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Coronavirus could kill 81,000 in U.S., subside in June -Washington University analysis *March 26, 2020* Reuters reported: "The coronavirus pandemic could kill more than 81,000 people in the United States in the next four months and may not subside until June, according to a data analysis done by University of Washington School of Medicine.

The number of hospitalized patients is expected to peak nationally by the second week of April, though the peak may come later in some states. Some people could continue to die of the virus as late as July, although deaths should be below epidemic levels of 10 per day by June at the latest, according to the analysis.

The analysis, using data from governments, hospitals and other sources, predicts that the number of U.S. deaths could vary widely, ranging from as low as around 38,000 to as high as around 162,000.

The variance is due in part to disparate rates of the spread of the virus in different regions, which experts are still struggling to explain, said Dr. Christopher Murray, director of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington, who led the study.

The duration of the virus means there may be a need for social distancing measures for longer than initially expected, although the country may eventually be able relax restrictions if it can more effectively test and quarantine the sick, Murray said." ... "

Taiwan anger over China military drills during virus outbreak

March 25, 2020 sinodailystar.com reported: "Anger is rising in Taiwan over China continuing to buzz the island with fighter jets and warships even as they both fight the global coronavirus pandemic.

The self-ruled democratic island has had to scramble its own fighter jets in response to recent Chinese maneuvers, designed to show that Beijing's military might remain unbowed by the health crisis. But the tactic is winning few friends among the Taiwanese.

'As the world grapples with the severity of the COVID19 pandemic, China's military maneuvers around Taiwan have continued unabated,' President Tsai Ing-wen said in a tweet late Tuesday accompanied by pictures of her visiting troops.

'Whether it's national defence or preventing the spread of disease, our armed forces remain as vigilant as ever,' she added..."

Millions of locusts cover streets in Oman with footage showing 'ground moving'

March 25, 2020 dailystar.co.uk reported: "Swarms of locusts have descended on Oman with footage showing what seems to be the floor moving after millions started crawling across the streets. The spooky video taken by Dominic Abu Hanna shows a road covered in the small insects. They all seem to be moving in the same direction which gives the impression that the floor is moving. He claimed in his video – seen more than 4.5million times since it was posted on March 15 – that the insects were ants.

But journalist Hassan Hassan has since tweeted: "Omani authorities have responded to videos about a massive swarm of 'ants' circulated online, saying those are actually 'small-size' locusts."

Locust swarms as big as 60km long have ravaged east Africa and the Middle East in recent weeks, destroying crops in areas already severely affected by food shortages. The latest footage was enough to freak out hundreds of viewers." ..."

US Fingers Iran for Exporting COVID-19

March 24, 2020 voanews.com reported: "Fears Iran would serve as a launching pad for the coronavirus pandemic, potentially wreaking havoc on the Middle East, are coming true, according to U.S. officials, who point to a growing volume of evidence.

The State Department Monday accused Iran of transmitting the coronavirus, which causes the disease COVID-19, to multiple countries, saying that, in at least five instances, a country's first case of the virus was 'directly imported from Iran.'

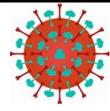
'The Wuhan virus is a killer and the Iranian regime is an accomplice,' U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo told reporters during a visit to Afghanistan.

'The regime continues to lie to the Iranian people and the world,' Pompeo added in a statement. 'They put Iranians and people around the world at greater risk.'...'

Japanese firm says it developed vaccine against COVID-19

March 24, 2020 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Japanese biopharmaceutical firm Anges Inc. said on Tuesday (local time) that it and partner Osaka University had completed development of a prophylactic DNA vaccine against the new coronavirus and that it would begin testing it in animals soon, *Reuters* reported.

There are now more than 350,000 cases of coronavirus infections globally and over 15,000 deaths.



Last week, China gave the go-ahead for researchers to begin human safety tests of an experimental coronavirus vaccine in the race to develop a shot against the COVID-19 epidemic.

Also last week, scientists in the United States began clinical trials in Seattle for a vaccine for COVID-19 developed by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the US biotech firm Moderna. Public health officials say it will take a year to 18 months to fully validate any potential vaccine..."

Seven earthquakes rattle Oklahoma in 24 hours, geologists say

March 23, 2020 Kansas City Star reported: "In just less than 24 hours, seven earthquakes rattled across Oklahoma, according to data from the United States Geological Survey.

The temblors ranged in intensity from magnitude to 1.6 to 2.5. The first quake — measuring at magnitude 1.9 — struck at 10:44 a.m. Sunday roughly 2.5 miles south of Perry, the USGS reported. The second quake — magnitude 1.7 — came just over a minute later in roughly the same location."..."

Data indicates that few people, if any, felt the temblors." ... "

North Korea fires two 'ballistic missiles' into sea

March 23, 2020 spacewar.com reported: "North Korea fired what appeared to be two short-range ballistic missiles off its east coast on Saturday, the latest in a series of such launches by Pyongyang as the world struggles with the coronavirus pandemic.

The South Korean military condemned the launches as 'extremely inappropriate given the difficult situation the world is experiencing due to COVID-19... We urge them to stop immediately.'

North Korea has not reported any cases of the coronavirus, which has turned into a major crisis with more than 11,000 deaths and over 250,000 infections worldwide.

There has been widespread speculation, however, that the virus has reached the isolated nation, and health experts have warned that it could devastate the country given its weak medical infrastructure and widespread malnutrition.

Japan's defence ministry also confirmed the North Korean launches..."

Prison inmates in West report being forced into Islam

March 23, 2020 World Net Daily reported: "It's no secret that prisons in Western nations are petri dishes for Islamic radicalism. Muslims in prison use their time to recruit others to jihad. But now, the Voice of Europe reports, Muslims in prison in Denmark are forcing other inmates to join their prayers.

Prisons in the European nation have turned 'overwhelmingly Islamic,' and 'non-Muslim inmates [are] abused and forced to participate in Islamic prayer,' Voice of Europe reports.

'It's not exactly breaking news that immigrants, particularly third world immigrants, are vastly overrepresented in Western Europe crime statistics. What hasn't been seen, up until lately is that prisons that are filled primarily with Muslim inmates,' the report explained..."

Exclusive: Inside The Military's Top Secret Plans If Coronavirus Cripples the Government

March 18, 2020 newsweek.com reported: "Even as President Trump says he tested negative for coronavirus, the COVID-19 pandemic raises the fear that huge swaths of the executive branch or even Congress and the Supreme Court could also be disabled, forcing the implementation of "continuity of government" plans that include evacuating Washington and "devolving" leadership to second-tier officials in remote and quarantined locations.

But Coronavirus is also new territory, where the military itself is vulnerable and the disaster scenarios being contemplated -including the possibility of widespread domestic violence as a result of food shortages -- are forcing planners to look at what are called "extraordinary circumstances".

Above-Top Secret contingency plans already exist for what the military is supposed to do if all the Constitutional successors are incapacitated. Standby orders were issued more than three weeks ago to ready these plans, not just to protect Washington but also to prepare for the possibility of some form of martial law.

According to new documents and interviews with military experts, the various plans – codenamed Octagon, Freejack and Zodiac – are the underground laws to ensure government continuity. They are so secret that under these extraordinary plans, "devolution" could circumvent the normal Constitutional provisions for government succession, and military commanders could be placed in control around America.

"We're in new territory," says one senior officer, the entire post-9/11 paradigm of emergency planning thrown out the window. The officer jokes, in the kind of morbid humor characteristic of this slow-moving disaster, that America had better learn who Gen. Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy is.

He is the "combatant commander" for the United States and would in theory be in charge if Washington were eviscerated. That is, until a new civilian leader could be installed."..."

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