000 more vials of potentially lethal pathogens than were known to be stored at the site. The 9,220 samples—which included the bacterial agents that cause plague, anthrax and tularemia; Venezuelan, Eastern and Western equine encephalitis viruses; Rift valley fever virus; Junin virus; Ebola virus; and botulinum neurotoxins—were found during a four-month inventory at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Md., according to Col. Mark Kortepeter, the center’s deputy commander. (Martin Matishak, “Thousands of Uncounted Disease Samples Found at Army Biodefense Lab,” *Global Security Newswire*, June 18, 2009)

The GSN report states that while “half of the newfound material was destroyed after being recorded,” inventory control officer Sam Edwin told reporters that “the other half was deemed worthy for further scientific use, cataloged, and stored in the center’s containment freezers.”

More pertinently, what happens when the state itself turns “rogue” and under cover of national security and the endless “war on terror” creates the “acute risk” in the form of out-of-control laboratories “designed to protect against bioweapons” that instead, have “become a source for them”?

Bioweapons and National Security: A Chronology

Source Notes: This chronology has drawn from dozens of books, articles and declassified government documents in its preparation. Notable in this regard is Michael Christopher Carroll’s *Lab 257: The Disturbing Story of the Government’s Secret Germ Laboratory*; Linda Hunt, *Secret Agenda*; Bob Coen and Eric Nadler, *Dead Silence: Fear and Terror on the Anthrax Trail*; the National Security Archive’s documentary history of U.S. Biological Warfare programs and The Sunshine Project.

August 1945: Operation Paperclip, an Office of Strategic Services (OSS) program to import top Nazi scientists into the United States. Linda Hunt relates in her book, *Secret Agenda*, that Reich Health Leader (*Reichsgesundheitsführer*) Dr. Kurt Blome, was saved from the gallows due to American intervention. Blome admitted he had worked on Nazi bacteriological warfare projects and had experimented on concentration camp prisoners with bubonic plague and sarin gas at Auschwitz. After his acquittal at the 1947 Nuremberg Doctors’ Trial, Blome was recruited by the U.S. Army Chemical Corps and advised the Pentagon on biological warfare. Walter Paul Emil Schreiber, a Wehrmacht general who assigned doctors to experiment on concentration camp prisoners and disbursed state funds for such experiments was another Paperclip recruit; in 1951, Schreiber went to work for the U.S. Air Force School of Medicine. Hubertus Strughold, the so-called “father of space medicine” discussed—and carried out—experiments on Dachau inmates who were tortured and killed; Strughold worked for the U.S. Air Force. Erich Traub, a rabid Nazi and the former chief of Heinrich Himmler’s Insel Riems, the Nazi state’s secret biological warfare research facility defects to the United States. Traub was brought to the U.S. by Paperclip operatives and worked at the Naval Medical Research Institute and gave “operational advice” to the CIA and the biowarriors at Ft. Detrick.

September 1945: General Shiro Ishii’s Unit 731, a secret research group that organized Japan’s chemical and biological warfare programs is granted “amnesty” by Supreme Allied Commander in the Pacific, General Douglas MacArthur, in exchange for providing America with their voluminous files on biological warfare. All mention of Unit 731 is expunged from the record of The Tokyo War Crimes Tribunal. During the war, Unit 731 conducted grisly experiments, including the vivisection of *live* prisoners, and carried out germ attacks on Chinese civilians and prisoners of war. According to researcher Sheldon H. Harris in *Factories of Death: Japanese Biological Warfare 1932-45 and the American Cover-Up*, Unit 731 scientists performed tests on prisoners with plague, cholera, smallpox, botulism and other infectious diseases. Their work led to the development of what was called a defoliation bacilli bomb and a flea bomb used by the Imperial Army to spread bubonic plague across unoccupied areas of China. The deployment of these lethal munitions provided the Imperial Army with the ability to launch devastating biological attacks, infecting agriculture, reservoirs, wells and populated areas with anthrax, plague-infected fleas, typhoid, dysentery and cholera. Rather than being prosecuted as war criminals, Unit 731 alumni became top bioweapons researchers. Ishii himself became an adviser at USAMRIID at Ft. Detrick.

1950: In Operation Sea-Spray, a U.S. Navy ship equipped with spray devices supplied by Ft. Detrick sprayed *serratia marcescens* across the San Francisco Bay area while the ship plied Bay waters. Supposedly a non-pathogenic microorganism, twelve mostly elderly victims die.

Early 1950s: Army biological weapons research begins at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC). Vials of anthrax are transferred from Ft. Detrick to Plum Island. This information is contained in a now declassified report, “Biological Warfare Operations,” Research and Development Annual Technical Progress Report, Department of the Army, 1951.

1951: Racist experiments are carried out. U.S. Army researchers deliberately expose African Americans to the fungus *Aspergillus fumigatus* to discern whether they are more susceptible to infections caused by such organisms than white Europeans. Also in 1951, black workers at the Norfolk Supply Center in Virginia were exposed to crates contaminated with *A. fumigatus* spores.

1952: According to 1977 hearings by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Subcommittee on Health and Scientific Research into Project MKULTRA, we discover the following: “Under an agreement reached with the Army in 1952, the Special Operations Division (SOD) at Fort Detrick was to assist CIA in developing, testing, and maintaining biological agents and delivery systems. By this agreement, CIA acquired the knowledge, skill, and facilities of the Army to develop biological weapons suited for CIA use.”

1953: Frank Olson, a chemist with the Army’s top-secret Special Operations Division at Ft. Detrick was involved with biological weapons research and was tasked to the CIA for work on MKULTRA. In 1953, as Deputy Acting Head of Special Operations for the CIA, Olson is a close associate of psychiatrist William Sargant who was investigating the use of psychoactive drugs as an interrogation tool at Britain’s Biological Warfare Centre at Porton Down. After being dosed with LSD without his knowledge by Dr. Sidney Gottlieb, the Agency’s liaison to Ft. Detrick, Olson undergoes a severe psychological crisis. The scientist begins questioning the ethics of designing biological organisms as weapons of war. This does not sit well with his Agency and Army superiors. On November 24, 1953, Olson and a CIA minder, Robert Lashbrook, check into New York’s Staler Hotel. He never checked out. According to Lashbrook, Olson had thrown himself through the closed shade and window, plunging 170 feet to his death. But because of his knowledge of CIA “terminal experiments” and other horrors conducted under MKULTRA, the Olson family believes the researcher was murdered. When Olson’s son Eric has his father’s body exhumed in 1994, the forensic scientist in charge of the examination determines that Olson had suffered blunt force trauma to the head *prior* to his fall through the window; the evidence is called “rankly and starkly suggestive of homicide.” Norman G. Cournoyer, one of Olson’s closet friends at Ft. Detrick also believes the scientist was murdered. When asked by the Baltimore Sun in 2004 why Olson was killed, Cournoyer said, “To shut him up. ... He wasn’t sure we should be in germ warfare, at the end.”

1955: Following a CIA biowarfare test in Tampa Bay, Florida, the area experiences a sharp rise in cases of Whooping Cough, including 12 deaths. The Agency had released bacteria it had obtained from the U.S. Army’s Chemical and Biological Warfare Center at the Dugway Proving Grounds.

1956-1958: More racist experiments. The U.S. Army conducted live field tests on poor African American communities in Savannah, Georgia and Avon Park, Florida. Mosquitoes were released into neighborhoods at ground level by “researchers” or by helicopter; residents were swarmed by the pest; many developed unknown illnesses and some even died. After the tests, Army personnel posing as health workers photographed and tested the victims, then disappeared. While specific details of the experiments remain classified, it has been theorized that a strain of Yellow Fever was used to test its efficacy as a bioweapon.

1962: A declassified CIA document obtained by the National Security Archive relates the following: “In November 1962 Mr. [redacted] advised Mr. Lyman Kirkpatrick that he had, at one time, been directed by

Mr. Richard Bissell to assume responsibility for a project involving the assassination of Patrice Lumumba, then Premier, Republic of Congo. According to Mr. [redacted] poison was to have been the vehicle as he made reference to having been instructed to see Dr. Sidney Gottlieb in order to procure the appropriate vehicle.” Gottlieb was the chief scientific adviser for the CIA’s MKULTRA program.

June 1966: The U.S. Army’s Special Operations Division dispenses *Bacillus subtilis var niger* throughout the New York City subway system. More than a million people were exposed when Army operatives dropped light bulbs filled with the bacteria onto ventilation grates.

December 1967: *The New York Times* reports, “Fatal Virus Found in Wild Ducks on L.I.” A virus never seen before in the Western hemisphere began with ducks in Long Island at a site opposite Plum Island; the virus devastates the area’s duck industry and by 1975 has spread across the entire continent.

1971: The U.S. Department of Agriculture proclaims that “Plum Island is considered the safest in the world on virus diseases.” USDA’s proof? “There has never been a disease outbreak among the susceptible animals maintained outside the laboratory since it was established.”

1975: PIADC begins feeding live viruses to “hard ticks,” including the Lone Star tick (never seen outside Texas prior to 1975). The Lone Star tick is a carrier of the *Borelia burgdorferi* (Bb) bacteria, the causal agent of Lyme Disease. The first cases of the illness are reported in Connecticut, directly across from the facility. Current epidemiological data conclusively demonstrate that the epicenter of all U.S. Lyme Disease cases is Plum Island. It is theorized that deer bitten by infected ticks swam across the narrow waterway separating the island from the mainland.

September 1978: A PIADC news release relays the following: “Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) has been diagnosed in cattle in a pre-experimental animal holding facility at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center.” A documented outbreak has occurred.

1979: An internal investigation of the FMD incident reveals massive, widespread failures in the containment systems at PIADC. A USDA Committee report recommends that “Lab 101 not be considered as a safe facility in which to do work on exotic disease agents until corrective action is accomplished.”

1979: Despite containment failures and poor practices, USAMRIID undertakes the investigation of the deadly *Zagazig 501* strain of Rift Valley Fever at PIADC. Producing symptoms similar to aerosolized hemorrhagic fevers such as Marburg and Ebola virus, the Army inoculates sheep that should have been destroyed as a result of the FMD outbreak with an experimental Rift Valley Fever vaccine. The experiments are conducted outdoors, in violation of the lab’s primary directive prohibiting such work. During a 1977 Rift Valley outbreak in Egypt, some 200,000 people are infected, and 700 others die excruciating deaths. A survey of blood serum taken before 1977 proved that the virus was not present in Egypt prior to the epidemic. By 2000, rampant outbreaks of the disease have occurred in Saudi Arabia and Yemen with the virus poised to unfurl its tentacles into Europe.

1982: A Federal review begun after the FMD outbreak concludes: “We believe there is a potentially dangerous situation and that without an immediate massive effort to correct deficiencies, a severe accident could result... [L]ack of preventive maintenance, [and] pressures by management to expedite programs have resulted in compromising safety.”

1983: Six PIADC workers test positive for African Swine Fever virus. The workers are not notified of the test results which are conducted clandestinely during routine annual physical exams.

1991: USDA privatizes PIADC. A New Jersey firm, Burns & Roe Services Corporation, low bids other competitors and is awarded the contract. In cost-cutting moves, the contractor scales back on safety and security measures in place for decades.

June 1991: An underground cable supplying Lab 257 shorts out but is not replaced since there is no money left in the budget.

August 1991: Hurricane Bob, a category 3 storm similar to Hurricane Katrina, slams into Plum Island, knocking down overhead power lines that connect Lab 257. The underground cable which was Lab 257's primary power source has not been repaired. Freezers containing virus samples defrost, air seals on lab doors are breached and animal holding room vents fail. PIADC's "fail safe" mechanism of "air dampers" to seal off the facility also fail. Melted virus samples mix with infected animal waste on lab floors as swarms of mosquitoes fill the facility.

September 1991: The USDA denies that any system failures occurred during the hurricane. Whistleblowing workers in Lab 257 at the time of the blackout are fired in further cost-cutting moves and several subsequently develop mysterious undiagnosed diseases.

1992: The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) cite PIADC with hundreds of safety violations. When OSHA returned five years later, *none* of the violations have been corrected and discover 124 *new* violations.

July 1992: Although USDA officially denies that PIADC conducts biological warfare research, fourteen officials from the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Pentagon visit Plum Island. Internal documents reveal that the visit was "to meet with [Plum Island] staff regarding biological warfare." According to Carroll, "the visitors were part of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency reviewing the dual-use capabilities of the facility."

Spring 1995: Lab 257 is closed. Although scheduled to be fully decontaminated and demolished in 1996 Carroll reports: "Lab 257 still stands today, rotting from weathered decay, harboring who knows what deep within."

August 1999: The first four human cases of West Nile virus, a mosquito-borne pathogen never diagnosed in North America are diagnosed on Long Island. Horse farms within a five-mile radius of one another, directly opposite Plum Island, report horses dying following violent seizures. An investigation reveals that 25% of the horses in this small, localized area test positive for West Nile. The outbreak begins in August 1999 when birds, including half the exotic bird species in the Bronx Zoo begin dying mysteriously. The virus has an affinity for birds and the vector is soon identified as the mosquito. In 1999, the disease was confined to the New York City area, however by 2002, the Centers for Disease Control reports all but 6 of the lower 48 states reported West Nile virus in birds, mosquitos, animals or human populations. CDC estimates that some 200,000 people are infected nationally. During the initial outbreak in 1999, veterinary pathologist Tracey McNamara suspected a causal relationship between the bird die offs and the human cases; CDC rebuffs her concerns. Through her persistent efforts, it is determined that the virus was indeed West Nile, a pathogen that had never been seen in North America. The CDC announces that West Nile virus was in the nation's blood supply when transplant patients who had no prior exposure to the pathogen develop the disease. The USDA's response? Deny, deny, deny? However, Jim House, a former PIADC scientist, believes that West Nile samples existed prior to 1999 on Plum Island. He told Carroll, "There were samples there, and it wasn't answered clearly to the public. They didn't honestly tell how many

samples they had and that's when people started to get upset. When Carroll filed a Freedom of Information Act request for a catalog of germs held in the Plum Island virus library, he was turned down on grounds of "national security."

September 1999: *The New York Times* reports that due to "the growing threat of biological terrorism" against America's food supply, USDA "is seeking money to turn the Plum Island Animal Disease Center ... into a top security laboratory where some of the most dangerous diseases known to man or beast can be studied."

1999: A Cold War-era document is declassified proving that in the early 1950s USAMRIID shipped twelve vials of weaponized anthrax (enough to kill one million people) to PIADC. In 1993 *Newsday* revealed that previously unclassified documents demonstrated Pentagon plans to disrupt the Soviet economy by spreading diseases to kill pigs, cattle and horses.

1999: Plans to "upgrade" PIADC by building a BSL-4 lab are killed when Congress pulls funding after a public outcry.

September 2001: After the anthrax attacks, despite USDA denials that anthrax was ever present on the island, FBI investigators include the following questions in their polygraph examination of scientists under investigation: "Have you ever been to Plum Island?" "Do you know anyone who works at Plum Island?" "What do they do there?"

December 2002: *The New York Times* reports "a three-hour power failure at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center last weekend renewed concerns about the safety of the high-security government laboratory." According to the *Times*, "the loss of power and failure of all three backup generators raised fears for the first time that the containment of infectious pathogens could have been seriously compromised at the laboratory."

June 2003: President George W. Bush transfers control of PIADC to the Department of Homeland Security. The airspace over the island is unrestricted and the gates leading to Lab 101 remain open and unguarded.

May 2004: In a sign that work on Plum Island is being shifted to "other sites," including those run by private contractors, DHS announces an \$18 million grant to study Rift Valley fever, avian influenza and brucellosis.

August 2004: DHS confirmed that an FMD outbreak "had spread briefly" in "two previously undisclosed incidents earlier this summer," *The New York Times* reports. A DHS spokesperson said the virus remained "within the laboratory's sealed biocontainment area" and that there "had be no risk" to human or animals. An investigation into the cause "was continuing."

2004: At the Medical University of Ohio, a researcher is infected with Valley Fever at the center's BSL3 facility; Valley Fever is a biological weapons agent.

February 2005: University of Iowa researchers conduct unauthorized genetic engineering experiments with the select agent Tularemia (rabbit fever). The Sunshine Project reports that researchers mixed genes from Tularemia species and introduced antibiotic resistant characteristics into the samples.

March 2005: When a containment facility fails, workers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are exposed to tuberculosis when the BSL-3 "fail-safe" systems malfunction; a blower pushes

contaminated air out of the work cabinet, infecting the workroom. The facility had been inspected one month prior to the accident by U.S. Army.

Summer 2005: At the same Ohio facility a serious accident occurs when workers are infected with an aerosol of Valley Fever.

October-November 2005: Dozens of samples thought to be harmless are received by the University of California at Berkeley. In fact, they are samples of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, a BSL-3 bioweapons agent due to its transmission as an aerosol. The samples are handled without adequate safety precautions; however, the community is never notified of the incident.

August 2005: The whistleblowing watchdog group Tri-Valley Cares obtains documents in May 2009 proving that the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory had conducted “restricted experiments” with “select biological agents” at the facility. In 2005, LLNL “inadvertently” released anthrax at the lab in another incident that lab officials attempted to cover-up; five individuals were infected with the deadly pathogen.

April 2006: Three Texas A&M “biodefense” researchers are infected with Q Fever, a biological weapons agent. Rather than reporting the incident to the CDC as required by law, Texas A&M officials cover-up the accident.

August 2006: DHS announces that PIADC is “not on the rebuilding list” and a new site to study infectious diseases is being considered.

January 2009: DHS announces that the new National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility will be built in Manhattan, Kansas.

July 2009: Government Accountability Office investigators charge that DHS relied on “a rushed, flawed study” to locate the \$700 million research facility for highly infectious pathogens “in a tornado prone section of Kansas.” Among other concerns, the GAO cites DHS’s “flawed and outdated methodology” in its criticism. Those concerns are: “the ability of DHS and the federal government in general to safely operate a biosafety facility such as the proposed NBAF; the potential for a pathogenic release through accidents, natural phenomena, and terrorist actions; our May 2008 testimony that concluded that DHS had not conducted or commissioned a study to determine whether FMD research could be conducted safely on the U.S. mainland; natural phenomena such as tornadoes, earthquakes, and hurricanes that could cause catastrophic damage to the NBAF and result in the release of a pathogen; the possibility that an infected mosquito vector could escape, allowing a pathogen such as Rift Valley Fever virus to become permanently established in the United States; the economic effects of a release or a perceived release on the local, state, and national livestock industry.”

Tom Burghardt (from the 2009 article) is a researcher and activist based in the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition to publishing in Covert Action Quarterly and Global Research, his articles can be read on Dissident Voice, The Intelligence Daily, Pacific Free Press and the whistleblowing website Wikileaks. He is the editor of Police State America: U.S. Military “Civil Disturbance” Planning, distributed by AK Press.