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# The Challenge of the Times (Part One)

## Interlocking Histories: 9/11, the Anthrax Attacks and Covid-19

by Richard Ramsbotham

Towards the end of last year it was announced officially that “the 9/11 era is over.” As this time of the year (Midsummer and St. John’s tide) has been linked with ‘historical conscience’<sup>1</sup>, and as the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11 will be before the next issue of *New View*, I’m not sure we should allow this whole “era” to be snatched away from us. My attention has been on the anthrax attacks (of 2001) from the beginning of ‘Covid-19’, so I have written on some aspects of them here in a double article. The first part explores the relevance of 9/11 and the anthrax attacks for our present situation. The second part offers a different way of looking at some of the troubling perspectives of the first part and ends by addressing the future.

As we approach the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11, the Covid-19 crisis enables us to see what happened in September and October 2001 in a completely different light. We now see quite clearly, for example, how ‘9/11’<sup>2</sup> consisted of *two events* – the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks that destroyed the World Trade Centre (WTC) Buildings in New York, killing over 3000 people; and the anthrax attacks almost immediately afterwards, where letters were sent containing anthrax (some of it “weaponized”) to media organisations and politicians through the U.S. mail, killing 5 people and injuring 17. Anyone reflecting on the changes in global politics and policymaking over the last twenty years can easily see the pivotal role played by both attacks in relation to many of the most dramatic events on the world-stage since 2001. And just as for a long time the almost apocalyptic images of the collapse of the ‘Twin Towers’ eclipsed the far less outwardly dramatic anthrax attacks, the Covid-19 crisis has now made the anthrax attacks, and the monumental changes they brought about in *global health security*, eclipse the building collapses in turn. The impact of the 2001 anthrax attacks on almost every single aspect of our lives, has suddenly made them, as very few people foresaw, *by far* the most relevant part of ‘9/11’ today.

### The anthrax attacks and public health – ‘everything changed’

Tony Fauci – ‘Chief Medical Advisor to the U.S. President’ and little out of the news these days – made clear in 2011 how the whole development of public health since 2001, not only in relation to ‘bioterror’

but also to all infectious diseases, was born from the response to the anthrax attacks:

“From that point on, bioterror was a reality and no longer an abstract concept.... We understood at that time that

*anthrax would not be the end of the story.... The response to the anthrax attacks morphed into a much broader effort that encompassed not only preparedness for anthrax and other deliberate biothreats, but also for naturally emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases that threaten both public health and national security.”*<sup>3</sup>

Julie Gerberding, a senior figure in U.S. Global Health Security, who was a prominent spokeswoman for the CDC (Centres for Disease Control and Prevention) during the anthrax attacks<sup>4</sup>, also speaks of the utter transformation these brought:

“On September 11, 2001, the United States experienced the worst terrorist attack in its history. As the nation sought to deal with the tragedy, it would face a *second wave of terrorism – this time, in the form of a biological attack...* Bacillus anthracis spores had been intentionally distributed through the postal system, causing 22 cases of anthrax and *forever changing the realm of public health.*”<sup>5</sup>

One result of this was that leading public health professionals suddenly acquired governmental, almost military roles. As Fauci said: “*When public health becomes national security*, then scientists like myself find ourselves walking in an arena and an environment that we don’t usually walk in.”<sup>6</sup> They became the warriors and generals on the frontline of the battle for the safety and health of the nation: “When the anthrax attack came ... it was very, very clear that we were in the middle of a war... in which we were one of the primary groups of people who’d be fighting that war, namely the biomedical research community... *So everything changed.*”<sup>7</sup>

Tom Inglesby, the director of the Johns Hopkins Centre for Health Security, speaking in 2011 to most of the major figures in that “biomedical research community” about the significance of the anthrax attacks for the future of Biosecurity, reminded them all

how their work in its present form had sprung from the response to those attacks: *“this is a community that was largely born out of the severe jolt of 2001”*.<sup>8</sup>

### **Anthrax veterans in the war against Covid-19**

Ingelsby was speaking on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the anthrax attacks, but in 2021, on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, he would surely repeat these words. That community has never been stronger and, like military veterans who having come through one war later go on to fight in another, many of the same people who were active in the U.S. response to the anthrax attacks are now at the forefront of the response to Covid-19.

Inglesby himself is one of them, as is Gerberding, as of course is Fauci. Three of the leading figures in Donald Trump’s Coronavirus Response Team were also ‘anthrax veterans’. Anne Schuchat, deputy director of the CDC was part of their ‘*Anthrax Emergency Response Team*’ in 2001.<sup>9</sup> Alex Azar, former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, worked in the same department at the time of 9/11 where he *“played an important role in responding to the 2001 anthrax attacks”*.<sup>10</sup> And Robert Kadlec, former Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, *“served as Special Advisor ... in the Office of the Secretary of Defense during 9/11 and the 2001 anthrax attacks.”*<sup>11</sup>

Joe Biden himself, as we shall see later, is also in a certain sense an “anthrax veteran”, because of his political involvement at the time. His ‘Covid Task Force’ includes the ‘anthrax veteran’ Michael Osterholm, who was an adviser to the Bush administration over the anthrax attacks. In his 2017 book *Deadliest Enemy*, about bioterrorism and pandemics, updated in 2020 to include Covid-19, he describes, in a chapter about the anthrax attacks, how a bioterrorist incident would be far more serious than the 9/11 attacks:

*“As horrific as it is to think of two jetliners hitting and bringing down the World Trade Center towers, that was a readily ‘survivable’ tragedy for New York City and the nation. At the end of the day on September 11, 2001, the terrorist act was over and the recovery could commence. With a bioterror event, the end of the day would be only the beginning...”*<sup>12</sup>

Although Osterholm is speaking of a ‘bioterror event’ it is important to understand that a *pandemic* like Covid-19 is now viewed (and responded to) as an emergency *of the same kind* as a bioterror incident. Fauci was probably the first to be fully aware of this, in 2001 already, and recalls: *“sitting with my staff ... after the anthrax attack, and (telling) them that as far as I’m concerned, a bioterrorism microbe is just another form of an emerging or re-emerging disease.”*<sup>13</sup>

The dangers posed by Covid-19 are therefore to be seen as *no different*, essentially, from those posed by the 2001 anthrax attacks, except that they are on a far greater

scale. This view was clearly put forward in October 2020 by another ‘anthrax veteran’, Mark G. Kortepeter:

*“COVID has had a great impact like a bioweapon, in terms of the disruption of daily life, impact on leadership and economy... It has had a greater impact than we saw with an actual release of a bioweapon like anthrax.”*<sup>14</sup>

The whole gigantic public health system (integrating medical, governmental and even military resources) that came into existence as a result of the 2001 anthrax attacks is now, after 20 years of development, employed in the battle against Covid-19. And leading this battle are many of the same individuals (and the same organisations and departments) as were involved 20 years ago – those people referred to by Inglesby as the *“community ... largely born out of the severe jolt of 2001”*.

### **The anthrax attacks and 9/11**

That “severe jolt” was given not only by the anthrax attacks but also by the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks on the WTC buildings. It was the *joint impact* of these two events, in quick succession, that led to the radical transformation in public health. Three months after the attacks this was made clear in a National Forum on Biodefense, whose confidential report concluded:

*“The United States faces new challenges in a world shaken by attacks with hijacked airplanes and biological agents on the U.S. homeland. Terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction threaten U.S. national security, and public health has now become a key element to U.S. defense.”*<sup>15</sup>

This catapulting of public health to a matter of national security was then enabled through funding increases on a previously unimaginable scale. As the *New York Times* journalists Judith Miller and William Broad wrote in 2002:

*“September 11<sup>th</sup> and the subsequent anthrax attacks radically shifted the administration’s assessment of the nation’s... spending priorities. When the White House unveiled its proposed budget in February 2002, even the most ardent supporters of germ defenses were amazed.”*<sup>16</sup>

Most of the money went to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) directed by Tony Fauci, whose budget for the year 2002/3 was boosted by \$1.5 billion. Fauci proudly called this: *“the largest single increase literally in the history of the NIH for any discipline or any institute.”*<sup>17</sup>

Looking back in 2016 at the events of 2001, he too described how it was the *joint emergencies* of 2001 that had made this possible: *“the juxtaposition of the Attacks of 9/11 followed soon thereafter by the release of Anthrax through the Postal Service... triggered an extraordinary amount... of resources to build what we called a Biodefence Programme.”*<sup>18</sup> To emphasize



this to his audience – a gathering of almost ‘everyone who was anyone’ in the biodefense community – he superimposed the two events on an image he had created. (See image to the right.)

For the tenth anniversary of 9/11 this *juxtaposition* and the transformation it had wrought in public health had been enshrined in a major report, which was not only a looking back, but through its cover image and much of its content set the tone for the official approach to these events during the following decade.

The cover image portrays, iconically, the simultaneous attacks on our outer and inner worlds – the joint catastrophe of the fatally struck towers without and the fatally diseased breathing system within. The title grants these two attacks equal status and the subtitle affirms public health’s new role. The articles then put into words, unambiguously, what is expressed on the cover.

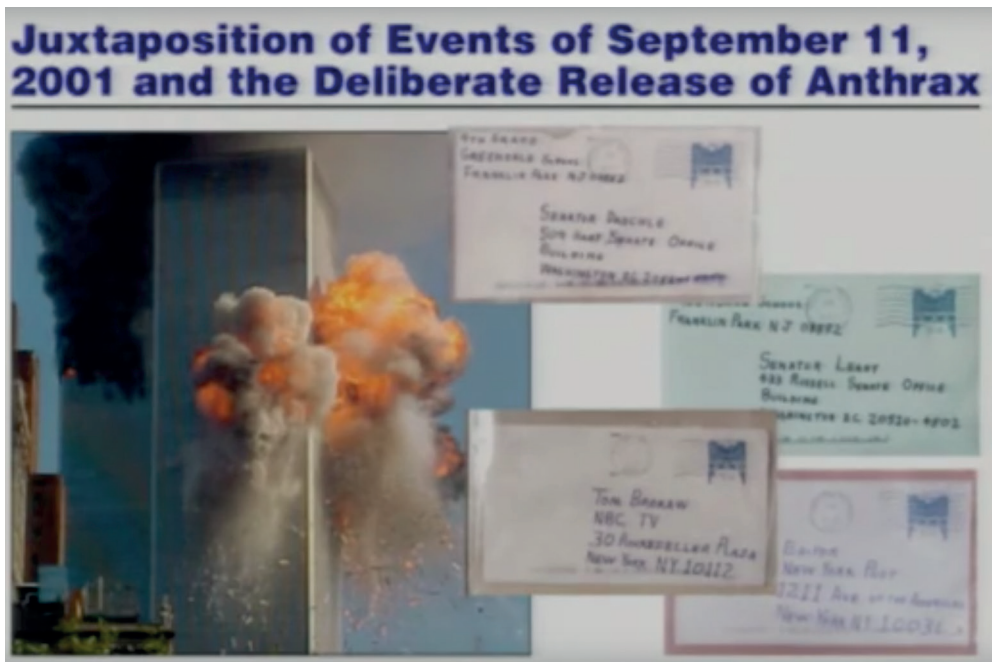


Image presented by Tony Fauci in 2016

Article after article reiterates this. One author, Alonzo Plough, depicted how the seismic change in public health after the joint events of 2001 would keep on growing in significance, facing new threats in each new decade:

“Something... fundamentally changed in the public health field after 9/11. This was nailed home when the anthrax attacks occurred... We had thought that our senses were heightened to bioterrorism, but, in reality, our focus wasn’t that high. September 11, 2001 pumped it up high and anthrax took it to new heights.... There will be something in the future... As a country, we need to think about the incredible times in 2001 and ensure we are better capable to respond in 2011, 2021 and on.”<sup>20</sup>

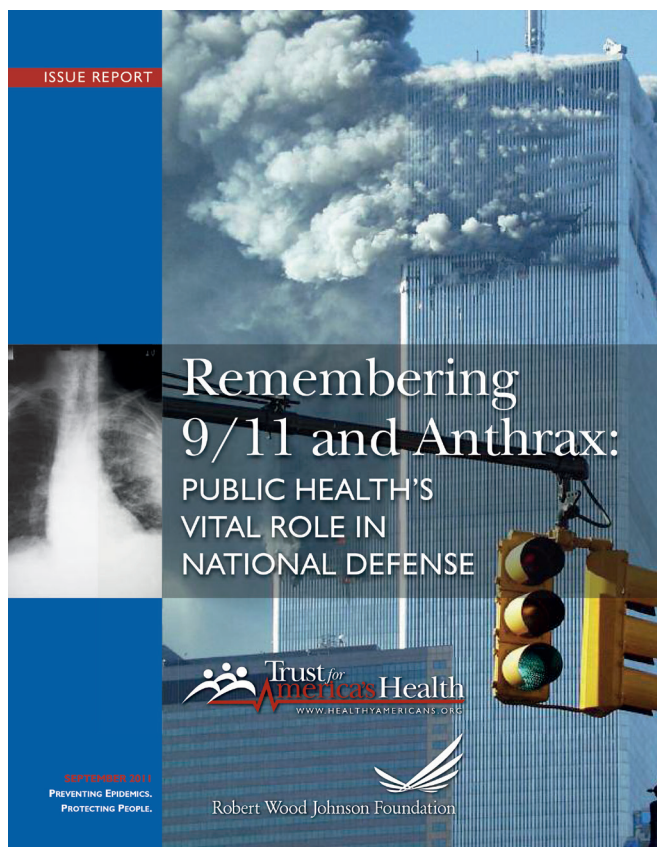
Plough’s words seem indeed to have been prophetic, pointing forward to today. We shall look later at how the foundation built on the two events of 2001 was steadily built on in order to arrive at where we are today.

In this opening section of the article I have attempted to show how *both* events were needed to create this foundation. For the 9/11 attacks and the anthrax attacks not only belong together, they *depend* on one another.

### But...

And it is a very large BUT indeed. The two events could not have worked out more differently.

Whoever was responsible for the events of 9/11, and the destruction of the WTC buildings in New York, must themselves, one imagines, have been amazed at the extraordinary “success” of what they achieved. The images of 9/11 have remained etched in people’s consciousness. Their almost unbelievably shocking and horrific character may well have far exceeded what even



‘Remembering 9/11 and Anthrax’ report, 2011

The introduction begins: “Ten years ago, the September 11th and anthrax tragedies shook the country to our core... the field of public health preparedness was forever changed... and we should never forget why.”<sup>19</sup>

in their darkest imaginings they had thought possible. It was, one could say, a *masterpiece of evil*.

The anthrax attacks, although they killed five people and caused widespread fear and disruption, were an equally dramatic *failure*. Though the way they are referred to often prevents this being seen, they could hardly have gone more wrong. They even threatened to become an embarrassment on the largest possible scale.

There is now what they call a “gap in the manuscript”. Quite a large one. A full-length book on this would now include chapters on the following questions: *Who carried out the anthrax attacks? Who was behind them? What were their motives? How do these motives relate to those behind 9/11?*

We cannot explore the first two questions in this article, but will look at the last two. Simply put, the agenda behind 9/11 was above all a *military and geopolitical* one.<sup>21</sup> The agenda behind the anthrax attacks may be described as that of *Emergency Health Preparedness*. Both agendas were crucial in order to achieve the overall, long-term aims behind the events of September and October 2001.

### **Military and geopolitical agenda – after 9/11**

The Iraq War in 2003, for example, was obviously part of the military/geopolitical agenda, as was the global ‘War on Terror’. But as there was zero evidence linking Iraq to 9/11, war could only be justified by claiming that Saddam Hussein’s Iraq possessed and was highly likely to *use* bioweapons or ‘Weapons of Mass Destruction’ (WMDs). The initial intention, unquestionably, had been to blame the anthrax attacks on Iraq.<sup>22</sup> The whole drive to war *depended* on this accusation. Thus Colin Powell (U.S. Secretary of State), in his 2003 speech to the U.N. making the case for war, waved a vial of anthrax in front of those assembled and showed films of Iraqi jets supposedly spraying liquid anthrax from the air. This, said Powell, was the danger Iraq posed to the world. It wasn’t! The anthrax attacks were clearly shown to have stemmed from within the U.S. biodefence establishment and no evidence of WMDs in Iraq was ever found. So although 9/11 gave popular support for war with Iraq, the grounds given for it simply did not exist. That the U.S., the UK and their allies waged all-out war regardless is now widely – though not officially – recognized as the shameful *war crime* it is.

### **Emergency Health Preparedness agenda – after the anthrax attacks**

The “Emergency Health Preparedness” agenda, as its name shows, has to do with the Public Health System’s *preparedness* to respond to a major health emergency. For as long as this only involved the response to “infectious diseases”, the size of this agenda remained proportionate to the actual problem. But since at least

the early 1980s, the perceived threat of attacks on the U.S. (and elsewhere) with biological weapons had been so massively escalated that the constant maxim of this agenda became: “we can *never* be prepared enough!” When at last in 2001 the anthrax attacks happened – the sole example of an “attack” with bioweapons in the U.S. – juxtaposed as they were with 9/11 – the Preparedness Agenda (and its budget) *went through the roof* and have grown exponentially ever since.

### **Anthrax, Smallpox and Dick Cheney**

As the anthrax attacks are in many ways the birth-moment of much of what we are experiencing now, let us look at that moment a little more closely to see what can be learned from it.

On September 5<sup>th</sup> 2001, shortly before 9/11 and the anthrax attacks<sup>23</sup>, Joe Biden (as Senator) chaired a Congressional Hearing on ‘*The Threat of Bioterrorism and the Spread of Infectious Diseases*.’ Picturing a bioterror attack in the near future on the USA, Biden asked D.A. Henderson<sup>24</sup>: “If I am the terrorist, what is the disease, what is the pathogen that is most easily accessible to me and most able to be transported by me with the most devastating impact? Are they the same diseases?”<sup>25</sup>

Henderson replied: “No, they are not the same diseases.” *Anthrax* was the most easily accessible and transportable, but as it is not transmissible from person to person, *smallpox*, which spreads easily, would have by far “the most devastating impact”. (Smallpox, which spreads so swiftly, is also seen as the clearest example of a disease that everyone must be vaccinated against.) *Anthrax* and *smallpox* were thus the deadly twins at the forefront of the gigantic propaganda of fear against bioterrorism between the 1980s and 2001. Among the countless examples one could give of this, the clearest and best known, is the emergency exercise called ‘Dark Winter’ that took place in June 2001. Supposedly to prepare people for such an event, should it happen, Dark Winter enacted the mock scenario of a biowarfare attack on the U.S., where an Islamic terrorist, using a bioweapon containing smallpox, sets off a smallpox epidemic in the U.S.

Dark Winter has rightly received much attention recently, for its relevance both for the anthrax attacks *and* for the current Covid-19 crisis. Vaccination and *proof of vaccination*, for example, were of critical importance in Dark Winter’s mock scenario. To prevent the epidemic spreading from one state to another, borders were closed and “all surface and air transportation” suspended. The law was introduced that: “*No individuals may enter (another state) without proof of a recent smallpox vaccination.*”

With “fake news” now being a term of abuse, it is worth noting that such scenarios as these really *do* present fake news. Individuals act out the roles, for



example, of the U.S. President, the head of the CIA and leading media figures, and in these roles produce “fake” statements or “fake” TV reports. A “fake” memo to the Attorney General, for example, sets out the terms by which *martial law* can be declared, which is increasingly considered necessary to control the social chaos caused by the smallpox epidemic. The memo begins: “Martial law depends for its justification upon public necessity” and describes the President’s right to impose martial law, as he has “metaconstitutional authority to act in times of national emergency.” The memo’s relevance for the Covid-19 crisis is clear: “Options for martial rule include, but are not limited to, *prohibition of free assembly, national travel ban, quarantine of certain areas, suspension of the writ of habeas corpus [ie, arrest without due process]...*”, etc.<sup>26</sup>

Dark Winter’s scenario has to do with a deliberately created smallpox epidemic. In the script’s final paragraph, however, there is also mentioned an attack with anthrax. Exactly as happened in the anthrax attacks, *letters* are sent anonymously to major US news organisations. (*The New York Times, Washington Post and USA Today*.) These “fake” letters in Dark Winter though, instead of containing anthrax, contain “a genetic fingerprint of the smallpox strain” that caused the epidemic, thus proving the senders’ authenticity. The letters state that if the terrorists’ demands are not met there will be further attacks, “*which will include anthrax, plague and smallpox.*”

Dark Winter imagines the first ever bioterrorist attack on the USA, and at the very start of the exercise suspects “a close personal friend... of Usama bin Laden” of having played a key role in the attacks. (Supported by Iraq, who are in turn aided by scientists “from the former Soviet bioweapons program”.) As less than three months afterwards the USA *did* seemingly suffer its first ever bioterrorist attack (the anthrax attacks), with the very same suspects being accused by politicians and the media (until it was discovered the attacks were U.S.-made), the uncanny ‘prescience’ of Dark Winter has rightly been called into question. Did they *predict* the anthrax attacks, or did they help *prepare* for them in some way?

### Smallpox vaccinations,

#### Dark Winter and Dick Cheney

The official view regarding the link between the anthrax attacks and Dark Winter<sup>27</sup> is as follows.

For a long time already, prior to 2001, there had been a huge push to create and stockpile enough smallpox vaccine for *every U.S. citizen* – at least 300 million doses. The pharmaceutical companies involved obviously stood to make vast profits from this, But there were also greater issues at stake. For to carry out a nationwide vaccination program contractors making smallpox vaccines for the *military* would have to join

forces with *civilian* contractors. Complex, bureaucratic problems needed solving in order to achieve this.<sup>28</sup>

This union between the military and ‘public health’ is at the core of our current crisis. This was strongly foreshadowed during this issue of nationwide smallpox vaccination in 2001-2003, where it would be argued that *mandatory vaccination*, which is normal in the military, should be imposed on civilians as well.

It is an accepted fact that Dark Winter, greatly heightening fears about smallpox, was linked with this drive for a smallpox vaccination programme.<sup>29</sup> But the official story is that only *after* September 11th and only *after* the mailing of the first anthrax letters on September 18<sup>th</sup>, did Vice President Dick Cheney first hear about Dark Winter and its disturbingly prescient scenario. According to the *New York Times*: “Lewis Libby, ... Cheney’s chief of staff... arranged for his boss to see a video of the Dark Winter exercise **on September 20<sup>th</sup>**.... Officials said the vice president was so alarmed by the exercise that he raised the smallpox vaccine issue at a National Security Council meeting later that day.”<sup>30</sup> Goaded into action, therefore, by seeing Dark Winter, Cheney immediately, apparently, urged that maximum support be given to the nationwide vaccine programme. Cheney then seems to have pretty much forced President Bush to agree: “*‘The Vice President was pushing it, and the President was going along with it,’* a senior administration official said.”<sup>31</sup>

What happened next makes clear that the ‘anthrax attacks’ in fact had to do with anthrax *and* smallpox. The attacks were two-pronged – for the shock event of the bioterrorist attack with anthrax, causing widespread panic, was followed by the attempt at a quasi-mandatory vaccination programme of the whole country against smallpox.<sup>32</sup>

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, Tommy Thompson, announced he had made an agreement that the pharmaceutical company Acambis would carry out the vaccination programme. The next day, October 4<sup>th</sup>, Thompson *just so happened* to be at the White House briefing Cheney and Bush about the vaccination programme (and further “bioterrorism plans”) at the very moment when the news broke that someone had been diagnosed with anthrax. (Robert Stevens, the first victim of the anthrax attacks, who died the following day.) Thompson’s meeting with Cheney and Bush has been called “a pivotal moment”, but even the *New York Times* refuses to call it a coincidence. During the meeting, before any public knowledge of the anthrax attacks<sup>33</sup>, President Bush committed a completely unprecedented \$1.6 billion to counter bioterrorism. When the meeting ended, right on cue, Thompson walked out onto the White House lawn and spoke to the Press about the anthrax poisoning.<sup>34</sup>

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## Holes in the narrative

The official story, then, is:

After the first anthrax letters had been sent out Cheney learns about Dark Winter. Shocked by discovering what a bioterrorism attack with smallpox could do, he urges President Bush to authorize a nationwide smallpox vaccination programme. Bush agrees and commits \$1.6 billion towards this at a meeting with Cheney and the Secretary of Health and Human Services. During the meeting the first indication of the anthrax attacks is made known by the media. Thus was born the merging of *Public Health* and *National Security* that we are experiencing today to an even greater degree.

This is utter nonsense.

Though a whole book might be needed to show all the holes in this narrative, the few facts described here are easily disproved. Particularly regarding the *timing* of Cheney's knowledge of Dark Winter.

As we have mentioned, on **September 5<sup>th</sup>**, 2001, Senator (now President) Biden chaired a U.S. Senate Committee Hearing on: "*The Threat of Bioterrorism and the Spread of Infectious Diseases*."<sup>35</sup> Biden began by underlining how interlinked these two threats are: "Our globalized world... is a perfect breeding ground for the spread of disease, *whether from natural epidemics or bioterrorism*." (The deliberate blurring of any distinction between these two quite different realities is fundamental to the whole "Health Emergency" we are suffering under today.) The purpose of the day's Hearing, said Biden, was to understand "how well prepared we are to engage those threats and what we need to do if we are not fully prepared".

Without more ado Biden then said that the Hearing would open with a discussion of the "*chilling simulated exercise called Dark Winter*", which presented a "*nightmare scenario* exposing serious flaws in our public health infrastructure's ability to deal with a major disease, *whether it be a smallpox attack or a flu epidemic*." Biden had, he said, "reviewed that scenario last night (September 4<sup>th</sup>) and I can tell you that it is harrowing."

The whole Hearing was premised on an imminent bioterrorism attack on America, with 'Dark Winter' providing the role model both for the attack and for the measures to be taken in response. Thus Joe Biden 'predicts' or 'prophesies' what the anthrax attacks would soon make happen in America and what Covid-19 has made happen worldwide:

"If, God forbid, America should ever be attacked by biological weapons, *it will be the scientists and the public health professionals on the front lines*, not just our men and women in uniform."

Biden then emphasizes the *extreme likelihood* of such an attack and even, it could be said, looks forward to today:

"I said that God forbid we should ever be attacked in this manner. But the truth is that *such an attack is more likely today than it ever has been in the past*, and that *the comparable natural epidemic is all too possible in the decades to come*."

Biden was not just using guesswork. At the end of the discussion of Dark Winter Biden shared what perhaps he should not have, that he had heard from the highest levels of the CIA that such a "bioterrorist attack" was not just likely but *imminent*:

"Let me conclude by saying that our present intelligence director, CIA Director, indicates on a classified basis that this is a very, very high concern, that this is more probable, this kind of occurrence is more probable than most any other."<sup>36</sup> (*All emphases are mine*)

## Cheney?

It is obviously impossible that Cheney did not know of this classified CIA information that Biden referred to. So did he also know about Dark Winter?

At the end of the Hearing a written statement by Senator Bill Frist, who could not be present, was given out. In many ways Frist was far more qualified than Biden to address the themes of the Hearing. In 2000 he had brought in the legislation enabling the Department of *Defense* and the Department of *Health* to work *together* in response to "bioterrorism and infectious diseases."<sup>37</sup> Frist had clearly imagined his comments would be read out at the *start* of the Hearing, for he writes: "Not only will the discussion today focus on steps... to improve our response to bioterrorist threats, but *it will also look at lessons learned from Dark Winter*." Four sentences later, after giving his approval to the Bush Administration's approach to "terrorist threats" he adds: "*Furthermore, Vice President Cheney will soon be reporting to Congress* about the program needs to deal with biological and other weapons of mass destruction. I eagerly await his recommendations."

It is completely absurd, in the light of this, to think that Cheney was not *at least* as aware of Dark Winter as Biden and Frist were. Particularly when we know that *already on September 11<sup>th</sup>* Cheney and his staff all took Cipro, the main antibiotic against anthrax, clearly in expectation of a possible anthrax attack. The lawyer Larry Klayman, who was defending some of the victims of the anthrax attacks, said about this: "On September 11<sup>th</sup>... it's been *reported by the New York Times* and other major news organisations and *confirmed by the White House* that the President's Office and the Vice President's office went on Cipro... The White House went on Cipro. *It must have known that either an attack was underway or it was imminent*."<sup>38</sup>

### Last comments on Sept 5<sup>th</sup> Hearing

Before leaving this extraordinary September 5<sup>th</sup> Hearing, which is of great importance regarding U.S. foreknowledge of (or preparation for) the anthrax attacks, we will mention a couple of remaining aspects which sound more like foreknowledge of (or preparation for) today.

In Dark Winter Sam Nunn played the role of the U.S. President. Nunn told the Hearing of his strongest experiences during the exercise. One of these was when, after fearing the U.S. would run out of vaccines, a large amount of new (but untried) vaccines became available:

*“Immediately on one hand we were saying wonderful. On the other hand, we were saying is it safe. Do we have time to test it? Can we afford to go out there and put out this kind of vaccine in millions of people not knowing whether it might itself kill them. All those things led me to the conclusion that I could not accurately describe with honesty to the American people what was happening.”*

When Nunn was asked what lessons he could pass on to any future U.S. President, based on his experience in Dark Winter, he replied:

*“I would look for every overlap between infectious disease and biological terrorism. Because we’ve got to make this a global issue. It can’t just be the United States. We have got to involve the World Health Organization. We’ve got to work with people around the globe. We’ve got to work with the Russians.”* (Readers can decide for themselves what to make of the last suggestion. Perhaps today this should read “with the Chinese”?)

### Bill Frist

Bill Frist, whose concluding statement linked Dick Cheney and Dark Winter, is unknown in the UK. Perhaps he shouldn’t be. President Bush once considered making him Vice President instead of Cheney, worried apparently that Cheney “was seen as dark and heartless – the Darth Vader of the administration.”<sup>39</sup> On October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2001, before any announcement of the anthrax cases being the result of a bioterrorist attack, Frist told the Senate they were probably the beginning of “a new front in the war on terror”, namely “biological warfare”, and that Osama bin Laden was probably the evil mastermind behind them.<sup>40</sup> (He was not.) Frist was then the White House’s Chief Spokesperson during the anthrax attacks.<sup>41</sup> In January 2002 he co-sponsored the ‘*Bioterrorism Preparedness Act of 2001*’<sup>42</sup>, which leads in a direct line to today. Most drastically for today, however, Frist was the politician who secured the legislation protecting pharmaceutical companies from all liability for injuries or even deaths that their vaccines might cause.<sup>43</sup>

### Regarding mandatory vaccination

The fears generated and the lessons learned from Dark Winter unquestionably belong to the build-up both to the anthrax attacks and to the simultaneous push for a

smallpox vaccination programme.

The interrelationship of these twin bio-events continued. The anthrax attacks of October 2001 not only led to colossal developments and funding increases for *Bioterrorism Preparedness* but also helped speed through the ‘Patriot Act’<sup>44</sup> and the ‘Homeland Security Act’, which made it possible to impose previously unthinkable emergency measures. Among other things this enabled the smallpox vaccination programme to go into overdrive, and during 2002 and 2003 there were serious attempts to impose *mandatory vaccinations*.

This could never have happened without the anthrax attacks. As smallpox has been eradicated as a disease, the only argument for smallpox vaccinations is the risk of a bioterrorist attack using weaponized smallpox. This would *not* have been considered a credible risk before the anthrax attacks. This 2002/2003 campaign for mandatory vaccinations is all but forgotten today. In many ways, however, because of its relevance for today, it is of more importance than the sending of the anthrax letters.

### Bioethics

In June 2003 an article was published by Johns Hopkins’ Berman Institute of Bioethics (and Center for Civilian Biodefense) about *vaccine policy* “in the event of a widespread biological attack”. The authors acknowledged all their colleagues at Johns Hopkins but gave particular thanks to the two chief authors of Dark Winter, *Tara O’Toole* and *Tom Inglesby*. The article is therefore pretty much a policy document straight from the “horse’s mouth” of the creators of Dark Winter.

Covid-19 is currently viewed as having been caused by an escaped bioweapon. Even if it were not, whether an epidemic is caused by a “biological attack” or by “infectious diseases” is now irrelevant, as both are treated identically.

Distressingly, therefore, Covid-19 is absolutely the kind of “event” referred to by this document. This makes it disturbingly relevant and certain passages sound as though they were written yesterday. I will let them speak for themselves:

*“during a national emergency, it may not only be morally permissible, but even morally obligatory, to dispense with the duties of informed consent, even in a context in which compulsory vaccination is not itself justifiable.”*

*“To ensure that there is a sufficient supply of smallpox vaccine, the government has indemnified the manufacturer. Individuals could, in theory, sue the federal government, but, unless the injury was a consequence of something like defective vaccine, it is extremely unlikely that such a suit would be successful.”*

*“In a morally relevant sense, individuals will be asked to be vaccinated, not only because it is in their personal*



interest, but also to advance the interests of the nation as a whole and to protect others from the spread of infection. Indeed, in some cases, it may not be in the strict best interest of individuals to be vaccinated, but they will be urged to be vaccinated nevertheless.” (My emphasis.)

“Respect for individual choice is a core value for public health policy; however, public health, unlike medicine, has a long tradition of privileging public good over individual liberty.... there is a world of moral difference between a program in which people are physically compelled to participate and one in which people are fined or denied benefits if they fail to participate.”

“We are arguing for a compact between the government and the public. In the awful event of a smallpox attack, the public should be willing to support a vaccination program without the ordinary constraints of informed consent, for the good of the nation.”<sup>45</sup>

### Informed dissent

In the years immediately after the anthrax attacks the proposals to radically alter the whole approach to Public Health were so new that even mainstream journals included strong and well-informed opposition to what was happening. (Those were the days!) Thus in 2004 the American Journal of Public Health published an important article called ‘*The Pitfalls of Bioterrorism Preparedness: the Anthrax and Smallpox Experiences*’.<sup>46</sup> Had it been heeded we would be in a different place today.

It is one of the few mainstream articles which a) discusses both the anthrax and smallpox events and b) which sees through the lies in each of them. It begins by pointing out the absurdity of the massive funding for the campaign against “foreign bioterrorists” after the anthrax attacks, when they were clearly shown to have originated in the USA.

The program for mandatory smallpox vaccinations was given equally short shrift. First its role as war-propaganda was shown up.<sup>47</sup> It then turned its attention to the 145 serious adverse events and the 3 deaths caused by the vaccine: “these deaths and other adverse events are inexcusable”. Words fail, sadly, comparing this with our own situation, where the thousands of deaths and millions of injuries caused by Covid vaccines seems a completely forbidden subject in the media.<sup>48</sup>

In the early 2000s there were optimistic claims that the vast extra funding to counter bioterrorism would hugely benefit public health in general. We have hopefully grown wise to this today, seeing the massively detrimental effect the billions spent on “Covid” have had on almost every other area of health. More than 15 years ago the authors of this article perceived the root-problems of this situation and warned about them as clearly as they could:

“Bioterrorism preparedness programs have been a disaster for public health. Instead of leading to more resources for dealing with natural disease as had been promised, there are now fewer such resources.<sup>49</sup> Worse, in response to bioterrorism preparedness, public health institutions and procedures are being reorganized along a military or police model. (...)

We hope it is not too late to change this dangerous direction.”<sup>50</sup>

### Emergency Health Preparedness and the merging of agendas

The two “catastrophic events” of September and October 2001 (9/11 and the anthrax attacks) together sparked off the “War on Terror” and together planted the seed that would eventually grow into the “catastrophic event” of Covid-19. It is important, therefore, to understand the process by which this happened, in order to understand how the Covid-19 crisis came about, *how it was possible*, and ultimately how we might rightly characterize it. (In order then to look at possible solutions to it.)

We can only briefly indicate here some of the stages of this process.

After the calls during the 80s and 90s for ever-greater Public Health “Preparedness” for possible acts of bioterrorism, the 2001 anthrax attacks demolished all obstructions to this and led to the immediate passing of the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness Act.<sup>51</sup> (Together with the requisite billions in funding we have referred to.) From then on this agenda progressed “in leaps and bounds” to where we are today. In 2006 a new Act was passed, no longer mentioning “bioterrorism” but granting even greater powers (and funding) for “Preparedness” for ‘*Pandemics and All-Hazards*’ (PAHPA).<sup>52</sup> Emergency powers, (appropriate perhaps if one was genuinely being attacked with bioweapons), were now granted for all “emergencies, whether deliberate, accidental or natural.”<sup>53</sup> These powers were re-authorized in 2013 (PAHPRA)<sup>54</sup> and again in 2018. (Each time these Acts were submitted for re-authorization the anthrax attacks would somehow be referred to. As they had been the only official “biological attack” in the US, *without them* these Acts would therefore lose all justification.<sup>55</sup>)

In 2019, in the months before the news about Covid-19 started breaking, such legislation was not only tightened once more, but was also dramatically and critically altered.<sup>56</sup>

In June 2019 PAHPAIA – ‘*Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act*’ – was passed. (How many more “PAPA” acronyms will there be?) PAHPAIA added “Biotechnology Innovations” into the mix<sup>57</sup>. It also sounds a new note by authorizing “military and civilian partnerships.”



## Global Health Security

Absolutely in accord with this in June 2019 there was also the first “International Scientific Conference on Global Health Security” in Sydney. This was co-led by Rebecca Katz, director of the Center for Global Health Science and Security at Georgetown University and a member of the CSIS<sup>58</sup> Commission that “conducts policy studies... to advance the *United States leadership in global health security*.”<sup>59</sup> She also works for the Council of Foreign Relations on *Improving Pandemic Preparedness*.<sup>60</sup>

Global Health Security, in which Katz has spent most of her career, is exactly what it says: the convergence of Public Health and Global Security. These are the two main agendas we have been looking at in this article, the Public Health (Emergency Preparedness) agenda, on the one hand, and the Security (Military/Geopolitical) agenda on the other. In Autumn 2001 the anthrax attacks had “turbocharged”<sup>61</sup> the first agenda and 9/11 the second. Since then these two agendas had moved closer and closer together until at this point, in June 2019, they *merged completely*. If the days of the Global Health Security Conference in Sydney were not the actual moment of this merging, they certainly provided a powerful public representation of it. For the five-day conference (16-20<sup>th</sup> June) began with a Military Health Security Summit<sup>62</sup> with discussions on such themes as the “*Collaboration Framework Between the Civilian and Military Health Sectors*.” The first morning of the main conference followed this up with a panel discussing: “*Civilian-Military Cooperation in Global Health Security through Government Action*”.

## A World at Risk

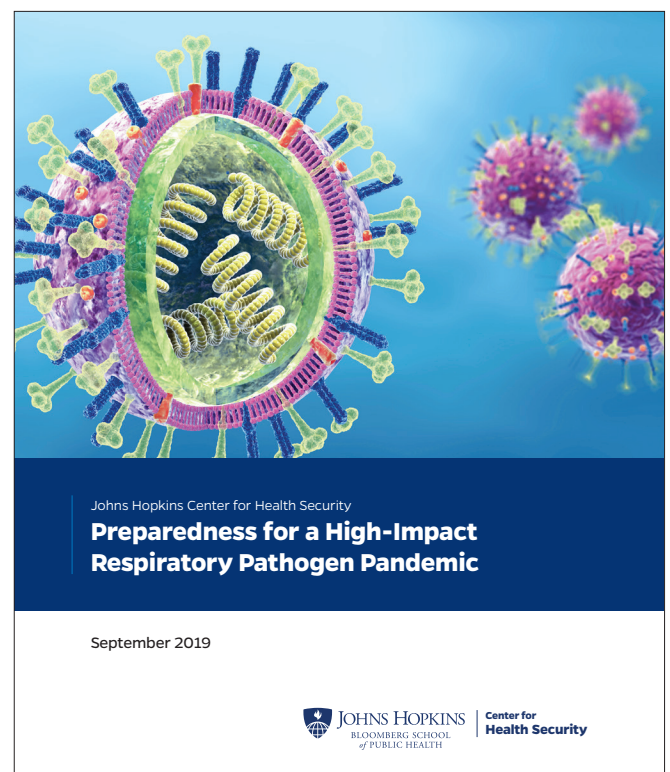
Anyone who was awake to the implications of the merging of these agendas at the Sydney Conference (and the would-be Manifesto for Global Health Security that came from it<sup>63</sup>) must have been alarmed at what might happen next, and within three months they would have had their worst fears confirmed. I was certainly not thus awake to it, and nor was anyone I know, but the “writing” was very definitely “on the wall”.

In 2018 Global Health Security and the ‘Preparedness’ agenda had taken another big step forward, with the creation of the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB), “a joint arm of the WHO and the World Bank.”<sup>64</sup> (Quite a powerful arm!) Among its board members are Tony Fauci, Chris Elias (President of Global Development at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) and George Gao (the head of the Chinese CDC and well-known to those familiar with “Event 201”).

In September 2019 – a month before the beginnings of Covid-19 – the GPMB brought out a major report called ‘A World at Risk.’ It states in its Foreword:

*“the spectre of a global health emergency looms large... there is a very real threat of a rapidly moving, highly lethal pandemic of a respiratory pathogen killing 50 to 80 million people and wiping out nearly 5% of the world’s economy. A global pandemic on that scale would be catastrophic... The world is not prepared.”*

This clear prediction of an imminent pandemic, which took up a whole section in the report<sup>65</sup>, had been provided for them in great detail by the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security (JHCHS). The GPMB had commissioned several substantial ‘background papers’<sup>66</sup>, which had given them the main substance for their report. The most significant of these was a lengthy and thorough paper from JHCHS called: ‘Preparedness for a High-Impact Respiratory Pathogen Pandemic’. It includes section headings such as: “*National Governments need to prepare for the deliberate use of a respiratory pathogen.*”<sup>67</sup> Seeing as it was produced in September 2019 some people at Johns Hopkins CHS must either be prophets or must have known a thing or two in advance!



Cover of September 2019 background paper by JHCHS

## A World in disorder

A year later, on September 14<sup>th</sup> 2020, the GPMB released their next major report, called ‘A World in Disorder’. One could well say that it positively gloats over the fact that a year earlier *they alone* had told the world of the wrong direction it was heading in. So now they alone had the solutions! Its first sentence ran: “*Never before has the world been so clearly forewarned*

of the dangers of a devastating pandemic.” It then lays out exactly what lessons now need to be learned. For example: “A pandemic is, by definition, a global event and as such demands collective global action.” It repeats this message later, describing one of the “urgent actions” necessary “to bring order out of catastrophe and chaos” as: “Robust global governance of preparedness for health emergencies.” It gives exact orders for how national leaders and governments are to act. For example: “We reiterate our call for heads of government to appoint a national high-level coordinator *with the authority... to lead whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches...*” “Robust global governance” should therefore give the orders which are then to be imposed via national leaders on the “whole-of-society”.<sup>68</sup> We could take a long time going through many more details of this outrageously dictatorial document but, as the reader will probably agree, this is already quite enough. Except to say that the document ends by making what is pretty much an all-out threat. “Failure to learn the lessons of COVID-19 or to act on them with the necessary... commitment will mean that the next pandemic, which is sure to come, will be even more damaging.”

### Where does this leave us?

This is clearly not a route we would wish to follow.

By presenting all this I am certainly *not* trying merely to depress readers or to suggest there is no way out. But we can only find healing for a situation if it is rightly diagnosed, and I have only offered this rather gruelling description of our present state and *how we arrived at it* in order to try and characterize it in a way that may help towards such a diagnosis.

Before attempting such a characterization, there are still a few more steps to be made, however, so we must push on a little further.

We have seen that the military/geopolitical agenda has now merged with the public health agenda. It does not merely *seem* that there is a military operation underway at present, controlling all aspects of what is taking place, (with the same lack of genuine concern for human lives, the same deliberate use of propaganda, etc., as one finds in wars) – there *is* a military operation underway.

To think it can be countered purely in terms of *health* – by discussing what the truth is about viruses, PCR tests, treatments or our immune systems – is naïve, for as was already stated in 2004: “public health institutions and procedures (have been) *reorganized along a military or police model*.”<sup>69</sup> Once a war has been declared, and an army has been mobilized, there are no further discussions with the enemy about whether that war is justified. That army’s sole aim is to *win* – and on their own terms. We are *in* such a war. Differently put, we could say that the *health crisis*, to the extent that there actually is one, is being waged as a war.

The name for the union of these two agendas, which is now taking place globally, is *Global Health Security*. Replacing “health” with “medical” and “security” with “military or martial law” another name for it becomes: *Medical Martial Law*.<sup>70</sup>

The 2020 report ‘A World in Disorder’ calls for the urgent convening of a ‘UN Summit on Global Health Security’.<sup>71</sup> This has not happened yet, but the UN Secretary General’s positively martial statement at the ‘G20 Global Health Summit’ (in May 2021) makes quite clear where things are headed:

*“I am ready to mobilize the entire United Nations System... Let’s be clear, we are at war with the virus. And if you are at war with the virus, we need to deal with our weapons with rules of a war economy, and we are not yet there... A global coordinated effort on vaccines can end this pandemic. But it will not help prevent the next... It is time for decisive action. I urge G20 countries, in collaboration with the United Nations, to assume a strong leadership role...”*<sup>72</sup> [My emphasis.]

We have been warned!

Covid-19, therefore, by enabling the introduction of *medical martial law* under the name of ‘global health security’, has seemingly accomplished ‘in one fell swoop’, globally, a greatly updated version of what was accomplished in 2001, in the USA, through the two events of 9/11 and the anthrax attacks.

I say “seemingly” for this cannot be the end of the story – and it is ultimately up to all of us to ensure that it isn’t and to win through to other and better ways forward – however challenging this may be.

**(Part Two of this article is on page 68)**

### Note on ‘The Challenge of the Times’.

The title of this two-part article is borrowed from the 1979 English translation of some lectures by Rudolf Steiner in 1918 – ‘Die soziale Grundforderung unserer Zeit – in geänderter Zeitlage.’ (GA186) (More literal translation: ‘The Fundamental Social Challenge of our Time – in Changed Conditions.’) Odd as it may be to borrow someone else’s words, this did in the end seem the best title to cover both parts of this article. The volume of Steiner’s lectures by this name – translated by Olin D. Wannamaker and published in 1979 – has long been out of print, and when a new edition does appear – as it needs to! – it may well be under a different title. Moreover, if this title should make anyone look again or look for the first time at these lectures, so much the better. They go incomparably deeper than I have been able to into ‘The Challenge of the Times’, as Steiner experienced this in 1918, and provide perspectives that are still of essential relevance today.

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Facing page: *Christ in the Elemental Realm* by Gerhard Reisch (1899-1975)

NE 40 1969 (86 x 62 cm) © Gerhard Reisch Stiftung / Foundation: [www.gerhardreisch.com](http://www.gerhardreisch.com)

From 1924 the artist rigorously followed the schooling path recommended by Rudolf Steiner; creating many pictures which aid contemplation and meditation on the workings of the Spirit

## Endnotes

1. See 'St. John's – Historical Conscience and the Future of the Earth' by Peter Selg. (Ita Wegman Verlag, 2016. [Not yet translated.]
2. By '9/11' I refer to people's sense of a defining moment. Speaking only of the events of Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> I say – 9/11.
3. 'Questions/Answers: 2001 Anthrax Attacks' by Anthony Fauci, in: '*Remembering 9/11 and Anthrax: Public Health's Vital Role in National Defense*', September 2011, published by 'Trust for America's Health' and 'Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.' In a 2002 interview Fauci described how from the start he had seen no difference in the response demanded by a bioterrorist attack or an infectious disease. He recalls "sitting with my staff ... after the anthrax attack, and (telling) them that as far as I'm concerned, a bioterrorism microbe is just another form of an emerging or re-emerging disease." (Interview with Dr. Anthony S. Fauci on August 9, 2002; the interviewer was the NIH historian, Victoria Harden. Page 9. Available online.).
4. Julie Gerberding is currently executive vice president of Merck and Co-Chair of the CSIS Health Security Commission, whose aim is to further the "U.S. global health security agenda in the Covid-19 era." Gerberding "became a recognized national figure during the 2001 anthrax attacks in the United States. As the Acting Deputy Director of National Center for Infectious Diseases (NCID), Gerberding was a prominent spokeswoman for the CDC during daily briefings regarding the attacks..." (Wikipedia)
5. '*Anthrax Bioterrorism: Lessons Learned and Future Directions*.' Hughes JM and Gerberding JL. 2002 Oct. (Available online.)
6. Interview with Dr. Anthony S. Fauci on August 9, 2002.)
7. Ibid. Page 8.
8. '*Charting The Future Of Biosecurity. Ten Years After The Anthrax Attacks*.' Event at the W Hotel, Washington DC on October 4, 2011. Video (available online) of Ingelsby's Introduction. (3:04 minutes.)
9. Schuchat even earned the distinction of having a character, Erin Mears, in the 2011 film 'Contagion' being partially based on her. Kate Winslet played the character in the film.
10. Wikipedia page on Alex Azar.
11. <https://www.help.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Kadlec2.pdf>
12. *Deadliest Enemy* by Michael T. Osterholm and Mark Olshaker. (John Murray, 2020.) Page 131
13. Interview with Dr. Anthony S. Fauci on August 9, 2002.
14. Mark G. Kortepeter is the former deputy commander of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) at Fort Detrick, Maryland. Quoted in: '*The U.S. Spent Billions of Dollars on Biodefense. COVID-19 Was the Attack it Never Saw Coming*' by W.J. Hennigan. (*Time magazine*, October 9, 2020)
15. '*Lessons from the Anthrax Attacks. Implications for U.S. Bioterrorism Preparedness – A Report on a National Forum on Biodefense*'. This forum was held on December 19, 2001 and established the foundational understanding of and response to the anthrax attacks. The Report was strictly confidential and was only released in March 2004 and even then in a heavily redacted version. It is available in this form online. The forum was organized by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA).
16. '*Biological Weapons and America's Secret War. GERMS*' by Judith Miller, Stephen Engelberg and William Broad (Simon and Schuster 2002. Page 340). The book's first edition came out between September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001 and the October anthrax attacks and was an immediate bestseller. An updated second edition was published in 2002. Regarding the budget increase the book states: "*The administration sought \$11 billion over two years to enhance national protections against biological terrorists.*" See also: '*\$11 billion for biodefense*' by Judith Miller, New York Times News Service, February 4, 2002.
17. Said by Tony Fauci in an interview on November 2002 on C-Span. Available online at 'C-Span Washington Journal'. Fauci describes in this interview how: "The budget process as it evolved took place following the September 11th and Anthrax Attacks in the Fall" and how, regarding the huge extra budget for Biodefense: "The bulk of it goes to the NIAID". This radically altered the work of the NIAID, giving it the central role it still has today: "*After the events of September 11, 2001, and the subsequent anthrax mailings*, biodefense became an important element of the NIAID mission. In 2003, NIAID was assigned lead responsibility within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for civilian biodefense research with a focus on research and early development of medical countermeasures against terrorist threats from infectious diseases." (<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/research/biodefense>)
18. Fauci's presentation was called: 'From Aids to Zika: The Perpetual Challenge of Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases.' This was given as part of the 'Special Celebration for D.A. Henderson' (1928-2016) at the Bloomberg School of Health, Johns Hopkins University, on November 4th, 2016. Available online.
19. Introduction by Governor Lowell Weicker, Jr. to: '*Remembering 9/11 and Anthrax: Public Health's Vital Role in National Defense*', September 2011, published by 'Trust for America's Health' and 'Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.'
20. Ibid. 'The 2001 Events Radically Transformed Public Health' by Alonzo Plough.
21. Regarding this military/geopolitical agenda, see 'Making Sense of 9/11' (Part One) by Richard Ramsbotham. (*New View*, Michaelmas 2011.) There is, of course, also extensive literature about this agenda.
22. 'According to an unnamed retired senior FBI official, Mueller was verbally "beaten up" during President Bush's daily intelligence briefings for not



- producing proof linking the attacks to al-Qaeda. "They really wanted to blame somebody in the Middle East," this FBI official will say.' See: *'FBI was told to blame Anthrax scare on Al Qaeda by White House officials'* by James Gordon Meek (New York Daily News, Aug 2nd, 2008)
23. The first batch of letters containing anthrax were sent out on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2001.
  24. D.A. Henderson was the founding director in 1998 of the Johns Hopkins Center for Civilian Biodefense Strategies, which is now the *Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security*.
  25. *'The Threat Of Bioterrorism And The Spread Of Infectious Diseases'* - Hearing before the Committee on Foreign Relations. United States Senate. September 5, 2001 (page 96)
  26. Dark Winter script, available at Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security website
  27. See: *'September 11<sup>th</sup> Attacks Led to Push for More Smallpox Vaccine'* by Judith Miller and Sheryl Gay Stolberg, New York Times, October 22, 2001.
  28. Richard A. Clarke, President Clinton's counter-terrorism coordinator, wanted the Pentagon and the Department of Health and Human Services to join forces. But the Pentagon refused to share the seed strain for its program with the civilian program... "These were two diametrically opposed bureaucracies that had no history of dealing with one another," said Mr. Clarke
  29. Regarding the problems involved in bringing together the above-mentioned 'diametrically opposed bureaucracies' Miller and Stolberg write: "Even before the Sept. 11 attacks, the Bush administration was determined to straighten the problem out. In June, a team of bioterrorism experts... conducted an exercise codenamed Dark Winter that simulated an outbreak of smallpox in the U.S." (Ibid.)
  30. Ibid.
  31. Ibid.
  32. Both of these aspects were prepared for by Dark Winter.
  33. The announcement that Robert Stevens's death (on October 5) was most probably caused by bioterrorism was only made about 5 days later.
  34. By Monday October 8, Tony Fauci had received the order to explore the feasibility of "rapidly expanding the production of smallpox vaccine." (*'September 11th Attacks Led to Push for More Smallpox Vaccine'* by Judith Miller and Sheryl Gay Stolberg, *New York Times*, October 22, 2001.)
  35. See note 25.
  36. Ibid. Page 38.
  37. "To better prepare America, I introduced the Public Health Threats and Emergencies Act of 2000." This critical legislation, which became law last November, provides a framework for coordinating efforts within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Defense to examine our preparedness for a bioterrorist attack." 'Prepared Statement of Bill Frist', *ibid*, page 103.
  38. Larry Klayman, founder and chairman of Judicial Watch, defended the postal workers who were victims of the anthrax attacks. He was speaking in a television interview on August 4, 2002, which can be seen online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2YrHpB64ac> *The Washington Times* omitted any mention of President Bush, but confirmed Dick Cheney and his staff were given Cipro: "On the night of the Sept. 11 attacks, the White House Medical Office dispensed Cipro to staff accompanying Vice President Dick Cheney as he was secreted off to the safety of Camp David, and told them it was a precaution." The original *Washington Times* article from October (24?) is not available online, but the identical story (even perhaps the identical article) was printed on September 10 2005 in the Archive section of the Tampa Bay Times. (<https://www.tampabay.com/archive/2001/10/24/tests-find-no-sign-of-anthrax-spores-inside-white-house/>)
  39. 'Bush weighed dropping Cheney' by Andy Barr. In *'Politico'*, 11/03/2010. (Available online.)
  40. "Osama bin Laden has said publicly that it his religious duty to acquire weapons of mass destruction." (Hearing before the Subcommittee on Public Health on October 9, 2001. Available online.)
  41. 'Sen. Frist Emerges as 'Chief' Spokesperson During Anthrax Scare' (22/10/2001), reprinted in KHN Morning Briefing, 11/06/2009
  42. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/liveonline/02/politics/frist071802.htm>
  43. See: *"Drug Industry, Sen. Frist and the White House Conspired to Obtain Broad Liability Shield for Lawsuits Related to Pandemic Illnesses."* May 4, 2006. (Public Citizen Report) Because the Pharmaceutical Companies freedom from liability is of such urgent relevance today, here are the opening passages of this article: *"Drug industry lobbyists conspired with the White House and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist last year to craft a sweeping liability provision that shields the industry from lawsuits over products used to treat pandemic illnesses, even in cases of gross negligence or gross recklessness, according to a report issued today by Public Citizen. The report, Willful Misconduct: How Bill Frist and the Drug Lobby Covertly Bagged a Liability Shield, relies on internal documents and e-mails of the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) to illustrate the degree to which Frist's office deferred to drug industry demands and describes Frist's sleight of hand in securing passage of the provision. It underscores the enormous power of the drug industry and its lobbyists to steer a highly controversial provision into law.*
  44. In a 2015 article called 'The Many Occasions Joe Biden

- Took Credit For Writing The Patriot Act', by Andrew Kaczynski, we learn that: "Biden not only voted for the 2001 Patriot Act, he, on many occasions, claimed credit for writing it." Biden himself is quoted as saying: "Almost the same thing that got passed, the Patriot Act, was introduced by me in 1994." (Available online)
45. 'Consent and Compensation: A Social Compact for Smallpox Vaccine Policy in the Event of an Attack' by Ruth R. Faden, Holly A. Taylor and Naomi K. Seiler. In: 'Clinical Infectious Diseases', Volume 36, Issue 12, 15 June 2003. (Available online.)
  46. 'The Pitfalls of Bioterrorism Preparedness: the Anthrax and Smallpox Experiences' by Hillel W. Cohen, Robert M. Gould and Victor W. Sidel. In the 'American Journal of Public Health', October 2004. (Available online.)
  47. "The smallpox vaccination program was launched primarily for public relations rather than public health reasons." (Ibid.)
  48. As of 19 June, the number of reported deaths caused by the vaccine in the U.S. and Europe (including the UK) was 21,192. The number of reported injuries was reported as 2,698,177.  
To put this into perspective, in the last 29 years in the U.S. there have been 5,862 deaths reported from vaccines. In the last five months alone there have been 5,993 deaths. Vaccine Adverse Events (VAERS) figures as of 19<sup>th</sup> June at - <https://www.bitcute.com/video/oqmxQJzGQtls/>
  49. "The siren song of dual use—that bioterrorism funding would strengthen public health infrastructure—has shown itself to be an empty promise, as preparedness priorities have weakened rather than strengthened public health." (Ibid.)
  50. Ibid.
  51. Passed on June 12, 2002, co-sponsored by Bill Frist and Edward Kennedy. Its aim was "To improve the ability of the United States to prevent, prepare for, and respond to bioterrorism and other public health emergencies."
  52. 'Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act' (PAHPA). The Act also led to the establishing of a new Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR). Regarding the extraordinary powers given to this office, see: 'The Head of the Hydra: The Rise of Robert Kadlec' by Whitney Webb May 15<sup>th</sup> 2020. ('Unlimited Hangout' website.)
  53. The stated purpose of PAHPA is "to improve the Nation's public health and medical preparedness and response capabilities for emergencies, whether deliberate, accidental or natural."
  54. PAHPRA – 'Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Re-authorization Act.'
  55. The Acts would also continually stress the dangers of biowarfare as well as of infectious diseases. E.g. "With this year's flu being the worst in more than a decade and the increasing threat that biological weapons pose to the United States (really???) Congress has begun its regular reauthorization of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act.' ('Pandemic Preparedness: 2018 PAHPA Reauthorization' – available online.)
  56. Exactly the same took place in the months before the anthrax attacks, which we are not able to explore further here.
  57. See: 'BIO (Biotechnology Innovation Organization) Applauds Advancement of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act of 2018'. (Available online)
  58. CSIS – Centre for Strategic and International Studies. CSIS designed the 2001 exercise 'Dark Winter', together with the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security. At the time of the anthrax attacks Rebecca Katz was at Princeton University doing research "at the intersection of public health and national security." (Wikipedia)
  59. Rebecca Katz, Wikipedia page.
  60. Ibid.
  61. Klaus Schwab writes: "the pandemic will accelerate innovation, catalysing technological changes already under way... and 'turbo-charging the digital dimension of any business.'" (*Covid-19: The Great Reset*)
  62. An 'invitation-only' event. See the programme of the whole event: <https://www.ghs2019.com>
  63. The conference produced a new set of principles that *Global Health Security* should follow, for example: "Global health security must embrace a One Health approach... Governments must cooperate programmatically, organizationally and financially to foster compliance with the International Health Regulations ... to ensure effective global governance of public health emergencies..." (The Sydney Statement on Global Health Security.)
  64. The Press Release announcing its creation, on May 24 2018, was called: "WHO and World Bank Group join forces to Strengthen Global Health Security."
  65. 'Preparing for the worst: a rapidly spreading, lethal respiratory pathogen pandemic', in 'A World at Risk', annual report on global preparedness for health emergencies, September 2019. [https://apps.who.int/gpmb/assets/annual\\_report/GPMB\\_Annual\\_Report\\_English.pdf](https://apps.who.int/gpmb/assets/annual_report/GPMB_Annual_Report_English.pdf)
  66. For example from Chatham House, the leading UK 'think tank', and from the Wellcome Trust.
  67. Page 14.
  68. The document also states that with regard to Health Emergencies national governments will take their orders from the W.H.O.
  69. See endnote 46.
  70. The bland phrase 'Health and Safety' has pointed towards this union for years.
  71. This 'UN Summit on Global Health Security' is one of three 'Urgent Actions' named in 'A World in Disorder' under the heading: "The call for robust global governance of preparedness for health emergencies."
  72. The ultimate aim of all this, said Guterres, is "to achieve SDG3 ('Good Health and Well-Being') and the entire 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development." <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2021-05-21/secretary-generals-statement-the-global-health-summit-delivered>

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# The Challenge of the Times (Part Two)

## Avoiding Brave New World and Creating the Future

by Richard Ramsbotham

The true name for our present situation, given to it by Klaus Schwab in his book of the same name, is ‘*Covid 19: The Great Reset*’.<sup>1</sup> The two strands we spoke of in Part One are revealed here – the “global pandemic” (Covid-19) and the complete technocratic restructuring of all aspects of our society (the Great Reset – or the ‘Fourth Industrial Revolution’), which Schwab and others have been working towards for years.<sup>2</sup>

For we have progressed a long way since 2001. The anthrax attacks through the mail, the planes flying into the Twin Towers on 9/11, the appalling War on Terror that followed – all these seem, dare one say it, rather *crudely real* in their approach compared to the ‘*smart*’, ‘*clean*’, biometric, hyper-digitalised face of things today. Although both *agendas* still point in exactly the same direction, the *forms* these agendas have taken, twenty years later, have often changed beyond recognition.

Only to follow these agendas from the past (e.g. 2001) into the present risks continuing to paint these agendas in the forms *they once had*. But new realities – both positive and negative – are also streaming towards us *from the future*, so that, for example, future technological, transhumanist possibilities, striven after but not yet realized, are already influencing us now and determining the shape of the present. This is why, when we hear of these *dystopian* realities, we can often feel they *sound like science-fiction* while clearly already proving themselves to be realities.

### Transhumanism and Technocracy (New forms of old agendas)

Regarding the updated forms of the two agendas – military and public health – we could also say: The *double (two-part) event* in Autumn 2001, which we might call: ‘*Anthrax: 9/11*’, metamorphosed eighteen years later into the single event ‘*Covid 19: The Great Reset*’, which we are still in the midst of.

9/11 drastically advanced the West’s military and geopolitical agenda at the end of the Cold War. This, we could say, has now expanded into the wider agenda of *The Great Reset (Fourth Industrial Revolution)*, which is determined by particular visions of the future that seek to *merge* human beings with AI (artificial intelligence). Thus the Fourth Industrial Revolution, in Schwab’s

words, is intended to be: “a new chapter in human development, enabled by extraordinary technological advances... These advances are *merging the physical, digital and biological* in ways that create both huge promise and great peril... forcing us to rethink how countries develop, how organisations create value and *even what it means to be human*.”<sup>3</sup> The rethinking – and altering – of “what it means to be human” is the project otherwise known as *transhumanism*.<sup>4</sup>

Schwab in his book makes unambiguously clear how Covid-19 has *enabled* The Great Reset. The different elements of The Great Reset *are*, in his eyes, the perfect solutions to the Covid-19 crisis. One of these solutions, as we have mentioned, is *global governance*. The failure to deal successfully with such a public health emergency results, we are told, from the failure to have implemented the mechanisms of *global governance*.<sup>5</sup>

This is the “geopolitical” direction of The Great Reset, and the Covid-19 crisis with its militarily run vaccination programmes,<sup>6</sup> its censorship of all alternative voices<sup>7</sup> and its previously unimagined powers of surveillance, shows the *form* such global governance will take – that of a *technocracy*, where vitally important aspects of global policy are simply handed over to the non-human, technocratic, control of AI itself.

When one sees the almost unbelievable lengths this transhumanist and technocratic agenda of the Fourth Industrial Revolution has been taken to already, one easily recognises it as a contemporary form of the nightmarish totalitarian system depicted by George Orwell in his book *1984*, with its Ministry of Truth, Big Brother, etc. Not surprisingly, therefore, one of the lasting names for our present situation has become *Covid-1984*.

### Transhumanism and Happytialism

And what of the other agenda? The *public health* agenda. The *nice* agenda. Where we do not view ourselves as forced oppressively, out of fear of Big Brother, to submit to the measures imposed on us, but willingly adhere to them *for everyone else’s good*.

This agenda is less dominant and less visible than that of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, but without it the latter’s technocratic agenda would never be accepted. If only Schwab was presented on the news, urging



people in his almost stereotyped German accent to hitch themselves up to the 'Internet of Bodies'<sup>8</sup> and embrace The Great Reset, few would be interested. So how has this inhuman, dictatorial agenda been so dressed up that millions of people *feel good* about supporting it?

The *public health* agenda is one part of the UN's all-embracing 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Just as The Great Reset is linked to technocracy and transhumanism, so the quest for the Utopian-sounding SDGs is linked to what is effectively a new religion, or at least a whole new ideology replacing capitalism – *Happytialism!*

A Press Release in April 2019 declared: '*United Nations New Economic Paradigm Calls On All People & All Nations To Adopt "Happytialism" Over Capitalism On Occasion of 49<sup>th</sup> Earth Day.*'<sup>9</sup> A year later the 'United Nations New World Order Project' launched a global campaign called 'Happiness For All Together' to meet the "*threat of Covid-19 to the health, happiness and wellbeing of all humanity.*"<sup>10</sup>

"Happytialism", absurdly trite as it sounds, is an extremely powerfully supported proposal for global governance's *moral aims*. Jeffrey Sachs,<sup>11</sup> closely connected to the Vatican's social and economic initiatives, is the President of the *Sustainable Development Solutions Network* (SDSN).<sup>12</sup> Sachs is also the director of the *Global Happiness Council*, which has the aim of "*putting happiness at the center of governance*". An article about the 'World Government Summit' (in Dubai) in 2018 describes Sachs saying that "it may well come down to a choice of '*happiness over power*' as a path to global safety and survival."<sup>13</sup>

This agenda, likewise, can easily be recognised as almost identical with the social aims of the other great dystopian novel of the twentieth Century, Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, described there as being: "to shift the emphasis from truth and beauty to comfort and happiness."

### **1984 and Brave New World**

*Covid-19: The Great Reset* therefore, if it moves forward unhindered, could potentially enable the two different dystopian visions of 1984 and *Brave New World*<sup>14</sup> to be realized simultaneously.

The current fusion of these two agendas is visible in other ways too. Just as both 9/11 and the anthrax attacks were needed for the War on Terror, so too it is the *merging* of biological and digital technology (accelerated by Covid-19) that is currently the advance-guard of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

We will not attempt to explore this more fully, but those interested are encouraged to look at the report put out by 'Policy Horizons Canada' called '*Exploring Biodigital Convergence*'. It is subtitled: "What happens when biology and digital technology merge?" and explores in detail the "*full physical integration of*

*biological and digital entities*" and the "*co-evolution of biological and digital technologies*". It describes the "new capabilities" this will bring about, such as: "altering the human genome... altering and manipulating human thoughts and behaviours... creating new organs and enhancing human functionality... turning organisms into bio-computers" *and so on*.

These developments point to the bio-digital "Internet of Bodies" which is viewed as a step on from the *merely* digital 'Internet of Things'. These developments were also uncannily "predicted" in a NASA exercise in 2011, which places the digital '*Age of IT*' (Information Technology) between 1950 to 2020, followed in 2020 by the beginning of the '*Bio/NANO Age*'.<sup>15</sup>

My purpose here is *not* to try and spread yet more dystopian fear, but rather to try and characterize the present global crisis, for the sake of helping see what might be done about it.

Let us consider, for a moment, where we have reached. We are, we have seen, in the midst of a twenty-first century *bio-digital* or *bio-nano* revolution, which fuses two different agendas, by whatever name we choose to call them: The Fourth Industrial Revolution & Global Health Security; Big Brother & Happytialism; - or, as in the two twentieth century dystopias, 1984 and *Brave New World*.

An updated 'Biosecurity State' version of *Brave New World* (with vaccines for *soma* – the 'happiness' drug in the book) – could soon, unless we decide against it and bring about something different, literally become our reality.

### **How on earth has this happened?**

To answer this, it is worth looking in Huxley's novel itself, to see how the new social system of *Brave New World* was imposed. Huxley lets one of the 'World Controllers' describe the exact process by which it occurred:

"People still went on talking about truth and beauty as though they were the sovereign goods. Right up to the time of the Nine Years' War. *That* made them change their tune all right. *What's the point of truth or beauty or knowledge when anthrax bombs are popping all around you?* That was when science began to be controlled... People were ready to have even their appetites controlled then. Anything for a quiet life. We've gone on controlling ever since. It hasn't been very good for truth, of course. But it's been very good for happiness."<sup>16</sup>

And so we're back to the beginning.

The fear of the "anthrax bombs popping" opened the way to *Brave New World*. The fear leading up to and caused by the 2001 anthrax attacks fuelled the 'War on Terror'. And *on that foundation* – whipping up the same

fears again – the Covid-19 crisis occurred.

The 2001 anthrax attacks, though, were immediately proved *not* to have been foreign terrorist attacks at all, but to have originated from *within* the U.S. establishment. The fear surrounding the anthrax attacks, which launched the whole ‘*Pandemics and All-Hazards Preparedness*’ agenda, the *basis* for the response to Covid-19, was completely falsely generated. *The whole Covid-19 crisis therefore has no foundation.* (We might perhaps say it is built upon lies, but that is no foundation at all.)

### Phenomenology

What is it then, anthrax? What is it about this mysterious pathogen that has given it such a central role in all these fictional and non-fictional events? What is it, phenomenologically?

Anthrax lies at the basis both of the modern “germ theory” of disease *and* of vaccination. In 1876, in Germany, Robert Koch established that the disease anthrax was *caused* by the microbe ‘*bacillus anthracis*’. In 1877, using anthrax as a prototype, Koch then developed his three “postulates” for the germ origin of a disease. In 1879, after “a devastating anthrax outbreak”<sup>17</sup> in France, affecting sheep, cattle and also people, Louis Pasteur started investigating anthrax.<sup>18</sup> In England, also in 1879, after numerous deaths of young men working in the wooltrade, Dr. John Bell proved that “woolsorters’ disease” was in fact caused by the inhalation of anthrax.<sup>19</sup> In 1881 Pasteur then created the first vaccine for anthrax, which he used to successfully demonstrate his new concept of vaccination.

### 1879

The dating of this whole story is striking.

For Rudolf Steiner’s spiritual scientific research also points to the year 1879 as being of great spiritual importance, both in a positive sense and in relation to spiritual (or demonic) *opposition* to true human development, *particularly by means of bacilli, viruses and other infectious diseases.*

Koch’s and Pasteur’s discoveries that the *anthrax bacillus* was the *cause* of the disease anthrax were made almost exactly in 1879. It might well be the case, therefore, that anthrax is something like the archetypal example of what Steiner has to say about the spiritual origin of *bacilli*,<sup>20</sup> in precise relation to this date.

Steiner describes how between 1841 and 1879 there was a “an event that is deeply incisive for human evolution”: a “significant battle in the spiritual world, one of those battles that take place quite frequently... and are portrayed in legend and symbolism as the battle of Michael with the Dragon.” This battle culminated in 1879 with the hosts of the ‘Dragon’ – (referred to by Steiner either as Mammon’s hordes, Ahrimanic beings or as “certain Spirits of Darkness”) – being cast out of

the spiritual worlds into the human realm. “So certain Spirits of Darkness have been among human beings since the autumn of 1879, and people must become aware of them if they are to understand earthly events. It is absolutely correct to say that because these beings were thrown out in 1879 the heavens are now free of them while the Earth is full of them.”<sup>21</sup>

In an ‘Esoteric Lesson’ in Berlin in October 1907 Steiner said of this event:

“In November 1879 Michaél’s victory over Mammon was achieved on the astral plane. Mammon, the spirit of hindrances, who was defeated in the spiritual world, must now also be overcome on earth. For another 400 years Michaél will fight with the Spirits of Darkness... We must become Michaél’s helpers. Mammon has millions of spirits as helpers. *They are embodied in the microbes and germs*; the fear of them is something quite well-founded. *It is no coincidence that germs are now so much researched and studied.*”<sup>22</sup>

In December 1907, in Munich, Steiner returned to the theme:

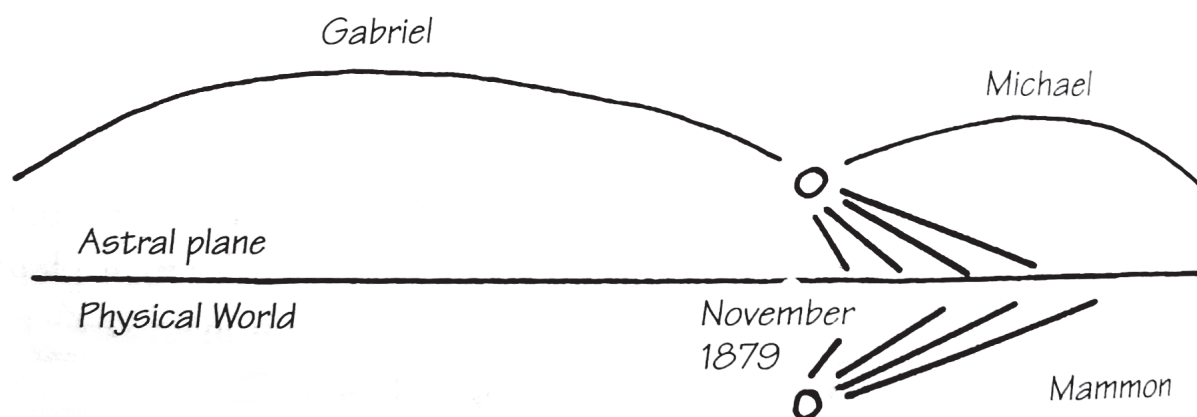
“A particularly important event occurred in the year 1879 on the astral plane and, indeed, in November... *there occurred on the astral plane something very similar to a birth.* The rulership of Gabriel was replaced by another archangel, under whose leadership we now stand, the archangel Michaél. The time has come, under Michaél’s radiant leadership, in which the esoteric sun should shine brightly. For the dark powers of materialism are gaining the upper hand... Already today simultaneously with Michaél a dark god has entered into his rulership: the god Mammon.” (Johannes Trimethius (1462-1516) described how Seven Archangelic Spirits succeed each other, through history, in approximately 350 year periods, as the Spirit of the Time. Steiner gave many different perspectives on this throughout his work.)<sup>23</sup>

Steiner added about Mammon:

“his hordes attack not only human souls, but also the physical bodies of humans... People speak of bacteria a lot more at present not because they know more about them, but because bacteria have taken on a very special form today.”

Steiner also drew a diagram during this Lesson, depicting the moment of this event “very similar to a birth”, and indicating abodes, so to speak, of Michaél and Mammon. (See top of page 71).

This may well, as we have said, also be seen as the “*birth-moment*” of one of Mammon’s favourite helpers, anthrax, which began in a way a new life then, or



Sketch by Rudolf Steiner from Esoteric Lesson in Munich, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1907

certainly a new way of being “researched and studied”, which still wields its influence today.

Some people may think that Steiner’s depiction of this event, even should it be true, can little concern us, being something we may or may not believe. But this is not so. For if we are at all open to considering what Steiner is saying, we soon see that the spiritual significance of what took place in 1879, as he presents it, has nothing at all to do with belief, but with the whole potential of contemporary human beings to think freely and to think spiritual realities (and thus to know and livingly experience them.)

To put it in a brief and therefore over-simple narrative: the Michaëlic Spirits sought to make it possible for genuine spiritual knowledge “to gradually seep down to the earth, enter human souls and there stimulate spiritual knowledge, (...) spiritual science.” The Spirits of Darkness did *not want this* and wanted to keep the “gates” firmly shut between the human and spiritual worlds. And so, as Steiner describes:

*“The only way of ensuring that the human sense for spiritual knowledge would be opened up from the twentieth century onwards was to remove the impeding spirits of darkness from the spiritual realm so that the spiritual knowledge destined for human beings could come down.”*

Thus the ‘Fall of the Spirits of Darkness’ was necessary so that human beings could attain genuine spiritual knowledge and experience, and act creatively out of this. The thwarted Spirits of Darkness, though, cast into the human realm, have not given up and continue trying “to confuse people. Their aim now is to make sure that people fail to enter into the right relationship with the spiritual truths...”

The whole challenge, therefore, arising from this event in 1879 is whether we can maintain our humanity,

developing a free and knowing connection to the spiritual world – or whether we are *deceived* not only in our thoughts but in our whole manner of thinking, and are thus pulled down from the true level of our humanity to the merely material or merely technological, or even to the level of the fallen spirits themselves.

And because of the connection between Ahriman/Mammon and germs (bacilli and viruses),<sup>24</sup> it is precisely through these that humanity is faced today with the greatest perils of deceptive materialistic thought and of being *pulled down*.

How does this take place? What is the actual connection between Ahriman/Mammon’s helpers – the bacilli, bacteria and viruses – and Ahriman’s ever-more sophisticated attempts to deceive, materialise, digitalize or even put a stop to our clear and love-imbued thinking?

### Harmless and harmful germs (N.B.)

Before continuing I would like to respond to a query that may emerge from the following. Steiner stated on one occasion that “germs can only become dangerous when they are nurtured (or encouraged).” (“Bazillen nur dann gefährlich werden können, wenn sie gepflegt werden.”)<sup>25</sup> This is perhaps important with regard to distinguishing between bacteria, viruses and bacilli in their harmless state, on the one hand, and their behaviour as dangerous pathogens in infectious illnesses, on the other. Their dangerous, malign character is obviously immensely intensified where these pathogens are deliberately manipulated, i.e. in bio-laboratories.

### “A similar source”

Steiner’s spiritual research enables us to address this question. For “War in Heaven” in 1879 was by no means the first such battle – for “these battles have recurred over and over again.” In much earlier times, then:

*“In the distant past, after one of these battles, the crowd of Ahrimanic spirits populated the earth with the earthly life-forms which the medical profession*



*now calls bacilli. Everything which has the power to act as a bacillus, everything in which bacilli are involved, is the result of crowds of Ahrimanic spirits being cast down from heaven to earth...*"

We can imagine, then, a real event "in the "distant past" where the Ahrimanic spirits who had been cast down "populated the earth" with what we now call 'germs'.

Steiner then describes how in our time Ahriman's greatest weapon is the materializing and deceiving of our thinking:

*"In the same way the Ahrimanic, Mephistophelean way of thinking has spread since the late 1870s as the result of such a victory (of Michaél over the Spirits of Darkness). ... Thus we are able to say that tubercular and bacillary diseases come from a similar source as the materialism which has taken hold of human minds. These things really do belong together..."*<sup>26</sup>

### A spiritual battle

The implications could hardly be greater. The overcoming of bacilli and viruses is connected in the most immediate way with the overcoming of what Steiner describes as an *Ahrimanic* relationship to the world by a *Michaelic* one!

It is *not* a question, therefore, of overcoming the "pandemic" by adhering to the *completely materialistic* modes of understanding and ways of acting that are being dictated to us. Rather it is *these materialistic ways of thinking and acting* that we have to overcome. They are the pandemic!

This is not sophistry. For anyone whose ears prick up when they hear Steiner discussing the victory of Michael over Mammon in 1879, sensing the relevance it has for today, and who are prepared to take Steiner seriously, this is the *inescapable conclusion* from all that he says.

What are the consequences of this?

Many people are of the view that there *is* a real virus 'out there', and that we must protect ourselves against it in every way we can. For them the danger this poses is so great that they are ultimately willing to overlook the lies, over-oppressive measures, vaccine risks, etc.

Others are appalled at the lies, distorting of figures and manipulations, and do everything they can to show us instead what is the *right* science about the pandemic, what the right measures against it should be, etc.<sup>27</sup> If only the right kind of people could be placed in the media and in government, they hold, the pandemic could at last be managed properly and all would be well.

What both these approaches fail to understand is that all the lies, the manipulating of statistics and human behaviour, the fear-mongering, the censorship, the inhuman and destructive measures, are inextricably

bound up with "the virus". We cannot have one without the other. Until we grasp this we will never move forward. In the words of the song from the unforgettable scene in Paul Taylor Anderson's film 'Magnolia' where each character is faced with the need for catharsis: "*it ain't going to stop till you/we wise up!*"

In Steiner's terms, the *same* Ahrimanic beings are active in the worst forms of materialistic thinking and controlling behaviour *and* in bacilli and viruses. The absurdly materialistic conception of viruses, of how they cause illness, etc., is diabolically suited, we might say, to the lies and measures used to control it.<sup>28</sup> We cannot change the zillions of viruses in the world. But we are able to change, radically, our ways of thinking, to spiritualize it, and in doing so, we immediately see through the whole fabric of lies and despotic behaviour used against us, thereby (at least partly) disarming them. At the same time we also overcome any residue of fear of the virus, casting it out from any place it may have taken in our consciousness.

We are, in other words, in a spiritual battle, a battle of *consciousness* against false forms of thinking, inhuman ways of relating and tyrannically imposed forms of behaviour. To win *this* battle is simultaneously to overcome the virus – and any fear of it – as well.

The lawyer, Reiner Füllmich, who has been extraordinarily inspiring in the courageous, thorough-going and human way in which he has taken on challenging the criminality of what is taking place, towards helping us all, ultimately, turn this situation around, describes how he has become aware of this *spiritual battle* also:

"And there's another level which they, the other side, don't have access to, and that's the spiritual level... I did not think I would ever say this, as a lawyer, but over the last year and a half I've changed my mind, so that is going to play a major role."<sup>29</sup>

### Rudolf Steiner, Michaél and smallpox

Two different objections might be made to all this. Those people, of whom there are many, who maintain that there is no virus, that the whole current "pandemic" is a mere fabrication, may think that I have paid far too much attention altogether to "the virus", which offers no – or only very minimal – threat.

My answer is that even if the deaths actually caused by SARS-Cov-2 are minimal – or even none – we must still recognize the need to overcome the "Ahrimanic, Mephistophelean way of thinking" that is, in its way, "the virus".<sup>30</sup>

Others might make the opposite objection that it's all very well *when the danger is slight* to say that we're involved in a battle of consciousness, but what if the danger was far greater? Worse pandemics, we are often told, will follow this one. What then? Surely *then* the

fears would be valid, and we would quickly heed all the measures now imposed on us, however oppressive they might seem.

This is the argument of fear that has successfully driven the whole “Pandemic Preparedness” agenda for decades, even centuries. Its trump card, that always seemed to have people rushing to obey – if only they would be kept *safe* – was the fear of anthrax or smallpox. So what of these? What if, as with smallpox, the threat was a hundred or a thousand times greater than it is now?<sup>31</sup>

Then the need to spiritualise our whole relationship to the world, to develop “*Michaëlic*” ways of thinking, relating and behaving, instead of *Ahrimanic* ones, would also become a hundred or a thousand times greater. There is no way round it!

Steiner himself was no stranger to smallpox, and so we are able, in this case, to see how he responded to it:

“When I was 22 years old... I was tutoring a pupil whose mother, who had smallpox, lay in the same room, separated from us only by a screen. I did nothing about this and continued with the lessons until the mother had recovered. Actually I rather enjoyed it because I wanted to see whether one could protect oneself by regarding the person with smallpox entirely objectively, like a stone or a bush towards which one has *neither feelings of fear nor any other kind of psychological emotion*, but which one simply accepts as an objective fact. And I found that one can indeed protect oneself in high measure against contracting the disease... Altogether, I have never been afraid of putting myself in a situation which might involve becoming infected, and I have never been infected nor have I contracted an infectious illness.”<sup>32</sup>

In a lecture to young doctors Steiner expressed himself similarly strongly and inspiringly:

“Let us take a specific case... quite an idealistic one—the *true therapy of smallpox*... The knowledge that comes to you here, when you are real therapists in this domain, *works much more strongly upon you ... than does a vaccination*; ... in studying the therapy of smallpox... you will bring about a kind of healing in yourself in advance... and will therefore be able... to go among smallpox patients *without fear, and full of love*.”<sup>33</sup>

Steiner acknowledges that not everyone’s faculties may be as developed as his, that what he is describing is therefore in some way “an idealistic case”. As a result he was not averse to smallpox vaccinations, on strict conditions.<sup>34</sup> But he was nonetheless clear that a major factor in the success of smallpox vaccinations was the “*belief that vaccination is effective*”.

“If we were to replace this belief with something else... let us say by taking people closer to the spirit again” then people’s unconscious fears that “‘there’s a smallpox epidemic here’” could be replaced by “*fully conscious awareness that ‘there’s a spiritual element here, unjustifiable, yes, but I must stand up to it’ which is just as effective.*”<sup>35</sup>

## **P.S. Vaccinations.**

There are people today connected to Steiner’s work, who have quoted his qualified agreement to the use of the smallpox vaccines as a justification for vaccinations against Covid-19. Three things, however, must be added about this.

1. Smallpox is genuinely an extremely dangerous disease. Covid-19, by contrast, is described even by Klaus Schwab, who is keener than anyone to stress its dangers, as: “one of the least deadly pandemics the world has experienced over the last 2000 years.”<sup>36</sup>
2. The smallpox vaccines had at least been sufficiently tested, which the so-called Covid ‘vaccines’<sup>37</sup> have not, only being authorized under terms of “emergency use”. The catastrophic numbers of deaths and adverse reactions (see endnote 48 in Part One, on page 14) would immediately have had them withdrawn in any other trial. This is being hidden from people, (receiving no coverage by the media, though the figures can be found on the government website,) and the vaccines pushed through regardless, because of:
3. The *Ahrimanic* forms of thought and behaviour controlling practically all aspects of Covid-19, not least the vaccination programme, are what we must *primarily* overcome. This means – ‘for starters’ – clearly seeing through and doing all we can to overcome the diabolical – as it must surely be named – imposition of ‘The Great Reset’ *disguised* as the response to a genuine pandemic.

For these reasons it is impossible to make any comparison with a genuine outbreak of smallpox.

## **And anthrax?**

Little need be added regarding anthrax – which has so often played the leading role in determining “pandemic preparedness” in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

Discovered as it was around 1879 as the prototype for germ theory and Koch’s postulates, all that Steiner had to say about Michaël’s victory over Mammon in 1879 – and its significance for bacilli and viruses – applies perfectly to the disease and the fear of anthrax.

Some remarks from a lecture in Basel beautifully illustrate Steiner’s perspective:

“Going to sleep in a materialistic frame of mind is the very best way to nurture bacteria... Actually there is at least one other means that is as effective ... if we go to sleep at night filled with nothing but thoughts of this fear... then this is an excellent method for nurturing bacteria. *Much more could be done than anything put forward against bacteria nowadays by materialistic science*, hugely more could be contributed to the future of humanity if only one were able to put forward ideas which might turn people away from materialism and encourage them towards an active love for the spirit.”<sup>38</sup>

### Creating the future

There is much more we could say – for Steiner’s endlessly creative contribution in response to the true Spirit of our Time never ceased in his lifetime. Today, when we are facing the worst consequences of what Ahriman and his helpers can do, the true antidote to this, the “Michaëlic” approach to all aspects of life, so fully represented in his time by Steiner, becomes of urgent relevance for everyone and our whole future.

With regard to the *future*, we described earlier how much that we hear in the realm of transhumanism seems science-fictional, as though images of Ahrimanic developments are being given to us *almost physically* from the future, which can make it seem impossible the future will happen in any other way than this. But this is the character of *Ahrimanic* inspirations.

*Michaëlic* ones also have to do with the future, very much so, but one which is *up to us*. How could it be otherwise if *Michaël* is indeed the true *spirit of our time*? Yet the extent to which this is so can still be shocking when we come to realize it. For after the event of 1879, human beings’ whole relationship to their development and to the spiritual worlds really did, in Yeats’s words, “change utterly.”<sup>39</sup>

After 1879 it has no longer been possible to rely on outer authorities or even on the spiritual worlds to see to our future development. So from that time on, if we choose to think we are apes, or are essentially no different than machines or computers, we have no protection against becoming like our thoughts! “This profoundly incisive event has the effect that... human beings are destined in future to become what they regard themselves to be... This had to come about so that the human being might really attain to a full and free consciousness of self... the gods had to give the human being the possibility of *becoming their own creation*.”<sup>40</sup>

Steiner interjects at one point: “It is important to know this!” It certainly is. For these “incisive”, inspiring, challenging words sound out that it’s wholly in our freedom *not* to speed into the false future of transhumanism *or* to fall back into the false past of

authoritarian control but to fully live up to what the true spirit of the present time demands.

### Freedom, anarchism and new community

“Freedom” has been the cry of millions of people, worldwide, demonstrating in vast numbers against the exact opposite, the “lockdowns”, “curfews”, “quarantines”,<sup>41</sup> and the infringement of human freedoms in every area of life.

Human freedom is the *sine qua non* for human culture. A society where it is not respected is *not* a human culture. Hardly surprisingly, therefore, the one book of Steiner’s that he said would remain, should all the rest be gone, was ‘*The Philosophy of Freedom*’.<sup>42</sup> For there can be no future without this. Nor was there any compromise in his grasp of freedom, no caveat permitting some power-structure to think that it after all had the right to control. There is no loophole in this:

*“Human beings are free insofar as they are able to obey themselves in every moment of their lives.”*

This approach is often called “anarchy” by those who have no wish for human beings to awaken to their true selves and above all to who they may be – and thus to “*become their own creation*.”

Steiner’s lectures about the event of 1879 have much to say about some of the extremely powerful groups whose intentions are precisely to prevent people from awakening in this way and to maintain domination over them.<sup>43</sup>

True anarchy – or anarchism – is not at all the rule of chaos these power-groups claim it to be. Though it is certainly the opposite of tyranny. Anarchism is in fact going through an important revival, at present, through such inspiring individuals as Derrick Broze<sup>44</sup>, one of the main initiators of ‘The Greater Reset’, a bold, constructive, loving movement to forge a new, spiritually open, supportive, genuinely ecological and *free* human future together. (I am not claiming ‘The Greater Reset’, in all its particulars, at this early stage of its life, is the be-all-and-end-all, but there is much that is inspiring about it – and the ‘Greater Reset’ – as opposed to what Klaus Schwab and the World Economic Forum are proposing – is certainly what we should all, in our own ways, be involved in.)

Steiner too was deeply interested in “anarchism” in the true sense, which he also called “ethical individualism”. He was well aware of the objection likely to be made to his words above by “moralists” and those who think that without strict hierarchical structures society would fall into chaos, who would ask: “But how is social life possible if everyone is only striving to assert their own individuality?”

His answer was: “A moral misunderstanding, a clash, is impossible between those who are morally *free*. Only the morally unfree who obey their natural instincts or the accepted commands of duty come into conflict with



others if these are not obeying the same instincts and the same commands as themselves. *To live in love towards our actions, and to let live in the actions of others, is the fundamental maxim of free human beings.*"<sup>45</sup>

The more we make this a reality, the more we open up a truly human, free space *between* the two powers (or agendas) I have described in this article and the double-bind we have been caught in. The shackles at last begin to fall away. As the young Bob Dylan sang, joyfully kicking off the chains of power:

I scoff/At pettiness which plays so rough  
Walk upside-down inside handcuffs  
Kick my legs to crash it off  
Say okay, I have had enough  
What else can you show me?"<sup>46</sup>

But this is not just rebellious. For the deeper and further we go, and the more esoterically we may grasp things, the *more* sacrosanct does the sphere of everyone's individual freedom – and of our true 'I' – become. (To speak of 'the I' is unusual in English. We might very well also speak of our 'essential self' or 'true individuality'. These expressions lack, however, the riddle or mystery of the word 'I', which no one else can use about us – yet we all use the *same word*.)

At the heart, therefore, of one of Steiner's esoteric lessons he spoke of the need for every striving person to: "constantly preserve the freedom and independence of the 'I'. That is our highest being!" Then he added: "And looking up to Christ, may there stand in our soul: Christ is the archetype of the 'I' (...) And this archetype cannot be characterized by any name other than 'I am.'"

Someone else who was there recollected Steiner's words as follows: "All names for Christ other than 'I am' are not correct. We can never speak of 'He'".<sup>47</sup> "It is important to know this!"

For it shows us that the path of "freedom and love" is indeed the true path to human community, where each of us, in our true individuality, is also able to wholly recognize the unique individuality of everyone else.

It also shows us that the more we manifest and unfold this, the more we create a *new* social possibility, a *third* human and free reality, that even in its quiet beginnings is able to stand *between* the two controlling agendas we have been speaking of and to *rob them of their power*.

For anyone acquainted with Steiner's work will find no difficulty in recognizing the *transhumanist* agenda to be a direct expression of the intentions of Ahriman, and the *Happytalism* agenda as springing from the other opposing power, Lucifer.

On the unshakable ground of this free human middle sphere, we will in the end have to create *threefold* social forms,<sup>48</sup> where the potential tyranny we have been witnessing, caused by the two powers opposed to our



*An early model for the statue 'The Representative of Humanity' by Edith Maryon and Rudolf Steiner*

humanity attempting to join hands against us, would no longer be possible. I hope, however, that what I have described is a beginning.

Two pictures by William Blake point further in the direction of this beginning. They are both of St. Paul, the first, called "The Conversion of Saul", depicting the moment of his spiritual awakening.

The second is of Paul in so-called captivity addressing those who have put him there. Behind him are the soldiers, representatives of military might, and Felix and Drusilla, in front of him, are perhaps good representatives of the other power, that sets itself on high. Subject to no one, speaking directly from his own experience and standing in his own spiritual authority, Paul – and Blake – give the best example there can be of 'Speaking Truth to Power.'

Oh, and finally, Bob Dylan, who celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday at Whitsun, is wonderfully still with us, recently writing and singing:



*I feel the holy spirit inside  
See the light that freedom gives  
I believe it's in the reach of  
Everyone who lives...*

*I go right to the edge, I go right to the end  
I go right where all things lost are made good again.*<sup>49</sup>

*Richard Ramsbotham lives in Stroud, England.*

#### Endnotes

1. Klaus Schwab and Thierry Malleret, *Covid-19: The Great Reset*. (Forum Publishing, 2020)
2. Schwab was the founder of the World Economic Forum. His first book, in 2016, was called 'The Fourth Industrial Revolution'. His second book, in 2018, was called: 'Shaping the Future of the Fourth Industrial Revolution'.
3. From: World Economic Forum webpage on The Fourth Industrial Revolution.  
<https://www.weforum.org/focus/fourth-industrial-revolution>.
4. Elon Musk gives a good example of how the advocates of Transhumanism think that in future human beings merged with AI will far surpass current *human* capacities: "I think generally, people underestimate the capability of AI. They sort of think like, it's a smart human. But it'll be much smarter than the smartest human. It'll be like, can a chimpanzee really understand humans? Not really... We just seem like strange aliens." (<https://www.wired.com/story/elon-musk-humanity-biological-boot-loader-ai/>)
5. "The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed a failure in preparedness arising from a failure of governance in global collective action..." 'Governance Preparedness: Initial Lessons from Covid-19.' (Background report commissioned by the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board. Center for Global Health Science and Security, Georgetown University. July 2020. Written by Rebecca Katz and Alexandra L. Phelan.) (Available online.)
6. As a small example only of Operation Warp Speed's military side, Warp Speed's 'chief operating officer' is General Gustave F. Perna, and the 'director of supply, production, and distribution' is Lieutenant General Paul A. Ostrowski.
7. See, for example, "New forms of terrorism inspired





by conspiracy theories may emerge after pandemic, warns EU counter-terror chief” by Lizzie Dearden, *The Independent*, 1 September 2020

8. “After the Internet of Things, which transformed the way we live, travel and work by connecting everyday objects to the Internet, it’s now time for the Internet of Bodies. This means collecting our physical data via devices that can be implanted, swallowed or simply worn, generating huge amounts of health-related information.” <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/internet-of-bodies-covid19-recovery-governance-health-data/>
9. <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2019/04/22/1807466/0/en/United-Nations-New-Economic-Paradigm-Calls-On-All-People-All-Nations-To-Adopt-Happytialism-Over-Capitalism-On-Occasion-Of-49th-Earth-Day.html>
10. [https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/united-nations-nwo-unno-launches-covid-19-coronavirus-focused-international-day-of-happiness-2020-campaign-theme-happiness-for-all-together-3010-](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/united-nations-nwo-unno-launches-covid-19-coronavirus-focused-international-day-of-happiness-2020-campaign-theme-happiness-for-all-together-3010-26735.html)

26735.html

11. Sachs is a major supporter of Pope Francis’s ‘Laudato Si’ project. Attending a Vatican conference in February 2020, Sachs stated that: “The aim is what the Church calls integral human development and what the UN calls sustainable development.” ‘Sachs: economies should be inclusive’ by Francesco Merlo, 5 February 2020.
12. The SDSN creates an annual ‘*World Happiness Report*’.
13. ‘**Happiness over Power**, UAE Summit on Global Dialogue for Happiness’, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2018, by Luis Gallardo. The 2018 ‘Global Happiness Report’ put out by the ‘Global Happiness Council’ states: “Skeptics of the happiness movement believe that power, not happiness, is the (inevitable) business of government. Yet pursuing happiness is not only idealistic; it is the world’s best and perhaps only hope to avoid global catastrophe.” ([https://s3.amazonaws.com/ghc-2018/GHC\\_Ch1.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/ghc-2018/GHC_Ch1.pdf))
14. Orwell’s *1984* was published in 1948 and Huxley’s *Brave New World* in 1932.



15. See the 'Technological Ages of Mankind' 2011 NASA document by Dennis Bushnell entitled: 'Future Strategic Issues/Future Warfare [Circa 2025]' (<http://docplayer.net/12628409-Future-strategic-issues-future-warfare-circa-2025.html>) ('Nano' or Nanotechnology is technology on an atomic, molecular, and supramolecular scale.)
16. Chapter 16, *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley (1932).
17. The outbreak was in 1876-7. See: 'Anthrax: A Disease of biowarfare and public health importance' by Ajay Kumar Goel. *World Journal of Clinical Cases*. 2015.
18. "Koch and Pasteur independently provided definitive experimental evidence that the *anthrax bacillus* was indeed responsible for the infection. (In the outbreak.) This firmly established the germ theory of disease, which then emerged as the fundamental concept underlying medical microbiology." <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Louis-Pasteur/Vaccine-development>
19. Bell's discovery was also connected with Robert Koch's research into anthrax, as a colleague of Bell's, who had been visiting European bacteriologic laboratories, brought him back news of it. See: *John Henry Bell – Occupational Anthrax Pioneer* by Elizabeth Fee and Theodore M. Brown. *American Journal of Public Health*, May 2002.
20. The anthrax bacillus is, self-evidently, a bacillus. However, regarding Steiner's use of the term 'bacillus' the following should be added from the helpful introduction to *Viral Illness and Epidemics in the Work of Rudolf Steiner*, edited and translated by Daniel Hindes. (Aelzina Books, 2020) Hindes writes: "Viral illnesses were well known, of course, but that viruses were a different class of organism was not fully established in Steiner's lifetime. As a result people of that time referred to all infectious microorganisms as "bacilli" ... So to translate Steiner's references to *Bazillen* literally could easily confuse the educated reader... In Steiner's day the term included all infectious microorganisms, both viral, bacterial and otherwise."
21. Lecture in Zurich on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1917 – in *Secret Brotherhoods and the Mystery of the Human Double* (RSP 2004).
22. In GA 266a. Passage included in: *Viral Illness and Epidemics in the Work of Rudolf Steiner*, edited and translated by Daniel Hindes. (Pages 32-33.) Steiner's 'Esoteric Lessons' were not copied down, and thus the passages we have were written down by people from memory afterwards. An alternative rendering of this passage says: "Mammon, the spirit of obstacles and darkness, has innumerable helpers who embody themselves extensively in bacteria and germs. The fear of the germs and their suppression by the medical profession is quite justified."
23. For several very interesting articles on the significance of the Archangelic epochs in history, see *The Golden Blade* 1979 (A special issue on this theme, 100 years after 1879). [https://www.waldorflibrary.org/images/stories/Journal\\_Articles/GoldenBlade\\_1979.pdf](https://www.waldorflibrary.org/images/stories/Journal_Articles/GoldenBlade_1979.pdf)
24. See endnote 20.
25. Lecture in Basel, 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1914. GA 154. Quoted in: *Viral Illness and Epidemics in the Work of Rudolf Steiner*, ed. Daniel Hindes and in *On Epidemics. Spiritual Perspectives. From the work of Rudolf Steiner* ed. Taja Gut. (RSP 2011).
26. Lecture 9 by Rudolf Steiner, 'Fall of the Spirits of Darkness', 14 October 1917. (GA 177)
27. Dr. Geert Vanden Bossche is, I think, a good example of such a person.
28. In describing what such a 'diabolical match' would look like, Steiner may be said to have accurately prophesied the exact situation we are now in: "What would humanity face if one wanted to exploit the fear of bacilli and create legal provisions against the battle with bacilli." He speaks of the absurd claims that would then be made that people are becoming ill "through contact... with a so-called bacillus carrier, a person who carries viable, transmissible germs with him, without knowing it, and without himself being ill. *You cannot control all this, it would lead to impossible conditions, to unbearable tyranny.*" Public lecture by Steiner on 6 March, 1909. Reprinted (in German) in 'Ein Nachrichtenblatt, 21 February, 2021
29. 'Corona-Ausschuss' interview between Reiner Füllmich and Viviane Fischer with James Corbett – after 51 minutes of the interview. Video available at: [https://odysee.com/@CoronaAusschuss:3/James\\_Corbett\\_Interview\\_english\\_version:3](https://odysee.com/@CoronaAusschuss:3/James_Corbett_Interview_english_version:3)
30. Far more tragically, even if the virus called Covid-19 disappears completely, the vaccines certainly will not, that arise from – and are being imposed by – exactly the kind of ahrimanicly materialistic mindset we have been referring to.
31. See the passage in Part One of this article that includes endnote 21 for a description by D.A. Henderson of smallpox as the most feared disease there is, as an outbreak would have by far "the most devastating impact".
32. Lecture by Rudolf Steiner in Dornach, April 22, 1924. Quoted in: *On Epidemics. Spiritual Perspectives. From the work of Rudolf Steiner* edited by Taja Gut. (RSP 2011).
33. Lecture by Rudolf Steiner in Dornach, January 8, 1924. <https://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/YoungDoctors/19240108p01.html>
34. "When you vaccinate someone (a child) and you are a genuine anthroposophist, bringing the person up in the anthroposophical way, it will do no harm. It will harm only those who grow up with mainly materialistic ideas. Then vaccination becomes a kind of ahrimanic power; the individual can no longer rise above a certain materialistic way of feeling. And that is really why vaccination causes us concern, because people are 'garbed through' with a phantom. The individual has a phantom which prevents him from freeing the psychic entities as far from the physical organism as in a normal state of consciousness. *He grows constitutionally materialistic, is no longer able to rise to the spiritual sphere. This is what causes concern with vaccination.*" [My emphasis].  
From a discussion of smallpox vaccination during a conference for doctors on April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1924. (GA 314). Included in: *Vaccination in the work of Rudolf Steiner*, edited and translated by Daniel Hindes (2021).

35. Ibid.
36. Klaus Schwab and Thierry Malleret, *Covid-19: The Great Reset*, conclusion. (Forum Publishing, 2020.)
37. The Covid 'vaccines' are not vaccines in the traditional sense, most of them using genetic engineering and biotechnology, and being officially termed: 'Gene Therapies'. See: 'Gene therapy avenues and COVID-19 vaccines' by Omar S. Abu Abed in 'Genes & Immunity' (2021). For a defence of this approach, see: <https://allianceforscience.cornell.edu/blog/2020/12/yes-some-covid-vaccines-use-genetic-engineering-get-over-it/>
38. From lecture in Basel, 5<sup>th</sup> May 1914, quoted in: *On Epidemics. Spiritual Perspectives. From the work of Rudolf Steiner*, ed. Taja Gut.
39. From W.B. Yeats's poem: 'Easter 1916'.
40. 'Behind the Scenes of External Events, I.' Lecture by Rudolf Steiner in Zurich, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917. In *Secret Brotherhoods. The Mystery of the Human Double*. (RSP 2004)
41. And even "quarantine camps". For the undeniably prison-like conditions of one of these by Heathrow Airport, see: [https://brandnewtube.com/watch/heathrow-prison-clip-is-crazy-hugo-talks-some-more-lockdown\\_M8aCxXfXMIyx3MK.html](https://brandnewtube.com/watch/heathrow-prison-clip-is-crazy-hugo-talks-some-more-lockdown_M8aCxXfXMIyx3MK.html)
42. The original German title is *Die Philosophie der Freiheit*. There is a very good translation of it by William Lindemann (Mercury Press), with the title *The Philosophy of Spiritual Activity*. It is available online at [https://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA004/English/AP1986/GA004\\_index.html](https://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA004/English/AP1986/GA004_index.html)
43. See: *Secret Brotherhoods. The Mystery of the Human Double*. (Lectures by Rudolf Steiner in 1917.)
44. Derrick Broze has more than anyone brought 'anarchism' forward as a positive solution for our times, unbounded by the oppressive restrictions of the worlds of government, business, etc. Among Broze's books are: 'How to Opt-Out of the Technocratic State. Inspired by Samuel E. Konkin III' (2020) and 'The Conscious Resistance Trilogy' written with John Vibes (Discovery Publisher, NY, 2020).
45. 'The Philosophy of Freedom' by Rudolf Steiner. Based on Michael Wilson's translation. (RSP 1964).
46. See endnote 48.
47. Rudolf Steiner, Esoteric Lesson, Munich, March 3rd, 1909. (GA266/1)
48. See the section called 'The Threefold Social Order' in 'Covid-19 and The Great Reset. Part Two. What on Earth are we to do about it?' by Richard Ramsbotham in *New View*, Autumn 2020. This penultimate section of the article attempts to show how a threefold social order, first brought forward by Steiner in 1919, could, in a new form for today, bring huge and significant changes to our present situation, making the tyranny we have been witnessing impossible.
49. Both quotations are from Dylan's latest album 'Rough and Rowdy Ways' (2020). The first is from 'Crossing the Rubicon' and the second from 'I Contain Multitudes'.

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