The Corona Pandemic: an Imperative Holistic Readdressing of the Genuine Roots of the Virus

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Summary

In an unprecedented move, a recently revamped leading White House website item unapologetically accuses China of being the provenance of the coronavirus pandemic, due to a lab leak of a lab-upgraded virus. A lasting, fickle melting pot involving internal, national, axial, and international elements, factors, and complex processes preceded it, reflecting a global system that lost vital credentials, perhaps irreversibly, corollary to unforeseen, colossal pandemic impacts.

Finally, although not necessarily conclusively, major countries identified China as responsible for the coronavirus pandemic, predominantly blaming the United States (US), as expected, and despite occasional attempts to scientifically attribute a natural origin to the index virus. Complex and fascinating processes drive this significant and ongoing global shift, with extensive, wide-ranging repercussions since the pandemic began.

The Primary Point of Reference about the Wuhan Lab-leak Scenario.

On January 26, 2020, namely 26 days after China notified (upon the very last day of 2019 – not by chance, of course) the world about the outbreak in Wuhan of the COVID-19 virus – which had germinated in effect much earlier, in Wuhan, sometime during August to October 2019 – The Washington Times published an article that for the first time, globally, pointed to a specific Wuhan accidental lab-leak scenario as the possible direct source of the outbreak. The scenario described was pretty detailed, indicating as well the possible genomic origin of the virus, and adding that the concerned lab might have been linked, hidden, to the Chinese PLA bio-warfare program, as follows:[1]

> "Coronaviruses, particularly SARS, have been studied in the Wuhan Institute of Virology [WIV] and are probably held therein... In principle, outward virus infiltration may occur either as leakage or as an indoor, unnoticed infection of a person who normally leaves the concerned facility. This could have been the case with the WIV... WIV is under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, but certain laboratories within it have links with the PLA or elements related to BW within the Chinese defence establishment. Those labs have probably

> been engaged, in terms of research and development, in Chinese BW, at least collaterally, yet not as a principal facility of the Chinese BW alignment. Work on BW is conducted as part of dual civilian-military research and is covert... SARS is included within the Chinese BW program, at large, and is dealt with in several pertinent facilities [across China]. It is not known whether the WIV's coronaviruses are specifically included in China's BW program, but it is possible... The Wuhan Institute of Biological Products [WIBP], by then already located within the WIV compound, is a civilian facility but is linked to the Chinese defence establishment. China's vaccine against SARS is probably produced there. This means the SARS virus is held and propagated there, but it is not a new coronavirus, unless the wild type has been modified."

Thus, the cardinal elements of the root of the index virus were already identified in January 2020. Moreover, on other, yet highly interrelated issues, direct linkages of WIBP and WIV, towards the Chinese BW programme have been noticed even earlier:

WIBP has been mentioned in 2015 within a list of 12 facilities located throughout China, which are "affiliated with the defence establishment", and it is rather "more BW-oriented than the other SASAC-owned China National Biotech Group biotechnological facilities... in particular."[2]

Besides, a battery of deadly strains of Ebola and Henipah viruses was illegally dispatched in 2019 to WIV by a distinguished Chinese virologist, Dr Xiangguo Qiu, who was heading a key high-security section in Canada's National Microbiology Laboratory.[3] Her interfaces with WIV have been lasting and provoking, while the viruses dispatched to WIV estimated (August 2019) as "a Canadian contribution [which] might likely be counterproductive... [considering that] the Chinese activities [in WIV] are highly suspicious, in terms of exploring (at least) those viruses as biological warfare agents."[4]

However, since 2019, a remarkably overwhelming vortex – both globally and domestically – has been gathering around the essence of the genuine roots of the coronavirus pandemic. Thereby, the January 2020-pointed-at-cardinal elements of the initial pandemic contagion have been mainly corroborated. The vortex has hence been aggravated, chiefly between China and the US, extending far beyond, however, to various countries and dimensions, including, increasingly, the intelligence and counterintelligence dimensions, as presented hereafter.

The Wuhan Lab Leak Scenario per se and the Intelligence Essential of the Preponderance of Circumstantial Evidence

Categorically, the attitude of negating or depreciating intelligence judgments that are based on circumstantial evidence is poor and incompetent (to say the least), notably when direct evidence of any kind is lacking. The concept favouring the Wuhan lab leak scenario is clear-cut, clinical, and plain; entirely irrespective of any interests, motives, drives, or collateral considerations underlying that concept, the only relevant question here is about the objective plausibility of the scenario itself. That provided, it doesn't matter what the questioner's incentives are. It is a pity that such obvious and prime principles have to be underscored, given the endless bashing over incentives. Additional aspects are indeed illuminated in the present article, yet entirely independently of this core section.

A wealth of argumentative elements and factors, albeit circumstantial, temporally (since 2012, if not earlier) and spatially

cluster, congregate and converge in China at large, and particularly in Wuhan, accumulating into an integral (or rather preponderance) which is, holistically and by any common sense, even far beyond the critical mass adequately embodying objective plausibility of the Wuhan lab leak scenario. They comprise a plethora of logistic, technical, scientific, technological, organisational, demographic, civilian, military, domestic, international, bureaucratic, and suppressive components. The interrelatedness and correlations among them amplify the complete objective plausibility of the scenario, and it would be redundant to detail them once again;[5] yet most emphasized is the argumentative synergism – in terms of both science and intelligence – between the roots of the virus, namely, its genomic origin and its direct source (the contagion affecting patient zero), as follows.

The Genomic Origin of the Virus.

The genomic structure of the index virus, regarding a variety of its components – let alone as a whole – is such that it resulted from induced alterations (gain of functions), rather than from natural evolution, in terms of objective probability. Besides, its mutagenicity is exceptionally extraordinary. And when the specific genomic alterations – including through various chimeras – set into the Chinese Mojiang Mine 2012 bat virus (a virus unprecedentedly and violently infecting human therein, hence chosen for upgrading by the Chinese) in WIV, are taken into account conjunctively, there is a sharp quantum leap in the likelihood of a lab-shaped index virus. Moreover, upon this genomic shaping, WIV mastered and utilised a methodology aimed at concealing the induced genome alterations. Practically, the latter were thus accomplished in WIV – often under anarchically inadequate biosafety conditions – in intact laboratory animals, in humanised laboratory animals, in tissue cultures, and via designed gene tailoring. The unexplained, directed, and irreversible disappearance (Sep. 2019) of paramount coronaviruses and related genomic data from WIV has contributed to the murky situation. The same applies to the complete control abruptly taken, physically, over the pertinent labs of WIV by the PLA BW establishment, right after the coronavirus broke out. Indeed, there is a substantial body of additional circumstantial evidence that the genome of the index virus was shaped in WIV, for whatever reason (discussed later). Still, there is no need to repeat that evidence in detail, beyond the weighty integration of the arguments already presented here.

The Direct Source of the Virus.

More than five years after the index virus emerged, it is obvious that its primal animal host was some wild bat population, and yet no specific bat or collateral natural animal host directly constituting the proximal host that harbored the initial contagion of the pandemic could be found – despite enormous efforts to find such one; still, the reason is entirely plain, in that such a host does not exist in China, or elsewhere. Notably, however, the Mojiang Mine bat population indeed gave rise to the progenitor virus adopted by WIV for laboratory manipulations (upgrading) that finally yielded the pandemic index virus. Various, yet fragmentary, findings suggested multiple animal species as potential proximal hosts of the index virus; however, this multiplicity, in context, is a clear indication of scientific uncertainty and an apparent misstep. In the case that the Wuhan wet market was significantly involved, its involvement was secondary, due to the unnoticed feeding of animals held therein with lab-infected animal carcasses or tissues from the WIV (as detailed below). The index virus did not originate in a non-laboratory animal; it

originated in a laboratory, deliberately, and was released from there, likely accidentally. The direct source(s) of the virus that ignited the initial contagion/outbreak in Wuhan formed through one or more of the following modes:

- In August 2019, a leakage problem occurred in the WIBP animal room and the rabbit workshop roof. Waterproof linoleum was replaced, which involved removing the local roof skeleton for new works, finishing the roof with red tile, and performing other maintenance to improve sealing. Attenuated virus (vaccine strain) inoculation into rabbits had been done previously.[6]

- The virus originated from an animal that had been involved in testing at the WIV and subsequently ended up in the wet market. "It was believed then and now the carcass was infected with coronavirus and an unscrupulous member of WIV staff sold it for personal profit without considering it may be infected." (As reported, seemingly in a sound manner, by British military and intelligence expert Col. (ret.) Richard Kemp).[7]

- Three researchers of WIV fell sick in November 2019, "with symptoms consistent with both COVID-19 and common seasonal illness." They were hospitalised, and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) prevented them from being interviewed, without explaining.[8]

Overall, these are the core circumstantial evidence pertaining to the source of the index virus contagion, and they are considerably amplified in conjunction with those about the genomic origin of the index virus, as a salient and pivotal example of preponderance, whereby an actual, seemingly aloof, truth is being sought. Needless to say, pursuing the truth is always and in any case legitimate; for that purpose, the principle of preponderance of circumstantial evidence is intrinsic to almost any analysis, certainly to intelligence analyses, especially in the absence of hard evidence for any scenario. This rule is obvious, entirely unquestionable, and elementary. It details and holistically underpins and consolidates the feasibility of the Wuhan lab-leak scenario, which, by all means, exceeds a critical mass of objective plausibility. For the time being – and, sensibly, for good – it reflects inbuilt predominance.

The "Exact Experiment"

Unlike her predecessor, the new DNI of the US, Tulsi Gabbard, is a sound, coherent, and concrete leader. In a recent interview, she noted that her team was working with the NIH Director on the "exact experiment" that led to the COVID-19 lab leak, which may have contributed to the incipient contagion in Wuhan, and will bring it to light.[9] One significant possibility of the exact experiment is the constellation described in 2022 in the Journal of Defence Studies[10]: "An initial lab escape of the virus sparking the pandemic took place, accidentally, when a precursor virus was being modified–incompletely yet, hence still virulent–into an attenuated live vaccine, tentatively." It is somewhat more specific than the scene configured in January 2020 by The Washington Times.

During this event, one or more of the three mentioned incipient contagion emanation modes may occur. In contrast, one of the three – the primary human infectee mode – could also happen during an experimental aerosol dispersal of a deficient vaccine strain in Mojyang Mine by WIV researchers, after which the individual would return to WIV and become diseased.

Regardless of the vaccine strain processing, however, the specific experiment leading to the incipient contagion was possibly conducted with a deliberately upgraded Mojyang Mine wild-type virus in the WIV

labs, which are unaffiliated with the vaccine-developing WIBP labs (all located, yet, within the same compound, overall).

Notably, the actual occurrence of one of those calamitous experiments in 2019 does not exclude the possibility that the other may also contribute to contagion.

Distorted Chronologies: the Inter-Hemispheric Despicable Machinery of the Lab-leak Scenario Suppression and Cover-up

Inconceivable temporal gaps and zigzagging typify the courses by which the Wuhan lab-leak scenario has been brought out, admittedly, in various countries, considering much earlier intelligence, as well as other internal acknowledgements of that scenario. This bizarre pattern is evident in the USA, the United Kingdom (UK), Germany, France, Australia, and surely many more countries, such as Russia and Japan that have not yet removed the masking screen, still awed by the superfluously respected Chinese Dragon. The following are merely the highlights.

The Highly Intricate Dynamics of Intelligence in the US Concerning the Virus Roots

At the US intelligence level, evidence was being accumulated in 2020 that lent credence to the possibility of a Chinese lab leak. US intelligence officials said "there is no evidence the coronavirus pandemic was created in a laboratory as a potential bio-weapon or engineered." Still, those words did not negate the scenario of a lab leak. A few days after that statement, nine officials from the current and former US intelligence and national security services who are familiar with the investigations in progress said the possibility that the pandemic was triggered by an accident at a research facility in Wuhan was "certainly real" and was "absolutely under scrutiny at the highest level."[11] Several weeks later, President Trump noted with "a high degree of confidence" that the outbreak originated from the WIV, although he added that he could not reveal the details.[12]

Department of Defence. Since October 2019 (as later reported retrospectively), Jon Myers, then Director of Regional Intelligence at the Pentagon, repeatedly informed the Joint Chiefs of Staff about a potential virus lab leak in Wuhan. Although the information was accepted without reservations, the Joint Chiefs of Staff noted in April 2020 that the "weight of evidence" pointed to the "natural origins" of the virus.[13] Nonetheless, in June 2020, classified "secret", a 46-page analysis by the DIA scientists concluded that the unique make-up of COVID-19 was "consistent with the hypothesis" of "a lab-engineered virus" that emerged from "a large bank" of bat coronaviruses and "escaped".[14] Moreover, in August 2021, Major Joseph Murphy (affiliated with the DoD's DARPA) sent a disclosure concerning the origins of COVID-19 to the DoD Office of the Inspector General for investigation, focusing on a controversial EcoHealth-WIV research project (DEFUSE) that was disapproved by DARPA in 2018. Still, it was carried out in this manner, thereby indicating the plausible, yet unnatural, origins of COVID-19.[15]

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Led by the FBI's Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate, "work began in early 2020... FBI agents and analysts studied intelligence and conducted over 200 interviews of more than 80 people since the beginning of the pandemic."[16] Microbiologist Dr. Jason Bannan (a registered Democrat), the senior scientist of the FBI's forensic response section within the laboratory division (retired in 2022), noted, thereupon: "To me, there is enough scientific evidence to say it is likely this was a lab incident."

Although (or, perhaps because) he was relying on a decent body of evidence as regards the Wuhan lab-leak of a lab-upgraded scenario, Bannan was not invited to the National Intelligence Council's August 2021 briefing of President Biden. At any rate, in March 2023, FBI Director Christopher Wray indicated it was for a long time his bureau's assessment that "the origins of the pandemic are most likely a potential lab incident [in Wuhan]".[17]

State Department. Former US State Department weapons of mass destruction coordinator Thomas DiNanno (currently Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security) was told during the pandemic that any investigation into the roots of the virus would open a "can of worms", which implies unnatural roots, rather than natural. He noted: "That only gave me more incentive to pursue the truth because we had begun to see evidence and classified information. It... set off alarm bells. There were incredible discrepancies and inconsistencies," collectively. "We have all the information we need to make smart decisions, yet we refuse to do so. I don't think we need a [definitive conclusion]. The information I saw took a long time to come to light. If it wasn't for the Secretary of State personally intervening with the DNI, I don't think it would have... At its core, China is our adversary; this is not a matter of debate. If you choose to partner with China, undesirable outcomes could occur. It is so obvious to me. To assume the SARS program is not coupled with the BW program... I'm not willing to make that assumption. That's a dangerous assumption... You have to assume that if you're doing public health research with the Chinese that would be coupled or shared with military weapons programs. To choose them as the partner of choice seems incredibly stupid to me."[18] Sober, even if optional, contemporaneous spying on the Chinese is being given up.

Amid this turmoil, however, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo stressed in May 2020 that: "There is a significant amount of evidence that this virus came from that laboratory in Wuhan."[19] He added, though, significantly, that he has "no reason to doubt the US intelligence community's consensus that the virus was not man-made or genetically modified." Nonetheless, several months after his term as Secretary of State, relatively carefree and updated, he properly made the shift (June 2021). He said there is "genetic evidence" that the virus was manipulated through gain-of-function research (supported by US Federal bodies). He added as well that the Chinese "were conducting bioresearch there [in WIV], which was connected to the Chinese PLA... military work... [however] we don't know if that was connected to the work they were doing on these viruses." (much in similarity to Washington Times, 26 January 2020). "Everything suggests the CCP doesn't want us to know where this virus came from."[20]

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). For long, the CIA was "unable to determine" whether COVID-19 made a direct natural transition from animals to humans, or emerged from a lab. An alleged background for that lingering position has been linked to the following remarkable incident. Chairman of the House of Representatives' Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic, said (Sep. 2023) his panel and the House's Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence have heard testimony from a whistleblower "who presents as a highly credible senior-level CIA officer." Reputedly, the whistleblower testified that only the most senior analyst of a seven-member CIA team investigating the origin of COVID-19 supported the natural virus source theory.

The whistleblower alleged that the other six team members supporting the lab origin then received "a significant monetary incentive to change their position".[21] Moreover, the same Select Committee concomitantly noted that "According to information gathered by the Select Subcommittee, Dr. Anthony Fauci (more about him below), then-director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, played a role in the CIA's review of the origins of COVID-19. The information provided suggests that Dr. Fauci was escorted into CIA Headquarters – without a record of entry – and participated in the analysis to 'influence' the Agency's review."[22]

Eventually, in January 2025, the CIA released an assessment saying that the Agency regards the Wuhan lab-leak scenario as most likely. Curiously and appropriately, this shift was not propelled by new intelligence, but by the reevaluation of the "totality of evidence"[23] (fairly in equivalence with preponderance). Thereby, the CIA joined the FBI, as well as the Energy Department's estimate (of February 2023).

DNI and the President. On 26th of May, 2021, in a statement issued by the White House, US President Joe Biden noted: "I have now asked the Intelligence Community to redouble their efforts to collect and analyze information that could bring us closer to a definitive conclusion (about the roots of the pandemic, including whether it emerged from human contact with an infected animal or from a laboratory accident), and to report back to me in 90 days. As part of that report, I have requested areas of further inquiry that may be necessary, including specific questions for China. I have also requested that this effort include work by our National Laboratories and other government agencies to augment the Intelligence Community's efforts. And I have asked the Intelligence Community to keep Congress fully apprised of its work."[24]

The destination of Biden's - perfectly formulated, indeed – entreaty was, foremost, Avril Haines's office.

DNI Avril Haines (2021-2025) demonstrated a case of weakness and defeatism, if not tendentiousness, whether authentically or inducibly, as regards the quest for the COVID-19 roots. The US intelligence community report about the origins of the COVID-19, as reflected in a published unclassified summary (August 2021), was excessively inconclusive, and has hence been followed, as a result of President Biden's additional request, by a more detailed – yet still unduly faint – unclassified summary (October 2021)—assessments of low confidence predominate in both summaries.[25]

Handling the COVID-19 root issue in Europe, Asia and Australia

Britain. In March 2023, former British Health Secretary Matt Hancock was forced by the UK Cabinet to censor his book "The Pandemic Diaries", in terms of removing anything suggesting the virus could have come from a Wuhan lab, because "this could cause problems with China".[26]

As for China's attitude toward the lab-leak scenario, the UK Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee received in April 2024 a submitted report written by a British citizen, Emma Reilly, a former UN Human Rights officer, and a (fairly reliable) whistleblower, who postulated that: "Beijing exerts significant pressure on both senior UN officials and working-level staff writing reports to modify their contents to remove any conclusions, recommendations or discussion perceived as negative. Reports of both the WHO and UNEP on the origins of COVID-19 were edited to reduce references to the possibility of a laboratory leak".[27]

At a pretty early stage, Lord Patrick Vallance (plus colleagues), the chief scientific adviser to the UK Government during the pandemic, took part in an intriguingly tendentious multinational teleconference on 1st of February 2020, after which it is alleged scientists began dismissing the Wuhan lab-leak hypothesis as implausible;[28] Dr. Jeremy Ferrar was at proximity. Comparably, James Phillips, former Special Adviser to the Prime Minister between April 2020 and September 2022, noted that the lab-leak of a lab-upgraded virus scenario "is precisely the conclusion our team came to at the time, but in direct contradiction to the position the UK science establishment strongly took."[29] And yet, the science establishment (or certain predominant portions therein) was indecently manoeuvring. It shouldn't have been influential at all; hence, just as it shouldn't be in the USA either, and somewhat in Australia. This designed inter-hemispheric nexus eventually failed, thanks to a persistently struggling minority of the objective scientific community, and, considerably, thanks to various forms of exposing intelligence that were laboriously attained, contrasting and undermining the vitality of that infamous nexus.

Broad sections of the British scientific community refrained from addressing the roots of the virus, instead referring to the issue in a banal and ambivalent manner, citing it as "too controversial". Elsewhere, a typically leading academic institution, such as King's College, London (Michael Goodman and Filippa Lentzos), has outcast the above-presented Washington Times primary point of reference, posing the lab-leak scenario as a "false narrative".[30] They blundered; the narrative turned out to be correct.

On April 5, 2020, British intelligence indicated that the features of COVID-19, as well as the extensive studies conducted in WIV on similar coronaviruses, rendered the "lab script" a "credible alternative view."[31] At the end of 2020, the US shared intelligence with the UK (as well as the other "Five Eyes" members – Canada, Australia, and New Zealand), indicating a "high likelihood" that the Wuhan lab-leak scenario was the origin of the pandemic.[32] This estimative input assisted a May 2021 British intelligence judgment, which suggested that it is "feasible" for the pandemic virus to have initially leaked from a Chinese research laboratory in Wuhan.[33]

Finally – Boris Johnson's conduct – an optimal illustration of the resultant Catch-22 tangle. The UK PM (2019-2022) faced the paradoxical constellation; he noted (May 2021) that "The stuff I've seen suggests that at the moment, the number one suspect for the origin of this disease is still a zoonotic disease that occurred as a result of the farming of wild animals in some way."[34] But in his memoir, "Unleashed", he wrote (September 2024): "The awful thing about the whole COVID catastrophe is that it appears to have been entirely artificial, in all its aspects."[35]

Notably, already in March 2020 has PM Johnson received a dossier (marked 'Secret – Recipient's Eyes Only') authored by a group of eminent academics and intelligence experts, compiled by Sir Richard Dearlove (the former head of MI6), and asserting that "It is now beyond reasonable doubt that COVID-19 was engineered in the WIV".[36] It further held that Beijing was pushing a false narrative that the virus had originated in an animal market, and that China had even retrospectively manipulated viral samples to lend credence to the deception. Allegedly, the vital argument was dismissed by Patrick Vallance, a familiar face during the pandemic, who often flanked PM Johnson at No. 10 news conferences. Sir Richard wrote of his dossier: "Boris himself was persuaded by its argument. But the weight of the

Government's scientific establishment, already signed up to the Chinese narrative, prevailed."[37] It appears that Sir Richard was precise and correct.

Australia. Australia was among the first countries to call for an independent investigation into the origins of COVID-19, which strained its relations with China. The government has emphasised the need for a transparent inquiry, yet without explicitly endorsing any specific theory about the virus's origins. Australian PM Scott Morrison declined in April 2020 to buy into the lab theory, stating, intriguingly, that he had "not seen anything that suggests that conclusively, while virus emergence from the Wuhan wet market appears more likely."[38] Other voices in the Australian government held that it would be "unwise to rule out the possibility" of the lab-leak scenario. The Australian Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security was diplomatic on the question: "I think there are a lot of contentions, and all of them deserve to have a serious consideration. We have to be open-minded about all possibilities."[39]

At the end of 2020, the United States shared intelligence with Australia (as well as the other "Five Eyes" members—the UK, Canada, and New Zealand)—pointing to a "high likelihood" that the Wuhan lab-leak scenario was the origin of the pandemic.[40] Regarding Australia, this intelligence course has certainly been reciprocal and fruitful, considering that a wealth of signal intelligence collected in Asia, mainly by Australia, regarding the origins of COVID-19 in Wuhan was passed to the CIA. Bringing this out, USA knowledgeable analyst Dr. David Asher commented in February 2025 that "it was reasonably clear based on the reactions of senior Chinese leaders that something terrible had gone wrong inside WIV", and that nevertheless "the Australian government has been so passive", lengthily thereafter.[41]

Canada. Canada has maintained a cautious stance. In June 2021, while participating in G7 discussions about the origins of the virus, Canadian government officials did not publicly endorse the lab-leak theory, emphasising the need for a thorough and transparent investigation. And yet, by June 2021, Canada already had complete information about WIV, as obtained during the interrogation of Dr. Qiu (mentioned above). Trudeau's administration was unkeen, though. It sought to block the publication of 600 pages of governmental documents with a lawsuit, strangely, striving to keep the records hidden. The release of the papers was enabled following a lengthy debate in the Canadian legislature, and it was not until March 2024 that parliament effectively voted to unlock the information.[42]

France. Remarkably, although French intelligence officials had already warned in 2015 that China was scaling back its agreed-upon collaboration at the WIV (mainly in terms of French supervision) and that the WIV could one day be converted into a 'biological arsenal', France has been sceptical of the Wuhan lab-leak scenario. In April 2020, the French government stated there was no factual evidence linking COVID-19 to WIV, which France had helped establish a decade priorly. At last, however, France elegantly admitted in April 2025, through the French National Academy of Medicine, that the Wuhan accidental lab-leak scenario is acceptable (a stance held by 97% of the Academy members).[43]

Germany. An intelligence task code-named "Saaremaa," undertaken by the BND in 2020, led to the conclusion that the pandemic was an outcome of a lab leak from the WIV, with a probability level of 80-90%.[44]

It was brought out only in March 2025, though. The task had been commissioned by the office of Germany's Chancellor at the time, Angela Merkel. Germany shared the estimate with the CIA in the autumn of 2024. Notably, on the level of unclassified plus personal information inputs, a remarkable and fairly consequential effort to expose a COVID-19 lab-leak that occurred in WIV or another facility in Wuhan was carried out in Germany between 2020 to 2024 by a distinguished investigator – Robert Kogon (pen name);[45] it contributed significantly to the BND inquiry, in that it pointed to a network of certain facilities situated in Wuhan (WIV included), which were fostering tight bonds with top German institutions and virologists, and could have potentially provided highly informative, if not critical, clarifications about the pandemic virus roots in Wuhan.

Taiwan. Representing a distinct antithesis to the inconsistency and incoherence marking many countries, Chairman of the Taiwan government Development Centre for Biotechnology, Dr. Twu Shiing-jer, directly and severely blamed China: "With the COVID-19 pandemic, I've always thought that this is bioterrorism... China unleashed bioterrorism, this is a crime against humanity... China purposefully spread COVID-19 to every country."[46]

India and Japan. The two major continental rivals of China, in all likelihood, independently developed their intelligence assessments regarding the Wuhan lab-leak scenario, and yet kept them publicly undisclosed. They did not officially endorse or refute the Wuhan lab-leak scenario, for the time being. In India, however, numerous respectable academic studies, including several that arrived at highly consequential findings, and media references strongly supported the Wuhan lab-leak of a lab-upgraded virus scenario.

Russia and Iran symbolically exhibited solidarity towards China, their paramount continental ally. Russia has dismissed the lab-leak theory, suggesting instead that the virus may have originated from USUS laboratories. Russian officials and media have propagated alternative theories, aligning with China's stance and accusing the US of spreading disinformation. If the Russian intelligence were to reach a conclusion negating the Wuhan lab-leak scenario, it would most probably publish it. Alongside, the Iranian supreme leader claimed that the USUS possibly engineered the virus to target Iran. Thus, merely pleasing the Chinese Dragon, both Russia and Iran were, superficially, far and away from reality.

The Clownish Acrobat / Acrobatic Clown

On 27 January 2020, one day after the above Washington Times article constituted the primary point of reference posing the Wuhan lab-leak scenario, Dr. Antony Fauci and his Chief of Staff Greg Folkers, unwittingly instigated a notorious emails Pandora's Box that was later on exposed, indicating Fauci's indecent dichotomy as regards the Wuhan lab-leak of a lab-upgraded virus scenario. More senior figures also took part and joined in his condemnable attitude internationally, one way or another. So much has been written about the conduct and misconduct of Fauci and his colleagues since the coronavirus pandemic broke out; hence, it would be inelegant to recirculate this information. Notably, however, are a few anecdotes involving Fauci, which concern the origins of the virus and its acquisition of gained function-related core terminology. Hereafter, they are briefly presented.

"You don't know what you are talking about"[47] - a boomerang comment vulgarly delivered by Fauci, about the essence of the term Gain of Function, towards Senator Dr. (M.D.) Rand Paul, during a grotesque testimony by the former. Subsequently, Fauci's poor, tendentious, and ridiculous virtuosity concerning the definition of gain-of-function research, in general, and inferentially regarding COVID-19. All of that, aiming to refute the gain-of-function techniques applied in WIV, after having been funded by his institution, during uncanny experimental potentiation of coronaviruses towards the human host, performed in WIV.

Also, Fauci's brilliantly added adverb – "inherently" – to paper over and protect the aggressive – and yet hypocritical – rejection by his obedient cohort (hence himself, too) of the lab-leak scenario as "conspiracy" per se, namely, his June 2024 wriggling interpretation: "I don't think the concept of there being a [coronavirus] lab leak [in Wuhan] is inherently a conspiracy theory";[48] that is, seemingly: well, it was indeed claimed to be a conspiracy theory, but not a such one, so to say.

In short, it is unfortunate that Dr. Fauci, who exceptionally served continuously, during 38 years, under seven USA presidents, forgot, naively – particularly while serving under Trump, Biden and thereafter – President Abraham Lincoln's monumental saying: "You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time." Just one, perhaps the most consequential one, among the numerous items allegedly unremembered by Fauci (self-witnessed as the "representative of science") during his testimonies.

At any rate, a remarkable Timeline of Fauci's COVID-19 clownish acrobatics (until April 2020) is found here: https://amac.us/newsline/national-security/a-timeline-of-faucis-covid-19-deception/

With some fluctuations, this approach has been adhered to by Fauci for a long time, nonetheless. All in all, those extensive and intensive efforts by Fauci (et al.) were intended to discredit the lab-leak scenario, but, given their exposed tainted nature, they merely brought about the opposite outcome.

China's misconduct and counter-attitude

China has not been less acrobatic and clownish than Fauci, surprisingly or not. Oddly, at times it seemed as if both had (and still have) the same interests and objectives regarding how to conceptualise the roots of the virus.

In practical terms, China has been accused of (just a partial list):

- gain of function experimentation much beyond the norms (and beyond stated scopes agreed upon) (in WIV)

- giving rise to chimeric SARS viruses, deliberately without leaving any detectable trace (in WIV)

- responsibility for an accidental pandemic COVID-19 leakage and unintentional release events (in WIV)

- reporting about the initial epidemic outbreak (in Wuhan), much after its real time, falsely and knowingly

- reporting that the virus is non-transmissible among humans, falsely and knowingly

- allowing flights from China outwards as usual, including infected passengers

- Blurring, hiding and eliminating key data and informants concerning the

genomic origin of the index virus and the direct contagion source of patient zero.

Beyond, within the broad context of dual-use manipulated biotechnologies at large, formation of solid footholds right in the territory of an adversary (or ostensible partner), combined with massive scientific espionage, have been materialized by China in effect as a modus operandi in the US, Canada, Europe and elsewhere, during the recent decade.

Facing the severe accusations over the pandemic accountability, the Chinese line was from its birth blatant, and too unsophisticated, that is, to dictate – elegantly, but then often forcefully and compellingly – upon the WHO-Chinese investigative team of the COVID-19 index virus a decisive conclusion that the virus emerged from an animal source through natural evolution and not in a lab. The obedience of WHO experts was astonishing. The Chinese objective was quite well fulfilled in the concluding formulation achieved, eventually, by the team, namely, "extremely unlikely", as regards the lab-leak scenario; and the Chinese line has since been plain – to adhere to that conclusion as is, no matter what arguments are posed as against it. Significantly robotic– and yet too simple, indeed. Alongside this, China undertook an immense endeavour – in vain – to identify a primary natural animal host of the virus and to determine a possible natural evolutionary course that could lead to the emergence of the index virus. All the findings they obtained were inadequate, whether evaluated as direct or circumstantial evidence, whether considered individually or collectively.

The White Paper issued by China[49], in retaliation for the reshaped website blaming China for the pandemic, instigated by the White House (April 2025[50]), has been a piquant flavour. As but two ridiculous examples out of numerous appearing in the Chinese White Paper, respiratory morbidity that occurred in USA during 2019 due to "e-cigarette or vaping product use-associated lung injury" was "converted" in the Chinese White Paper into COVID-19; whereas real COVID-19 cases recorded in USA in December 2019 "constitute" another Chinese argument that the virus initially emerged in USA, worldwide. Of course, by December 2019, the virus had already been imported to the USA by infected individuals coming from China, where the primary outbreak and contagion had started in November, or even earlier, to be more precise. Ridiculous, indeed, if not primitive.

Exposing the genuine origins of the pandemic virus that leaked in Wuhan in 2019 has indeed become a core issue of polarisation between the USA and China, diplomatically, politically, and confrontationally – much beyond its cardinal biomedical importance – in global, strategic, and economic senses. Among other things, though, and in contrast to the Biden administration, it reflects the determination of Trump's administration to firmly reveal, justly, whole truths and pose them explicitly in the face of China, entirely irrespective of the latter's fondness, pleasedness, or endless, contempt reiteration it dislikes the issue being politicized. Unlike Trump's USA, Europe, other countries, and the WHO are still hanging around, somewhat, unfortunately.

At last, and at any rate on a discrete sphere, the question of a (major) part of WIV's coronavirus explorations being or not being a component of China's biological warfare program at large is open, thus far. Either way, the answer does not alter the contents of the entire text above. If the answer is yes, then it simply adds another domain, which has its own, highly challenging, and meaningful aspects. And the chances for a positive answer appear to be more than fifty

per cent, by all means. The grand, methodically well indoctrinated Chinese concept of unrestricted hybrid warfare is interconnected, of which the biological warfare dimension constitutes an inherent element. Broadly, the West ought to fully recognise China's geo-strategic orientations in their entirety, and thereupon finely differentiate between the dangerous, very often masked, 'octopodal ingredients' composing them, and the tempting, seemingly beneficial, attractive ingredients they bear. It so happened, that very lately, one of those Chinese 'octopodal ingredients' is about to be incapacitated, in accord with USA Secretary of State Marco Rubio's announcement: "The USA will begin revoking visas of Chinese students, including those with connections to the CCP or studying in critical fields"[51], because – as per the FBI – they "operate as non-traditional collectors of intellectual property," and often generate legal matters that concerned US national security. Amazingly or not, an actual echo emerged recently in the form of a devastating fungus, potentially constituting a colossal agro terrorism threat, smuggled into the USA ostensibly for academic purposes.[52]Only China knows how many further equivalent plots have already taken place, worldwide, and will be added in the future. The Chinese BW menace, at least in terms of off-China infrastructure seeding, is being materialised, albeit cryptically, and may be steadily increasing if not forcefully tackled.

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