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Global Resistance In An Unprecedented Time

By: Neel Singh

Sources: *BBC, Vox, The New York Times, The South China Morning Post*



Russia, China, and the US are often seen in a bitter stalemate between each other, with Russia and China “preserving” Communist practices whereas the US, along with its numerous allies, are seen defending the foundations of democracy. However, in recent weeks, this stalemate between three of the most powerful countries in the history of the world seems to have been subdued by their citizens and those affected by their influences as

internal conflicts preside over their hearts and minds. Russia has detained numerous journalists, China has tried to assert its influence in Hong Kong, and the US grapples with systemic injustice after the killing of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, David McAtee, and countless other black Americans who suffered due to systemic inequality.

Moscow is infamous for their detaining of journalists and unfortunately, on May 28, 2020, the Russian government used the current COVID-19 crisis as a reason to arrest protesters at the Illya Azar¹ demonstrations. These protests were the public's outcry in response to an ex-police officer's arrest after he protested corruption in Russian law enforcement. The most notable of these arrests include Illya Azar herself, Ekho Moskv, Sergei Smirnov, Anastasia Lotareva, Victoria Ivleva, Ilya Vasyunin, and Tatyana Felgengauer ([who was stabbed in the neck at her broadcasting studio in 2017](#)), etc. These arrests have also been decried by the international community including Council of Europe Rights Commissioner, Dunja Mijatovic, who expressed her dismay in an eloquently written [Twitter post](#).

Similarly, Beijing also passed several laws that have caused significant anxiety amongst residents in Hong Kong as it limits the freedoms given under One Country, Two Systems (see Issue 3 for more information). One of these is a National Security Law that prohibits Hong Kong from gaining full independence, its citizens from committing treason, rebellion, or disavowing the CCP (Chinese Communist Party). However, this is seen as extremely destructive to Hong Kong's way of life by many as these charges could be used in a very broad sense to destroy the special freedoms Hong Kongers have enjoyed since the handover to China in 1997. The CCP also passed several laws banning the annual Tiananmen Square Vigil and insults to China's National Anthem. Despite this, on June 4, 2020, Hong Kongers held a [socially distanced memorial for the victims of the Tiananmen Square Massacre](#).

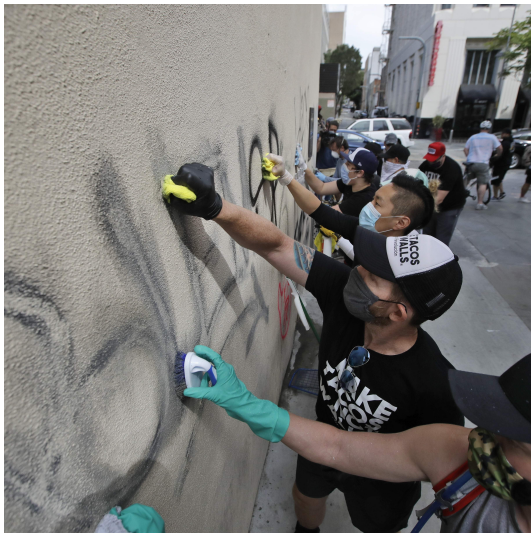
¹ A journalist of a resistance newspaper and founder of the protests.

Additionally, in the US, there has been a strong outcry over the death of George Floyd, a 46-year old black security guard, who was thought to have used counterfeit money at a local deli, and was knelt upon by a Minneapolis police officer, Derek Chauvin, for 8 minutes and 34 seconds while three of his coworkers, Thomas Lane, Tou Thao, and J Alexander Kueng, stood by and idly watched. His death was filmed and in his last moments, he said, "I can't breathe" several times over but the officers ignored him and several witnesses who told them to stop. This along with several other deaths of black Americans such as Ammhuad Arbery (see Issue 5 for information), Breona Taylor (who was an Emergency Medical Transport (EMT) and was shot by police on March 13, 2020, in her Louisville apartment when looking for two suspects in a crime, neither of which were her), David McAtee (who was a 53-year-old barbecue owner who was shot in protests for the Black Lives Matter movement in Louisville after the state of Kentucky imposed a state curfew), countless other murders of [black individuals](#) and the systemic injustice black people have been facing since the foundation of the United States and numerous other countries have caused innumerable protests across the free world, demanding for equality, end of police brutality and broader reform of the criminal justice system.

How Citizens Are Helping Clean Up After Uprisings

By: Kavya Shah

Photo Source: *Darien Times*



Recently our country has had a lot of protests relating to the Black Lives Matter movement and the death of George Floyd. These Protests have had a large impact on the civil rights movement, with so many other countries getting involved. Many citizens are peacefully protesting by kneeling, holding up signs, signing petitions, and donating money. People are also using social media to help convey their message. People have participated in Black Out Tuesday and used their platform to spread the word on how to help the cause. Additionally, celebrities are going to protests to help show their importance and inspire others. Although the majority of people are peaceful and want to make our country safer, some

citizens are being violent by setting fires, throwing objects, and vandalizing buildings and monuments. Many protesters have made it clear that they do not want to cause harm, but others have hurt many small and large businesses. Members of the community have come together to help clean their towns and cities. They have picked up pieces of shattered glass and scrubbed graffiti off of buildings. Several cities have had peaceful and violent protests including Minneapolis, Atlanta, Baltimore, and Washington DC. Various state leaders have instituted curfews and other measures to help their communities and still allow protesters to get their voices heard.

SpaceX's First Astronaut Launch

By: Olivia Bradley

Source: *Space.com*



For the first time in history, NASA astronauts have launched into space from American soil in a commercially built and operated American crew spacecraft. on its way to the International Space Station. The SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft, carrying NASA astronauts Robert Behnken and Douglas Hurley, lifted off on May 30th at 3:22 p.m. and is on its way to the International Space Station. It launched on

the company's Falcon 9 rocket from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The mission of NASA's SpaceX Demo-2 is a test flight to validate the SpaceX crew transportation system. This includes launch, in-orbit docking, and landing operations. This is SpaceX's second spaceflight test of its Crew Dragon and its first test with astronauts aboard. It also was NASA's most viewed online event ever in terms of internet traffic, with about 10.3 million concurrent viewers. If it is successful, it will be the first of many regular crew flights to the station as part of NASA's Commercial Crew Program.

Did NASA discover a parallel universe?

By: Sarozini Shrestha

Source: *Universalnews.org*



A few weeks ago, the New York Post reported on evidence NASA had found of a potential parallel universe where time went backwards. NASA's Antarctic Impulsive Transient Antenna (ANITA) had been sent high above Antarctica, where the cold and dry air caused there to be little to no distortions from radio noise. Particles from space are detected by ANITA, some with high energy and others with low energy. Low energy particles

called neutrinos can completely pass through the Earth, but higher energy particles get stopped by the solid Earth, which means they are only detected coming down to Earth. However, a higher energy particle, the tau neutrino, was detected going upwards, suggesting that these particles could be going backwards in time.

According to Principal ANITA investigator Peter Gorham, the only other way this particle would go backwards is if it changed into a different one before passing through Earth and coming back again, but the chances of that happening are one in a billion, and the phenomenon was detected several times. The shapeshifting particle theory seemed too far-fetched so some scientists instead theorized that two universes were created during the Big Bang, not just one, and that these tau neutrinos were from the other universe.

However, there are other, less widely-reported theories that compete with this one, according to Jackson Ryan at CNET, such as the idea that these events are caused by the Antarctic ice. Nothing about this anomaly necessarily points to the

possibility of a parallel universe, just that these events are not covered by the standard model of physics. This theory was “born out of the frustration of having nothing else that worked,” says Ron Ekers, an honorary member of Australia's national science agency. It was never meant to be taken seriously.

While there may not necessarily be a parallel universe to attribute to these strange particles, it is clear that the data provided by new devices and experimental methods will lead to both deeper answers and also new, deeper questions about the rules of the physical world.

Uncovering The CIA's Operation To Steal International Secrets

By: Shreeya Thakre

Source: cia.gov



For 50 years, countries all over the world bought encryption technology from a Swiss company, called [Crypto AG](#), to protect their communications with diplomats, soldiers and spies. What they didn't know is that the firm was actually owned by the [CIA](#) and German intelligence, which rigged the encryption products so they could spy on the countries that bought them. The CIA even made a profit off of their espionage. According to [NPR News](#), “The CIA and the German intelligence agencies will not only be stealing other countries' secrets, they were essentially picking their pockets and charging them actual money for the privilege of having all of their secrets stolen”. Crypto AG was the maker of encryption devices and equipment that was mainly for

governments to use to protect their communications. These machines scramble messages and decode them at the other end so that other members of the government can listen to what you're saying. The CIA took advantage of this seemingly closed circuit system to gain intel on other countries' plans. As stated by NPR, “Countries around the world at that time didn't know the true owners of Crypto AG. Dozens and dozens of countries around the world were buying these machines, this encryption equipment, and trusting this company with most of their intelligence.. the Germans left the project with CryptoAG, but then the CIA kept going for decades more”. So in essence, the CIA fooled many countries, and when the German division decided it was enough and left, the CIA kept going.

In 2018, Crypto was dismembered , liquidated by shareholders whose identities had been permanently shielded by the byzantine laws of Liechtenstein. Two companies purchased most of Crypto's assets. The first, CyOne Security, was created as part of a management buyout and now sells security systems exclusively to the Swiss government. The other, Crypto International, took over the former company's brand and international business. Each insisted that it has no ongoing connection to any intelligence service, but only one claimed to be unaware of CIA ownership. A CyOne spokesman declined to address any aspect of Crypto AG's history but said the new firm has “no ties to any foreign intelligence services.”

Daniel Abt suspended by Audi after cheating in a virtual esports race

By: Neil Chibber

Source: *Autosport.com*



The Audi Formula E team has suspended driver Daniel Abt for cheating during an [esports](#) charity race over the weekend.

Audi released a statement on [ESPN.com](#) saying, "Daniel Abt did not drive his car in qualifying and the race at the fifth event of the Race at Home Challenge on May 23 himself, but let a professional sim-racer do so. He directly apologised for this on the following day and accepted the disqualification."

According to [Allan Baldwin](#) of Reuters,

Abt hired professional gamer Lorenz Hoerzing as his driver in the Race at Home Challenge event on May 31st.

"I did not take it as seriously as I should have," Abt said. "I am especially sorry about this because I know how much work has gone into this project on the part of the Formula E organisation. I am aware that my offence has a bitter aftertaste but it was never meant with any bad intention."

Driver Jean-Eric Vergne raised suspicions during the race. He was furious saying, "Please ask Daniel Abt to put his Zoom next time he's driving. ... I'm pretty sure he wasn't in," via CBS Sports' [Chris Bengel](#).

Abt was also fined €10,000 , about 10,900 USD. Lorenz Hoering got third place in qualifying and second place in the race.

Animals Coming Out of Hibernation

By: Michael Kittredge

Photo source: *newsflare.com*

Source of information: *ypte.org.uk*



Every year around this time, animals around the world come out of hibernation. However, some animals hibernate longer to wake up to a good climate. Before diving into this, the question, "What is hibernation?" needs to be answered. Hibernation is essentially a deep sleep that animals go into to preserve energy and survive the winter without eating much. They need to do this because during the winter season food becomes very scarce

for many animals around the world.

How do animals prepare for hibernation though, and what does this do? In short, many animals prepare for hibernation by stocking up on lots of food in order to build up fat reserves for the winter to survive. However, this isn't the case for every animal. Tortoises, for example, have a very slow metabolism, if they were to stockpile right

before winter, the food would rot in their stomachs, so they fast before winter to prevent this from happening, and they drink exorbitant amounts of water to clear their systems before shutting down.

Another aspect of hibernation is where animals go to survive the elements. Many creatures, and very close to all, hide away somewhere be it a cave or hole or just under some leaves. Lastly, hibernation has important benefits. Obviously not starving and preserving energy to survive the winter are benefits of hibernation; but there is another, less known benefit. Increased life expectancy. By this, it is not just surviving the winter, however if a creature that goes into hibernation naturally, were to not ever hibernate, they would live a shorter time. This is clearly shown in tortoises as they can live over 100 years if they stay healthy. This is because hibernating requires very little energy, and heartbeats, so creatures that hibernate actually stretch out the total heartbeats that they will get in their lives for a longer time, which is why many creatures hibernate even if they move to a place where it isn't necessary.

To conclude, it seemed fitting to have a funny pet story of an animal coming out of hibernation (Note: it is not absolutely hysterically funny, but somewhat fun). In the first year that the Conti family got their tortoise, it seemed quite scary that they would just sleep like the dead for five months or more. But, the Conti's waited for a full five months as told before waking their type of tortoise slowly from hibernation, but nothing seemed to work. The parents Maria and Ricardo then tried to hear a pulse or feel a pulse from the tortoise, but couldn't. They sadly concluded that the tortoise may have passed and put him out in the yard to "rest" (the children were very distraught so that was the best the parents could do as an excuse for chucking a tortoise in the yard.) Eventually, it got well into June and the family went out to say some last words for the tortoise (they had to tell the children that their fears had been realized, and the tortoise was dead) but when they got outside the tortoise was not there. This wasn't very surprising considering that birds could have gotten it. But upon a thorough search of the area (looking 5 feet to the left and right of where they put the tortoise) they saw the beloved pet eating a dandelion.