

Pandemic Depression

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It's incredible how long an illusion can be sustained when near totalitarian dictatorships have all the significant sources of information playing slightly different variations of the same tune. But the economy really is a wreck. What has accounted for signs of growth is a single years worth of \$3 trillion debt. That is more than all the taxes collected this year and a trillion dollars more than the GDP.

With all this the exchanges were hitting record highs, especially Nasdaq. In the past week or so Nasdaq fell into correction (lost 10% of its value) which did much to undercut the other bloated markets. Tesla has been one of the biggest losers (17% when last checked). Everyone was stunned: Why should a company with a market value higher than that of VW, Toyota, Daimler and Honda combined, and with revenue that is 3% of the 4 cited, be judged a risky investment.

Tesla helped bring down over bought big names: Microsoft, Amazon, Facebook, Alphabet. A key bit of bad news was growth in unemployment. As those with jobs returned when Covid was made relatively safe, that ordinary and expected development was cited as proof of a return to growth. But now those whose jobs have disappeared are increasing and the unemployment rolls are growing. The Covid 19 summer respite barely happened and now higher numbers are returning. Part of this is because an opening of the economy is necessary to prevent complete collapse. That means pushing the productive class into working under risky conditions.

Covid will be with us until an effective vaccine is developed and administered. Until then we a combined pandemic, anti-police brutality uprising, and the West Coast on fire thanks to global warming to solve by a world governed by corrupt, self-seeking dipshits.

Vietnam - China Lite

The two former Stalinist regimes have followed the same path toward a transformation to a capitalist state. Both are using 'Marxist characteristics' bullshit to disguise the real program -- that a parasitic elite of explicit bourgeoisie and ex-Stalinist bureaucracy are exploiting and enriching themselves via the labor of workers and peasants.

Both nations relied on their well educated, trained and organized workers to attract foreign investments and advance the material development of their country, and now both have experienced a decline in foreign trade income because of the world depression. But China is in a stronger position with its 1.4 billion population, a strong military, significant foreign investment, and a large accumulation of foreign trade wealth.

But Vietnam with a population of 100 million relied almost completely on trade. Its exports equaled the size of its GDP and it is now facing its slowest growth in 20 years, 2.4% according to the World Bank. Still, it is the only member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (10 nations including Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines) not expected to fall into recession.

As in China many of the workforce now made redundant are peasants that came to the cities for wage labor income. They are now expected to go home and fend for themselves. Meanwhile the elite and the petty bourgeois middle class, now said to represent 13% of the population, will comfortably wait it out while the poor and working class will starve it out.

Economic Info

-- Some of Wall Streets top banks and investment outfits, JP Morgan Chase, Goldman Sachs, UBS, Black Rock will begin investing in their very own exchange, Members Exchange (MEMX), beginning September 21. The only thing of interest here is that the SEC has permitted this gang, infamous for not engaging in honest and fair trading in other exchanges, to actually get to have an exchange of their own. I guess somehow it's assumed that thieves won't steal from themselves. Well, at least there probably won't be as much gun-play.

-- China's development along capitalist lines continues apace. 6 of the 10 most valuable brokerage houses are now Chinese, Citic the largest with \$54.7 billion. The US still has the top two in JP Morgan Chase and Goldman Sachs. Along with a military challenge there is also the economic. Typical of capitalist competition.

-- The Indian economy shrank 23.9% in the second, the most since 1996 when this data was released to the public. It's last official recession was in 1980.