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-As uncertainty looms



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-to purchase COVID vaccines

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Continental News

Haiti's president killed in attack at home

Haiti's President Jovenel Moïse has been killed and his wife injured in an attack on their home in the nation's capital, Port-au-Prince.

Unidentified gunmen stormed the property at 01:00 local time (05:00 GMT), interim PM Claude Joseph said.

He called for calm, saying that "all measures had been taken to guarantee the continuity of the state".

Mr Moïse had been in power since 2017 but had faced widespread protests demanding his resignation.

Mr Joseph called the shooting of the president a "heinous, inhuman and barbaric act", saying the attackers spoke "English and Spanish". He gave no further details.

He said the situation in the impoverished Caribbean nation was under control, adding: "Democracy and the republic will win." The streets of the capital appeared to be largely empty on Wednesday morning, but questions

remain about how much control Mr Joseph can assert in a nation plagued by political instability and gang violence.

The neighbouring Dominican Republic ordered the "immediate closure" of its border with Haiti.

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson tweeted that he was "shocked and saddened at the death of Mr Moïse", calling it "an

abhorrent act" and appealing for calm. The White House called the killing a "horrific crime".

First Lady Martine Moïse is being treated in hospital but her condition remains unclear.

Jovenel Moïse, 53, had been in power since February 2017.

His time in office was rocky

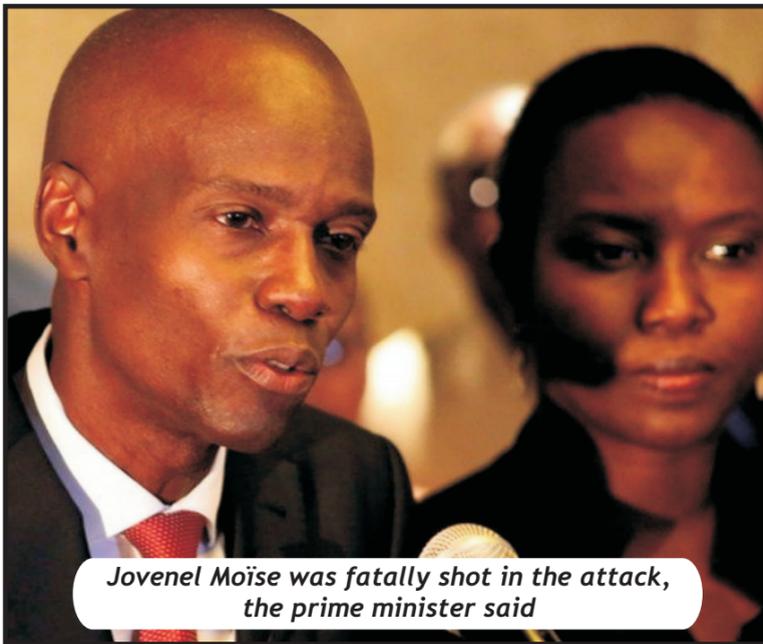
as he faced accusations of corruption and there were widespread demonstrations in the capital and other cities earlier this year.

Haiti's opposition said that Mr Moïse's five-year term should have ended on 7 February 2021, five years to the day since his predecessor, Michel Martelly, stepped down. But there had been a year's delay to elections after Mr Martelly's departure, and Mr Moïse insisted he had one more year to serve as he did not take office until 7 February 2017. Parliamentary elections should have been held in October 2019 but disputes have delayed them, meaning Mr Moïse had been ruling by decree.

In February this year, on the

day the opposition wanted him to leave office, Mr Moïse said an attempt to kill him and overthrow the government had been foiled. Haiti has faced a wave of recent gang violence and kidnappings, particularly in the capital, with a number of its districts becoming no-go areas.

Chronic instability, dictatorships and natural disasters have left the country, with a population of 11 million, one of the poorest nations in the Americas. The worsening living standards have pushed nearly 60% below the poverty line. An earthquake in 2010 killed more than 200,000 people and caused extensive damage to infrastructure and the economy. A UN peacekeeping force was put in place in 2004 to help stabilise the country, and only withdrew in 2017, but the turmoil has shown no sign of ending. BBC



Jovenel Moïse was fatally shot in the attack, the prime minister said

Taliban battle their way into western Afghan city

The Taliban have entered a key city in western Afghanistan as they continue a rapid advance before Nato troops leave. All government officials in Qala-e-Naw, provincial capital of Badghis province, had been moved to a nearby army base, the local governor told the BBC.

He said the militants were moving "towards the centre of the city" and there was heavy

fighting with government troops. The Taliban gains come as the US, UK and allies withdraw after 20 years.

The vast majority of remaining foreign forces in Afghanistan have left ahead of an 11 September deadline, leaving the Afghan military in sole charge of security.

Local sources told the BBC the Taliban moved on the prison in Qala-e-Naw and freed about 400 inmates, including more than

100 of the group's fighters. Afghan forces guarding the prison are reported to have surrendered without a fight. Governor Hisamudin Shams said he had seen the Taliban in the district of Qala-e-Naw where he lives, and the headquarters of the intelligence service had been set on fire. But he denied reports the city had fallen to the Taliban, and said Afghan troops were defending it.

The governor told Reuters the militants attacked the city from three directions in the morning. Other local officials said there was panic among residents. Later in the day, officials said special forces had been deployed against Taliban fighters and air strikes were being carried out, the news agency reported.

The Taliban have seized dozens of districts in recent weeks and are now thought to control about a third of the country, making new gains on a daily basis. So far provincial capitals have remained under government control.

Under a deal with the

Dutch crime reporter seriously wounded in shooting

A prominent Dutch journalist known for investigating the criminal underworld has been shot and seriously wounded on a street in central Amsterdam.

Peter R de Vries, 64, was shot minutes after leaving a TV studio, where he had appeared on a chat show.

Mr de Vries is famed for his work on exposing mobsters and drug lords, and has helped police solve a number of high-profile cases.

Three men were arrested, but police say one is no longer a suspect.

Hours after the attack, two men were arrested in a car on the A4 motorway at Leidschendam - a 35-year-old Polish national living in Maurik and a 21-year-old man living in Rotterdam. They will face court on Friday.

An 18-year-old was arrested in Amsterdam, but will be released. The mayor of Amsterdam, Femke Halsema, described Mr de Vries as "a national hero to us all" and as "a rare, courageous journalist who tirelessly sought



justice". The attack happened just after 19:30 (17:30 GMT), as the journalist was walking away from the studio on the Lange Leidsedwardsstraat.

Five shots were fired at close range and Mr de Vries, 64, was hit in the head, local media report. Mr de Vries was previously given police protection after receiving threats for his involvement in criminal cases as an investigative journalist. In 2019 he tweeted that police had told him he was on the hit list of the Netherlands' most wanted criminal. Mayor Halsema said the journalist was fighting for his life, and condemned the shooting as a "cruel, heartless attack". BBC



Heavy fighting is reported to have been going on in Qala-e-Naw all day

Taliban, the US and its Nato allies agreed to withdraw all troops in return for a commitment by the militants not to allow any extremist group to operate in the areas they control.

But the Taliban did not agree to stop fighting Afghan forces, whose ability to hold

off the insurgents is being questioned. Military officials in Kabul have talked about "tactical retreat" whenever insurgents make gains, but commanders in the battlefield have told the BBC about a lack of ammunition, and delays in sending support. BBC

EDITORIAL

Going from bad to worse

ALL IS NOT well in Liberia, as the daily confirmed cases of the corona virus among the population are nearly 200 and death keeps increasing. Funeral homes are overwhelmed by dead bodies, while caskets are in short supply.

ALREADY, LIBERIA HAS been placed at Level 4 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States for being a country with very high COVID-19 confirmed cases. The country gradually seems to be at the brink of succumbing to the pandemic, if concerted effort is not taken immediately.

HEALTH AUTHORITIES IN the country keep assuring the public that they are up to the task, having announced protocol and preventive measures. However, the reality on the ground with fresh surging cases and deaths point to the contrary. It is a fact that soldiers fighting at the frontline would never give up until the last combatant dies but the people of Liberia don't want to be decapitated or led to the slaughterhouse.

WE BELIEVE STRONGLY that rapid testing is the surest way to reverse the current trend than to wait for infected patients to be taken to Star Base for oxygen that is scarcely available. Liberia cannot contain the resurgence of the coronavirus unless massive rapid testing campaign is launched across the entire country.

IN THIS FIGHT, we need all hands on deck, including experts that are not presently in government. This is not a fight for the Minister of Health Doctor Wilehmina S. Jallah and her staff at NPHIL or the Incident Management System. All Liberians should join the fight to defeat COVID-19.

IT IS IN this light that we welcome the US\$150,000 commitment from the Cummings Africa Foundation towards our health crisis, joining the Government of Liberia to reach out to hospitals and health centers particularly and the citizenry generally.

AS MR. ALEXANDER B. CUMMINGS, founder of the Foundation and leader of the opposition Alternative National Congress (ANC) said last week while announcing the gesture, Liberia is under serious threat right now, and unless we join hands to do our very best for one another, all of us will continue to be at risk, even if we hide ourselves in the homes.

BESIDES, THOSE LEADING the fight from the government side should move away from lip-service and demonstrate political will. We demand vigilance at the Roberts International Airport, seaports and land borders to curtailing the resurgence.

BY DOING SO, we will get ahead of the curve and erect relevant checkpoints that could halt the spread, particularly in the counties. The health system lacks capacity to respond to any overwhelming situation outside Montserrado County, when even the seat of government itself is seriously challenged.

LET THIS NOT be misconstrued that we are being pessimistic here. This is an honest attempt to present the grim reality so that all Liberians would wake up from their slumber, state of denial and face the danger ahead of us as a people. We need to wear our masks properly, observe social distance, wash our hands regularly and avoid mass gathering or crowded places, among others, to halt the spread.

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COMMENTARY

By Melvyn B. Krauss

Joe Biden's Nixon Strategy

STANFORD - The strategic imperative behind US President Joe Biden's recent summitry in Europe was to forge a united Western response to China. In the three weeks since those meetings, it has become clear that he succeeded.

The United States, France, and Germany are now essentially on the same page. Each recognizes that broad international agreement is necessary to convince China to curtail its aggressive behavior. The Chinese attitude was laid bare in Chinese President Xi Jinping's remarks this month commemorating the centennial of the Communist Party of China. Any attempt to interfere with his country's ascent, he warned, will lead to "heads bashed bloody against a Great Wall of steel."

In Asia, the Biden administration's strategic imperative has led it to place greater emphasis on the "Quad" of Asia-Pacific democracies: Australia, India, Japan, and the US. Late last month, the US and Japan staged joint naval maneuvers to prepare for any Chinese aggression toward Taiwan. And in Europe, both NATO and the European Union have elevated China to the top of the policy agenda after previously trying to avoid "out-of-region" commitments.

Although Biden has made tangible progress in forging a broad consensus on China, he has only just begun to tackle the hardest element of this policy: convincing Russian President Vladimir Putin that his country has a national-security interest in distancing itself from China. Nonetheless, getting Putin on board is now clearly a high priority. Since their summits with Biden, French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel have both called for a reset of EU relations with Russia.

To be sure, the suggestion that the EU might patch up relations with Russia has been met with near-hysterical protests in the Netherlands, the Baltic states, and Poland. Responding to these histrionics, Merkel hastened to make clear "that such talks with the Russian president aren't a kind of reward."

If Merkel was dismissive, that is because the howls of protest were entirely predictable. Abrupt strategic policy shifts are rarely understood at their outset. When US President Richard Nixon inaugurated relations with communist China 50 years ago, he set off a firestorm among America's allies, with Japan objecting even more strongly than the Estonians, Latvians, Lithuanians, and Poles are now.

Today, Nixon's diplomatic initiative is remembered as one of the great strategic breakthroughs of the post-war era. The "opening of China" arose from the fact that both Nixon and Mao Zedong had come to view the Soviet Union as the greatest threat to each of their countries. By establishing diplomatic relations, they could force the Soviets (who had recently invaded Czechoslovakia and then waged a short but brutal border war with China) to reconsider their aggressive policies.

It worked. In the years that followed, the Soviets sharply reduced troop deployments along the border with China and entered into

major nuclear-arms treaties with the US.

Fast-forward to today. Putin, a man of bloodless realpolitik if ever there was one, has several reasons to play ball with Biden - many of which are just as compelling as those that motivated Mao and Zhou Enlai to welcome Nixon's overture. For starters, because Russia is more isolated now than the Soviet Union ever was, it has become dangerously dependent on China. But the main beneficiary of Putin's anti-Western antagonism over the past decade has not been Russia but China. By bringing Russia in from the cold in which the West has placed his economy, Putin could reverse its descent into economic sclerosis and stagnation.

In fact, like many in Russia's security establishment, Putin recognizes that his country has received scant benefits from its relationship with Xi's China. Although China has been investing massively in firms and infrastructure around the world (much of it through Xi's signature Belt and Road Initiative), only a miniscule amount of Chinese money has made it to Russia, where it has been desperately needed to offset the effects of Western sanctions.

Moreover, while China's leaders never mention it, they are just as embittered over Russia's theft of Chinese territory in the nineteenth century as they are over the West's imperial predations. With Western imperialism having been largely rolled back, it is Russia's continued occupation of historic Chinese territory that stands out the most to ordinary Chinese observers.

For example, the city of Vladivostok, with its vast naval base, has been a part of Russia only since 1860, when the tsars built a military harbor there. Before that, the city was known by the Manchu name of Haishenwai. When Russia held celebrations for the city's 160th anniversary last year, hyper-nationalist Chinese internet users exploded in indignation.

There is also a demographic argument for Putin to consider: the six million Russians spread along the Siberian border face 90 million Chinese on the other side. And many of these Chinese regularly cross the border into Russia to trade (and a good number to stay).

Just as Nixon's brokering of relations with Mao was never intended to transform China into a bastion of human rights and democracy, nor is the Biden/Macron/Merkel strategy meant to turn Putin's Russia into a free society overnight. Western leaders are not harboring any illusions. Despite everything he has to gain from better relations with the West, Putin will not shift away from China if doing so poses any threat to his power or personal safety. The Putin regime is far too brittle and reliant on outright authoritarianism to take any serious risks.

If the West wants Russia to distance itself from China, it will have to accept Putin as he is - warts and all. Though he won't improve his record on human rights, he could at least be convinced to recognize internationally agreed norms in cyberspace, and to stop openly threatening his neighbors. That sort of bargain is more than possible, and it just might be enough to alert a stubborn Xi to the strategic dangers of his own regional and international bullying.

OPINION

By Joseph S. Nye, Jr.

What Did Biden Achieve in Geneva?

CAMBRIDGE - When US President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin held their first summit in Geneva last month, cyber weapons played a larger role on the agenda than the nuclear kind. Clearly the world has changed since the Cold War, but what, if anything, did Biden accomplish?

For more than two decades, Russia has proposed a United Nations cyber treaty. But the United States regarded such a pact as unverifiable. Unlike nuclear weapons, the difference between a cyber weapon and other computer code can depend simply on the programmer's intent.

Instead of a treaty, Russia, the US, and 13 other states agreed to voluntary norms, outlined by UN-sponsored groups of governmental experts, prohibiting attacks on each other's civilian infrastructure and not barring wrongful acts staged from their territory. Although these norms were reaffirmed at the UN this past spring, skeptics note that shortly after it agreed to a 2015 report, Russia attacked Ukraine's power grid and interfered in the 2016 US presidential election.

Unlike the US, which established a Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) in 2010, Russia has never formally admitted to having offensive cyber capabilities. Both countries penetrate each other's networks to gather intelligence, but it is sometimes difficult to draw a line between espionage and preparing the battlefield. That is why the US complained earlier this year about the Russian attack on the American firm SolarWinds, which is said to have infected at least nine major government agencies and more than a hundred significant corporations.

Even if formal arms control treaties are unworkable, it may still be possible to set limits on certain types of civilian targets, and to negotiate rough rules of the road. For example, despite deep ideological differences, in 1972 the US and the Soviet Union negotiated an Incidents at Sea Agreement to limit naval behavior that might lead to dangerous escalation.

Espionage is not against international law, and an agreement to ban it would not be credible. Nonetheless, the US and Russia might negotiate limits to their behavior regarding the extent (not the existence) of their cyber spying. Or they might agree to set limits on their intervention in each other's domestic political processes. Even if there is no agreement on precise definitions, they could exchange unilateral statements about areas of self-restraint and establish a regular consultative process to contain conflict.

This seems to have been the approach explored by Biden in Geneva. According to press accounts, Biden handed Putin a list of 16 areas of critical infrastructure - including energy, health, information technology, financial services, chemicals, and communications - that he said "should be off limits to attack, period."

In one sense, this was not new. The list of what Americans regard as critical infrastructure has long been posted on the website of the US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. But it is different when one head of state hands a list to another.

After the meeting, Biden disclosed that he asked Putin how he would feel if Russian pipelines were taken out by ransomware, as the US Colonial Pipeline was in May by criminals operating from Russia. This would be very costly for Russia's economy, which depends heavily on pipelines to export its natural gas. The Americans did not attribute the ransomware attack on Colonial to the Russian government, but US experts have noted that criminal gangs in Russia seem to operate with impunity so long as they do not attack Russian targets.

In his press conference after the summit, Biden said "I pointed out to him that we have significant cyber capability. And he knows it. He doesn't know exactly what it is, but it's significant. And if, in fact, they violate these basic norms, we will respond with cyber. He knows." In other words, Biden was implying a deterrent threat if Russia continued to violate the voluntary norms prohibiting attacks on civilian infrastructure and use of its territory for harmful purposes. Putin is smart, and he certainly heard the message, but whether Russian behavior will improve depends on Biden's credibility.

Drawing red lines can be tricky. Some critics worry that by specifying what needed to be protected, Biden might have implied that other areas were fair game. Moreover, red lines must be enforced to be effective. The critics argue that the focus of the warning should have been on the amount of damage done, not where or how it is done.

By analogy, one does not tell a party host to turn off all their music; you warn them that if the noise becomes intolerably loud, you will call the police. How Putin interprets Biden's message remains to be seen in the months to come, but the two presidents did agree to establish a cyber working group that could try to define the limits of "tolerable."

The US will need to state unilaterally the norms that it pledges to stand by. When Russia crosses such a line, America will have to be prepared with targeted retaliation, such as emptying the bank accounts of some privileged oligarchs, releasing embarrassing information, or disrupting Russian networks. USCYBERCOM's strategy of forward defense and persistent engagement can be useful for deterrence, but it must be accompanied by a process of quiet communication.

Criminal groups often act as state proxies in varying degrees, and the US will have to make clear that acting as a haven for cyber criminals will lead to retaliation. And because the rules of the road will never be perfect, they must be accompanied by a regular consultative process that establishes a framework for warning and negotiation. Whether Biden succeeded in launching such a process in Geneva, or whether Russian and American cyber relations will remain their bad normal, may well become clearer in the coming months.

OP-ED

By Daron Acemoglu

The Real Inflation Risk

CAMBRIDGE - With the annual inflation rate in the United States reaching 5% in May, economists and investors are right to be apprehensive about deficit spending, public debt, and the risk of sustained price growth - which is higher now than it has been for almost four decades. But it would be a mistake to respond to these concerns by pumping the brakes on the economy.

No, the government cannot borrow and spend as much as it likes without paying any costs, as some progressives would have us believe. But nor can those worried about inflation ignore the deeper problem afflicting the US: deep political polarization, accompanied by an erosion of trust in government. A rapid economic recovery, spearheaded by public policies that encourage employment and wage growth, is the best chance the US has to restore trust in government - and in democracy. The real risk stemming from inflation is that it will distract us from this fundamental issue.

To be sure, there is no silver bullet against political dysfunction. Some commentators are understandably worried that the US has already reached a point of no return. After all, a majority of Republicans cling to the false belief that Donald Trump won the 2020 election, and by some estimates, 15% of the US population are adherents of the pro-Trump QAnon conspiracy theory. These figures point to a difficult road ahead. But we should remember that people tend to trust democracy more when it delivers on its promises of stability, shared prosperity, and effective measures to fight poverty.

For example, those who grow up in stable democracies where there is rapid economic growth and adequate public services are much more likely to oppose autocrats and unaccountable technocrats. By the same token, periods of economic stagnation and soaring inequality tend to fuel polarization and a loss of public trust, as has happened in the US and many other countries around the world in recent decades.

The US economy used to create good jobs - with decent pay, reasonable levels of security, and career-building opportunities - for workers from all kinds of backgrounds and with all kinds of skills. For 35 years after World War II, workers at both the bottom and the top of the income distribution benefited from robust employment growth and rapid wage increases. But this era came to an end in the 1980s, when median wages stagnated and inequality began to creep up. Rather than enjoying wage gains, men without a college degree started experiencing sharp declines in job options and real (inflation-adjusted) earnings.

The Americans who have been experiencing wage declines and dwindling opportunities are overrepresented among those moving to the extremist fringes of US politics. If you think the economy isn't working and cannot work for you, it is understandable that you might be sympathetic to opportunist politicians and media figures calling for a "rigged" system to be dismantled.

Of course, economic problems are not solely responsible for the sorry state of US politics. The Republican Party, too, has played an outsized role in the dysfunction. Starting with Richard Nixon's "Southern strategy" - which sought to capitalize on white backlash against the Democrats' 1960s civil-rights agenda - the GOP decided that polarization was good politics. The more the party has shifted to representing white, non-college-educated voters (a shrinking share of the population), the more it has had to rely on voter suppression and other anti-democratic tactics to maintain its position, a trend that has peaked with Trump.

But the Democratic Party is not blameless. The Wall Street bankers who caused the 2008 financial crisis were rescued not just by George W. Bush but also by Barack Obama. It was the Obama administration that ultimately decided to help the banks and the bankers at all costs, and which later chose not to prosecute any of the guilty parties. Voters' suspicions about a too-cozy relationship between government and finance were confirmed, accelerating the loss of trust in institutions and supplying plenty of ammunition to those already inclined to regard government as the problem, not the solution.

If this diagnosis is correct, the first step to reversing America's political dysfunction is to show that both the economy and the government can work for all. Generating jobs and wage growth for Americans of all backgrounds and skills should be a top priority. While we could focus simply on expanding the size of the overall economic pie and then redistributing it, that strategy is unlikely to leave voters feeling invested in the system. Enabling people to contribute meaningfully to the economy and society is a much better way to get them on board.

If infrastructure spending, expansionary fiscal and monetary policies, safety-net enhancements, job-generating investments, and other official measures are seen to be part of a robust recovery, that will further support the idea that government still works. Trust in state institutions cannot be restored simply by extolling their virtues in the abstract. Citizens must see and experience the benefits that come from institutions functioning effectively.

Can American democracy be rescued through a well-crafted economic recovery? There is no guarantee. The US economy has neglected workers without college degrees (and increasingly workers with college degrees, too) and catered to the needs of large corporations for so long that it may be too late to change course now. With corporate America funneling investment into technologies to automate jobs, surveil workers, and push down wages, the plight of the average American worker may continue to deepen.

It also might be too late to reverse the toxic polarization that has sundered American society. Most diehard Trump supporters have already shown that they will not change their minds under any circumstances.

All the same, getting the economy working again offers the best chance to rescue American democracy. The risk of a little higher inflation is no reason to squander the opportunity.

Letter to the Liberian Senate

Hon. J. Narborlor F. Singbeh Sr.
Secretary of the Liberian Senate

REF: Request for Invitation To Make A Presentation At The Senate Public Hearing on War Crimes Court Establishment

Dear Hon. Singbeh:

The mission of universities is to promote research, to promote scientific and artistic education, to promote higher education based on research and to educate students to serve their country and humanity.

BIZ-LIBERIA Enterprise is a project management social enterprise development and research firm. The firm comprises of passionate recent and prospective college graduates from various universities and colleges in Liberia which clustered themselves and identify challenges in communities and society and find sustainable ways to solve them. The firm helps the public and private sectors build new institution where necessary which protects rights and engender social inclusion among people. The firm recommends research design which are based on Equity Centered Community Design.

BIZ-LIBERIA Enterprise is pleased to submit the below research brief to you for consideration as we seek an invite to make a presentation in support of but with an element of deference for the Liberia Senate proposed Justice Transition Commission recommendation now under consideration by the Senate Plenary.

This research group believes the Senate must give younger minds the opportunity to participate in the national discourse as we are led to believe that no such university students researchers group have or will be invited. Our views will not represent the views of LINSU as we are not a member of LINSU. We are a project management for profit firm comprising of passionate university students in Liberia.

BIZ-Liberia Enterprise certainly covet this invitation.

Best Regards

Sincerely,
 Bedell
 The presentation

A Presentation to the Liberian Senate in favor of a proposed Justice Transition Commission but with some elements of deference

A new book us like a new gun, until it is tested one will not know its accuracy and precision. A new concept as a proposed Justice Transition Commission which this researcher is led to believe has no precedence in history in any country but the concept must now be embraced only with some elements of deference. Only when this is done, this new concept will be no untried theory.

This research group, BIZ-Liberia Enterprise, which is a project management social enterprise development firm comprising of passionate perspective and recent college graduates from various universities in Liberia likes to recommend to the Plenary of the Liberia Senate the following:

1. That the diction "Proposed Justice Transition Commission" which is under consideration by the Liberia Senate as an advice recommendation to the Chief Executive be replaced with a more lucid, clear and applied concept which has precedence from other nation to a Just Trial Transition Commission or a Justice Advocacy Transition Commission

The argument now is why Just Trial Transition Commission or Justice Advocacy Transition Commission. According to the International Council on Human Rights Policy document published in 1999 with the title "Hard Cases: bringing the human rights violators to justice abroad - A guide to Universal Jurisdiction, the publication - in its introductory statement mentioned that there are ethical, practical and legal problems that arises in trying to apply the Universal Jurisdiction rule of persecuting alleged human rights violators. Find attached exhibit #1.

Mind you now;, the Universal Jurisdiction rule is an essential tool of the international community in its endeavor to bring war criminals to justice but for this paper which was produced at a meeting in 1999

organized by the International Council on Human Rights Policy in Switzerland, a meeting that brought together legal experts, international NGOs from about 25 countries, to say there are obstacles and hurdles which encapsulates ethical, practical and legal problems in persecuting cases of war crimes, then there is need for investigation.

The President of China Xi Xang Ping said and I quote "history has a way of making us to learn wisdom and giving us the power to forge forward". This research group like to draw some citation from the report mention supra which it will now base her latter reconnections on.

Citation from International Human Rights Policy document report: Hard Cases bringing the human rights violators to justice abroad - A Guide to Universal Jurisdiction. Topic: Why Persecute Using Universal Jurisdiction. Subtopic: To Obtain Justice - paragraphs three and four

"There is clearly a delicate balance between seeking vengeance and desiring suitable punishment; few would dispute that punishment of some sort is a component of justice. Questions arise, however about the motives for seeking punishment and what priority punishment should be given in the aims of the justice system. With regard to motive, the key priority would seem to be that punishment should be driven by a sense of fairness, and a duty to defend the laws and hold violators accountable before the law - rather than a more personal desire to inflict injury. With respect to the justice system, punishment should be one of several aims including rehabilitation.

..... "Most victims consider that persecution of those who have perpetrated crimes against them is necessary for justice to be done. But criminal persecutions are not the only means of achieving satisfaction. Victims or their families may seek compensation or may prefer official act of compensation, full disclosure of their scope, and an apology rather than persecution."

"It is therefore sound, therefore to conclude that obtaining victims' satisfaction is the significant aims of Universal Jurisdiction persecutions".

Having considered the arguments cited above in support of the fairness, motivation and desired satisfaction for the use of Universal Jurisdiction in persecuting allege human rights violators, this research group likes to recommend to the Plenary of the Liberia Senate the following sequel which will now answer the questions of when such persecution are appropriate. A sequel for this Liberia context is an event after a great event which is the TRC which is equally important as the event itself.

Sequel # 1. That the Proposed Justice Transition Commission be replaced with a Just Trial Transition Commission or a Justice Advocacy Transition Commission. The diction Justice Transition Commission lacks potency, qualifier and strategic drivers when it come to the School of Logic.

CITATION 1: The Scottish government commission a Just Transition Commission to recommend how to maximize the economic and social opportunities of decarbonization and to mitigate risk from the transition. The Commission final report was due January, 2021 but based on the process of Inclusive dialogue, stakeholders engagement and how it connected the just transition with broader policy priorities. Find attached citation # 2. Attached at the bottom of this document.

Looking forward to the Liberia scenario - A Just Trial Transition Commission or a Justice Advocacy Transition Commission is recommended to the Plenary of the Liberia Senate and the strategic objectives of the commission shall now but not limited to :

1. To verify the Efficacy of the Liberia Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report. To identify ethical, historical cultural biases which could influence the recommendations in the report. Find attached research brief to calling for a verifying the efficacy of the Liberia TRC report. This research brief was compiled few years ago address to the National Legislature and send to the Public Affairs Department but no consideration was given to the research.

2. To produce a Trial Advocacy Literature or Trial Advocacy Report of all alleged human rights violators in the Liberia civil insurrection - said report must now produce

legal persuasive arguments in favor or against alleged human rights violators showing causes of recidivism if the argument is affirmative.

3. Stakeholders engagement of inclusive dialogue by letting the citizens per region access the report and form an indigenous quorum allowing themselves without inducement from any international partner to invite the parties or representatives indicted and let them sit under their own palava hut to identify the best possible means of victims' satisfaction.

4. This latter process must now be the final recourse that will inform the Senate Plenary about the best advice to recommend to the President about how to maximize the opportunities and mitigate the risk of setting up a war crimes court in Liberia.

Technical Consideration

It is recommended that the Just Trail Transition Commission or Justice Advocacy Transition Commission be void of the following groups in Liberia which have already formed an opinion in favor of war and economic court establishment crimes in Liberia.

1. The Liberia Bar Association
2. Civil Society Organizations in Liberia
3. Women Groups or Women NGOs in Liberia
4. Inter - Religious Council of Liberia

5 The Liberia Media - The Liberia media both print and electronic except for ELBC and community radio in the counties has overly solicited views of campaigners in favor of war crimes court establishment and the media hardly invite pundits on their platform who wants to offer a differing opinion on the subject.

It can be recalled that in early June of this year, the first three bodies signed a bill which was presented to the House of Representatives calling for the establishment of War and Economic crimes court in Liberia. The Liberia media this researcher is led to believe has align themselves with the three above and they have now discuss multiple discourses on their various platforms in favor of a War and Economic Crimes Court in Liberia.

The Just Trail Transition Commission or a Justice Advocacy Transition Commission must therefore involve two separate teams.

1. A legal team - It is advisable that the government of Liberia placed an advert for a Canadian International Arbitration law Firm or write any prestigious school of law for them to send their best recent graduates who will now produce the trial advocacy literature or trial advocacy report of human rights violators in Liberia. Canada is the only country in the world without any cultural social biases when it comes to issue of war crimes. Canada has never formed any opinion whatsoever on issue of war crimes court in Liberia, this researcher stands to be corrected. The Swedish Embassy near Monrovia recently announced an aid of over 200 million Euros to Liberia but says she supports war crimes court establishment. The Swedish Embassy position could probably be the subtle position of the European Union in Liberia. Canada is the best recourse.

2. The second team must now be the local team which will anticipate the report and must be independently vetted from the counties - 4 person per counties who will now access the report and be task with stakeholders' engagement or mandatory inclusive citizens' dialogue amongst the citizens when they form an indigenous quorum per counties and clan. This team must now be four persons from each county who have not served as an executive to any political party or head any civil society group in Liberia or a member of any women NGO in Liberia.

3. It is also recommended that two African American historical researchers be contracted to review all historical piece of Literature of Liberia from 1979 to 2003 beginning from the US Department of Congress Library to any such alternative resource cafe in Liberia and also interview key officials who served in both Tolbert, Doe and Taylor's Administration. Said people to be interviewed could now be Rev. Emmanuel Bowier. The rationale behind this is for the team of African American historical researchers who understands the dramatic interplay of the civil rights movements in the USA and who could be mostly suited to probe Liberia's historical past and identify all the historical antecedents which will now point to any ethical and cultural biases which could have blurred the TRC Report. The team must therefore now access the recommendations in the TRC report to see if they align with best practices taking cure from their own

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

'No vaccines in storage'

-Dr. Karteh says
By Winston W. Parley

Liberia's Chief Medical Officer Dr. Francis Karteh says no vaccine is in storage here, but health officials are trying to collect vaccines that were previously given to different counties where residents were unwilling to be vaccinated to redistribute them and administer a

"But what we are doing, because we have distributed the vaccines to other counties and so forth, we are going through and trying to check what is left in those counties because we need to collect them and where we have people willing to take the vaccines now to give it to them," he continued.

He informed the public that health officials do not want the vaccines to expire and so they are looking at doing

anti - Coronavirus vaccines latest this week, amid the resurgence of the third wave of the virus here.

"[Fortunately] for us, we may be getting our consignment of vaccine latest next week. We should get about 96,000. But besides the 96,000 we are expected to get additional vaccines through the AU [African Union] system, we should be [getting] another vaccine and with the European Union too, we are working with them to get additional vaccine," he said Wednesday, 30 June.

Providing an update on the Coronavirus cases in Liberia, Dr. Karteh said the country's present cumulative coronavirus case is now 4,991, out of which 121 new cases were recorded as of 6 July, 2021.

He continued that just within this week, Liberia's cumulative death is 135, and 47 recoveries on Tuesday alone, 5 July, which brings to a total of 2,516 recoveries since coronavirus broke out here.

According to Dr. Karteh, there were 47 persons at the treatment unit as of Tuesday this week of whom 39 were oxygen - dependent, detailing further that there are also a little over 300 persons that are going through home - based care.

He said Grand Kru and River Gee are the only two counties that are still standing, while the rest of the 13 counties are in response to Coronavirus.



Dr. Francis Karteh

second dose in Montserrado County where the usage has increased.

"So where we are now is the fact that we have in our storage, we do not have any vaccine now in our storage," Dr. Karteh said during a live talk show on OK FM Wednesday, 7 July in Monrovia.

redistribution in areas like Montserrado County where the usage has increased.

The Chief Medical Officer stated that the public will be informed about where they can go to get their second dose, adding that a first dose will not be given for now.

Last week Dr. Karteh said the country was expecting 96,000

Monie Captan appointed LEC Board Chair

-As Weah withdraws Dr. Slewion's nomination

President George Manneh Weah has appointed Mr. Monie Ralph Captan as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC).

Mr. Captan was appointed early Wednesday, July 7, 2021

years he also served as the Chief Executive Officer at the Millennium Challenge Account - Liberia.

Meanwhile, President Weah has withdrawn the nomination of Dr. Michael Slewion who was nominated as Director-General



Mr. Monie Ralph Captan

by the president, and the Executive Mansion says his appointment takes immediate effect.

Mr. Captan is a foreign Liberian Foreign Minister who served during the regime of former President Charles Ghanakay Taylor. In recent

of the National Commission on Higher Education on 14 June 2021. The Executive Mansion says President Weah will nominate a new head of the entity subsequently.

Incident Management System tours counties

The Incident Management System (IMS) at the Ministry of Health has begun strategic county tours aimed at engaging counties' leaderships for their rapid response and involvement in the fight against the COVID-19, which has paralyzed global health system.

According to a release from the IMS, the engagement with local political leaders is geared towards insuring their involvement in the response and coordination with the incident command structure at county levels.

The release says an orientation meeting held in the port city of Buchanan over the weekend gathered political stakeholders, including Representatives, County Health Officers (CHTs) County Superintendents, and



PHECO Manager Abraham Nyenswah addressing participants in Buchanan City

members of the joint Security from River Cess and Grand Bassa Counties.

Explaining the importance of the tour, Mr. Abraham Nyenswah,

Public Health Emergency Operation Center (PHEOC) Manager said the orientation meeting is meant to abreast political stakeholders of their

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roles and responsibilities.

He said when stakeholders in the country are orientated with IMS' command; they will take rightful decision in the enforcement of masks wearing and other preventive measures to curtail the spread of the virus.

The release also notes that as a way of building coordination and corporation between both the IMS and stakeholders, the meeting provided fundamental principles of incident

management to be used as guidance for their respective command.

When it comes to discharging function in the IMS, MrNyenswah disclosed that decisions are made through the incident command system—not only a single institution including the County Health Team or Internal Affairs Ministry can take action without consultation with the body.

He appealed to political

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Africa CDC and MTN accelerate fight against COVID-19 with "One More Push" campaign

Complementing the 'Adapted Africa Joint Continental Strategy for COVID-19 Pandemic' of the African Union

The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and pan-African operator MTN Group today launched a joint campaign - "One More Push" - to encourage people across the continent to not give up in

aims to encourage people to keep practising the preventative measures we know can limit the spread of COVID-19."

The awareness campaign is an extension of the African Union's 'Adapted Africa Joint Continental Strategy for COVID-19 Pandemic' endorsed by Africa's Health Ministers and aligned to the 'Prevent, Monitor and Treat' approach. It is also an extension of the partnership

do so. In this way, we will be able to get back to the 'old normal' (or the best possible version of it) sooner rather than later.

The "One More Push" campaign is about encouraging the people of Africa to remain vigilant in fighting COVID-19, at a time when we are experiencing new waves of infections, and vaccination progress towards herd immunity is still some time away for our people." says MTN Group President and CEO Ralph Mupita, noting that MTN's fortunes were closely tied to the health and prosperity of the continent.

A key part of the campaign is onemorepushafrica.com, a digital content hub of credible and authoritative third-party content covering all things related to COVID-19. This includes facts around getting vaccinated, advice from leading healthcare bodies and medical experts, and important information from the Africa CDC.

"As we continue with the distribution of vaccines across the continent, we all need to keep focused on overcoming COVID-19," said DrNkengasong. "We implore all of Africa's people to keep it up - let's all give it one more push."

Visit onemorepushafrica.com for trustworthy content around vaccinations and the virus and to let us know what you are keeping your mask up for. Follow the #OneMorePushAfrica conversation on social media.



the fight against COVID-19, and to continue to wear their masks, wash their hands and practice social distancing.

"With third and fourth waves of COVID-19 sweeping across parts of Africa, we cannot overstate the importance of everyone doing their best right now to keep the virus at bay," says Africa CDC Director, Dr John Nkengasong. "This campaign

between the Africa CDC and MTN, which includes the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines to health workers across the continent through the Group's US\$25 million donation.

"One More Push" is a renewed drive to encourage the public not to give up now. It asks that all of us keep our masks on, wash or sanitise our hands, and maintain a physical distance from each other until it is safe to no longer

IIC validates access to information records and management guidelines

The Independent Information Commission (IIC) has validated "Liberia Access to Information Records Management Guidelines". The validation exercise was done on Tuesday at a local resort in Congo Town.

Speaking at the opening of the workshop, the Commissioner of the IIC, Cllr. Mark Bedor-Wla Freeman thanked UNESCO for the support in drafting the guidelines and bringing together stakeholders. He also extolled the participants for

to democracy". He said records management is very important in preserving history and other records.

In remarks, the Executive Director of the IIC, Mr. Emmanuel D. Howe, praised the Government of Liberia for the support to the Commission and said more needs to be done to have citizens make use of the Freedom of Information law. He praised UNESCO for the support to government's efforts to have Liberia develop and validate its access to information records keeping and management



their interest in making the freedom of information regime successful in Liberia.

Also speaking at the occasion, Mr. Stevenson Seidi of UNESCO Liberia office expressed his organization's willingness to assist Liberia in its access to information efforts. He called on the Government of Liberia to increase support to the Information Commission, stressing that 'openness in government is a cardinal tool

guidelines. The validated records keeping guidelines were drafted by Atty. VaaniFaatiKiawu with support from UNESCO under the public access to information as contained in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 16.10.2.

The workshop brought together stakeholders from government, civil society, and development partners. -Press release

Cont'd from page 5

Letter to the Liberian Senate

civil rights struggle.

3. The following must now be observers to the Commission

The Liberia Council of Churches. This body has vehemently argues that it will never formed ANY opinion of war crimes court establishment in Liberia as it supports dialogue.

The Federation of Liberia Youth and LUNSU have never form any opinion of war crimes court establishment in Liberia, This researcher stands to be corrected.

The Liberia Teachers Association - Both Public and Private School Teachers Association.

Should the Trial Advocacy Report called for the setting up of a war and economic crimes court in Liberia, it is therefore recommended that based on questionable international justice promotion invoking Universal Jurisdiction. Find attached citation 4: The case involving Gabriel Masaquoi of Sierra Leone and Civitas Maximas and international Justice Group. Google: Alieu Josiah Rejects. The former chief persecutor of Sierra Leone war crimes court in person of Allen White flew to Finland to push for the exoneration of the Sierra Leonean

rebel general Gabril Masaquoi who had also committed alleged human rights violation both in Sierra Leone and Liberia because he Gabril Masaquoi was given amnesty for testifying against former President Charles Taylor . The question now is who is Allen White to give amnesty to people that committed crimes in Liberia? Should the man called Zeza Maza who testified against former President Charles Taylor in the Hague saying "he ate human beings with Charles Taylor in Taylor's marine, should such a man benefit from Allen White's amnesty and not stand trial in Liberia. This is a fail International promotion of war crimes court establishment and this Honorable Senate must rid the Liberia war crimes court proceedings were or to be established from ;

All international bodies that supported and funded the TRC and current International campaigners of war crimes court in Liberia must

- A. Never recommend judges for the court;
- B. Never take on or sponsor a case in any proceedings.

The Government is therefore advice to designate state persecutors for each county (it is the responsibility of state persecutors to persecute cases that are heard locally as mentioned in the document

cited : Hard Cases : bringing the human rights violators to justice abroad. A guide to Universal Jurisdiction) or the county can find their own International lawyers which the state must now pay on short terms to align with state persecutors per county to persecute alleged human rights violators capture in the Trial Advocacy Report who kindred and representative will remain negligible of the stakeholders engagement or citizens inclusive dialogue .

Judges Recruitment Recommendation It is important that the Government of Liberia build relationships with the Government of Kosovo to consider sending her one judge who has experience in prior matters, one judge from Chile and two judges from Rwanda. Under the module of Equity Centered Community Design, it is recommended that the Government create her own design and experiment with people or parties who have already prototype their fields.

The scope of the proposed Just Trail Transition Commission or Justice Advocacy Transition Commission must now be for one year. Six months for the first team and six months for the stakeholders' engagement or citizens per county inclusive dialogue.

Français

Le Sénat annule brutalement les audiences de confirmation du patron de la CBL

L'audience de confirmation du conseil des gouverneurs et du gouverneur exécutif de la Banque centrale du Libéria (CBL) a été brutalement annulée lundi 5 juillet 2021 alors des centaines de personnes dont des sénateurs, des journalistes, des personnes ordinaires et des responsables de la Banque Centrale avaient convergé au sénat où l'audience était prévue.

Des sénateurs et des responsables de la Banque centrale du Libéria s'étaient réunis dans la nouvelle annexe du Capitole, à la consternation des journalistes.

Après plusieurs heures d'attente véritablement vaine, les médias ont été informés de manière informelle par le sénateur du comté de Maryland et coprésident du comité sénatorial sur les banques et les devises de ce que le président du comité, le sénateur Marshall Dennis du

comté de Grand Gedeh, ne se partait bien et que par conséquent l'audience a été reportée au mercredi 07 juillet.

M. Aloysius Tarlue, Gouverneur exécutif de la CBL, a récemment été reconduit dans ses fonctions par le président George Weah, à la fin du mandat de 5 ans de son prédécesseur, l'ancien gouverneur exécutif Nathaniel Patray qui avait remplacé l'ancien gouverneur exécutif Milton Weeks.

Les experts financiers et les économistes se demandent si M. Tarlue a tenu les promesses qu'il avait faites lors de son audience de confirmation précédente devant le Sénat libérien le 07 décembre 2019.

« Ma vision, en tant que gouverneur, sera de rétablir la confiance dans la CBL et le secteur bancaire, dans son

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« Nous n'avons aucun intérêt à nous diviser. Il faut que nous luttons ensemble », le chef de l'opposition

« Pour lutter contre ce virus, nous ne pouvons pas être divisés. Comme nous l'avons fait pendant Ebola, nous devons nous battre ensemble, unis comme un seul homme », a déclaré récemment M. Alexander B Cummings.

Il a tenu ces propos à peine deux semaines après avoir proposé d'aider le gouvernement dans la lutte contre le coronavirus qui fait rage ici. La Fondation Afrique de M. Cummings, qui a promis 150 000 USD comme

contribution initiale à la lutte contre le covid-19, a rappelé à ses concitoyens que, comme l'épidémie d'EBOLA en 2014, chaque libérien doit lutter contre la COVID-19.

« Je sais que depuis des décennies nous nous sommes divisés à cause de soit la politique, soit les différences ethniques, soit la religion ou le genre. Nous continuons à nous traiter avec méfiance et défiance. Ce n'est pas seulement un combat pour nos médecins et nos travailleurs de la santé. C'est un combat pour nous tous -

enseignants, étudiants, commerçants, activistes, chefs communautaires, chefs religieux, chefs traditionnels, chefs d'entreprise, syndicats, chauffeurs, valeurs mobilières, motocyclistes et politiciens. C'est un combat pour le secteur privé et le secteur public. Nous devons tous nous impliquer. Notre pays a besoin que nous fassions tous notre part », a-t-il déclaré.

Selon lui, comme le virus Ebola, le covid-19 n'est pas seulement une menace pour certains Libériens, ni pour d'autres. Au leader politique du Congrès national alternatif de prévenir que la nation est confrontée à un risque de santé réel.

"Aucun ne sera totalement à l'abri de ce virus tant que nous ne le serons pas tous. Et donc, vieux ou jeune ; parti au pouvoir ou de l'opposition ; Musulmans, chrétiens et personnes de toutes confessions ; instruits ou non instruits ; à travers chaque ville et village ; dans chaque comté ; s'il vous plaît, mes compatriotes libériens, je vous demande de vous impliquer. Faites votre part pour vous protéger et

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Éditorial

COVID-19 : nous allons visiblement de mal en pis ?

Tout va mal au Libéria, car chaque jour plus de 200 nouveaux cas sont enregistrés au niveau de la population et les décès ne cessent d'augmenter.

Les morgues privées sont submergées de cadavres, tandis que les cercueils se font rares. Déjà, le Centre américain de contrôle des maladies et de Prévention a vu à la hausse le niveau d'alerte, en le situant à 4, le niveau le plus élevé. Le pays risque de succomber progressivement à la pandémie, si des efforts concertés ne sont pas entrepris immédiatement.

Les autorités sanitaires du pays continuent de faire croire au public qu'elles sont à la hauteur de la tâche, après avoir annoncé des mesures préventives. Cependant, la réalité sur le terrain montre le contraire, vu que de nouveaux cas et les décès se comptent par des centaines. Il est vrai que les combattants n'abandonneront jamais jusqu'à la mort du dernier combattant, mais le peuple libérien ne veut pas être décapité ou conduit à l'abattoir.

Nous croyons fermement que les tests rapides sont le moyen le plus sûr pour inverser la tendance actuelle, ce n'est pas le fait d'attendre que les patients infectés soient emmenés à Star Base pour de l'oxygène qui est à peine disponible. Le Libéria ne peut contenir la résurgence du coronavirus à moins qu'une campagne massive de tests rapides ne soit lancée dans tout le pays.

Dans ce combat, nous avons besoin de toutes les forces, y compris les experts qui ne font pas actuellement partie du gouvernement. Le combat n'appartient pas qu'à la ministre de la Santé, le docteur Wilehmina S. Jallah, et son équipe ou au système de gestion des incidents. Tous les Libériens doivent se joindre au combat pour vaincre le COVID-19.

C'est dans cette optique que nous nous félicitons de l'engagement de 150 000 USD de la Fondation Cummings Africa envers notre crise sanitaire, rejoignant le gouvernement du Libéria pour atteindre les hôpitaux et les centres de santé en particulier et les citoyens en général.

Comme M. Alexander B. Cummings, fondateur de la Fondation et leader politique de l'Alternative National Congress (ANC) l'a déclaré la semaine dernière lors de l'annonce de ce geste, le Libéria est actuellement gravement menacé. Si nous ne nous unissons pas les mains pour faire de notre mieux pour les uns les autres, nous continuerons tous à être en danger, même si nous nous cachons dans les maisons.

En outre, ceux qui mènent le combat du côté du gouvernement devraient faire preuve de volonté politique. Nous exigeons la vigilance à l'aéroport international Roberts, aux ports maritimes et aux frontières terrestres pour limiter la résurgence.

Ce faisant, il faut que nous érigeons des points de contrôle pertinents qui pourraient stopper la propagation, en particulier dans les comtés. Le système de santé n'a pas la capacité de répondre à toute situation accablante en dehors du comté de Montserrado, alors que même le siège du gouvernement lui-même est sérieusement remis en question.

Qu'on ne se méprenne pas sur le fait que nous sommes ici pessimistes. Il s'agit d'une tentative honnête de présenter la sombre réalité afin que tous les Libériens se réveillent de leur sommeil, de leur état de déni et fassent face au danger qui nous attend en tant que peuple. Nous devons porter nos masques correctement, respecter la distance sociale, nous laver les mains régulièrement et éviter les rassemblements de masse ou les endroits surpeuplés, entre autres, pour arrêter la propagation.

Français

Le Sénat annule brutalement

ensemble, au cours des cinq prochaines années. Cela se fera par le biais de réformes visant à améliorer la gouvernance, à garantir la solidité technique des politiques et à assurer la viabilité financière de la CBL et surtout à veiller à ce que la CBL se concentre sur la mise en œuvre des politiques monétaires visant à maintenir l'inflation à un niveau bas, à stabiliser le taux de change, ainsi que de s'assurer que le Libéria dispose suffisamment de réserves de change », avait promis M. Tarlue à l'époque. Il avait en outre promis de promouvoir l'indépendance de la Banque centrale, de veiller à la réforme de la loi portant création de la Banque.

Il avait également promis de renforcer les fonctions d'audit et de contrôle internes, entre autres avec l'approbation du conseil des gouverneurs.

En ce qui concerne la garantie de la solidité technique des politiques,

« Nous n'avons aucun intérêt à nous diviser.

protéger votre famille. Faites votre part pour protéger vos amis, vos voisins, vos collègues et vos concitoyens », a-t-il déclaré.

Selon Cummings, faire sa part c'est simplement porter un masque pour se couvrir le nez et la bouche, pas seulement la bouche mais aussi le nez, se laver les mains à l'eau et au savon plusieurs fois par jour, arrêter de serrer les mains et de se serrer dans les bras, ne pas être se rendre dans des endroits bondés ou surpeuplés, faire son test COVID si on présente des symptômes tels que le rhume, la toux, la fièvre et les maux de tête et se faire vacciner.

Le leader de l'ANC a ajouté qu'à la Fondation Cummings Africa, on veut procéder à une approche triple : premièrement, apporter un

Tarlue avait dit aux législateurs et aux Libériens qu'il renforcerait le département de recherche de la Banque centrale afin que les décisions politiques fussent éclairées par une analyse et des preuves appropriées.

« Nous veillerons à ce que la CBL se concentre sur la mise en œuvre des politiques monétaires visant à maintenir l'inflation à un niveau bas, à stabiliser le taux de change et à faire en sorte que le Libéria dispose de suffisamment de réserves de change. Nous allons promouvoir la solidité du secteur bancaire en renforçant les fonctions de supervision de la CBL - Actuellement, les prêts non productifs dans les banques sont bien au-dessus du seuil de 10% », avait-t-il ajouté. Pour parvenir à la viabilité financière de la CBL, il s'était également engagé à entreprendre un examen stratégique et fonctionnel des opérations de la Banque.

La CBL subit actuellement des pertes opérationnelles dues à diverses inefficacités, notamment une main-d'œuvre pléthorique, que son budget ne peut pas supporter.

soutien à un certain nombre d'hôpitaux publics et privés ; deuxièmement, travailler avec les dirigeants communautaires, les organisations de la société civile et les médias pour accroître la sensibilisation du public et les messages, en particulier autour de la prévention ; et troisièmement, aider le gouvernement dans sa lutte contre le virus.

« Nous essayons cependant d'aider le gouvernement à réussir dans cet effort. Et donc, en travaillant avec une équipe d'experts plus large, nous informerons régulièrement le gouvernement de ce que nous faisons et recommanderons, le cas échéant, des mesures supplémentaires à prendre pour lutter sérieusement contre le virus, arrêter la propagation et mettre fin à l'infection dans le pays », a-t-il ajouté.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Melvyn B. Krauss

La stratégie Nixon de Joe Biden

STANFORD - L'impératif stratégique derrière la récente conférence au sommet du président américain Joe Biden en Europe a consisté à mettre en place une réponse occidentale concertée face à la Chine. Dans les trois semaines qui ont suivi ces réunions, le succès du président Biden est à présent manifeste.

Les États-Unis, la France et l'Allemagne sont à présent, sur les points majeurs, sur la même longueur d'onde. Chacun reconnaît qu'un large accord international est nécessaire pour convaincre la Chine de tempérer son comportement agressif. L'attitude chinoise s'est révélée à travers les remarques du président chinois Xi Jinping ce mois-ci, durant la commémoration du centenaire du Parti communiste chinois. Toute tentative d'interférer avec la montée en puissance de son pays, a-t-il averti, conduira à « des têtes ensanglantées fracassées contre une Grande Muraille d'acier. »

En Asie, l'impératif stratégique de l'administration Biden l'a conduit à mettre plutôt l'accent sur le « Quad » des démocraties de la région Asie-Pacifique : Australie, Inde, Japon et États-Unis. À la fin du mois dernier, les États-Unis et le Japon ont organisé des manœuvres navales conjointes pour se préparer à toute agression chinoise contre Taïwan. En Europe, l'OTAN et l'Union européenne ont placé la Chine en tête de l'ordre du jour politique, après avoir précédemment tenté d'éviter les engagements « hors région ».

Bien que Biden ait fait des progrès tangibles pour mettre en œuvre un large consensus sur la Chine, il vient tout juste de commencer à s'attaquer à l'élément le plus difficile de cette politique : convaincre le président russe Vladimir Poutine que son pays a un intérêt de sécurité nationale à prendre ses distances avec la Chine. Néanmoins, associer Poutine à ce mouvement est à présent une priorité claire. Depuis leurs sommets avec Biden, le président français Emmanuel Macron et la Chancelière allemande Angela Merkel ont tous deux appelé à une remise à zéro des relations de l'UE avec la Russie.

Certes, la suggestion que l'UE pourrait améliorer ses relations avec la Russie a été accueillie par des protestations quasi hystériques aux Pays-Bas, dans les pays baltes et en Pologne. En réponse à ces esclandres, Merkel s'est empressée de dire clairement « que des discussions de ce genre avec le président russe ne sont pas une sorte de récompense ».

Si Merkel s'est montrée dédaigneuse, c'est parce que les cris de protestation étaient tout à fait prévisibles. Les changements brusques de politique stratégique sont rarement compris dès leur commencement. Lorsque le président américain Richard Nixon a entamé ses relations avec la Chine communiste il y a 50 ans, il s'est attiré les plus vives critiques des alliés de l'Amérique, le Japon s'y opposant encore plus vivement que les Estoniens, les Lettons, les Lituaniens et les Polonais.

Aujourd'hui, on se souvient de l'initiative diplomatique de Nixon comme de l'une des grandes percées stratégiques de l'après-guerre. « L'ouverture de la Chine » est née du fait que Nixon et Mao Zedong en sont venus à considérer l'Union soviétique comme la plus grande menace pour chacun de leurs pays. En établissant des relations diplomatiques, ils ont pu forcer les Soviétiques (qui avaient récemment envahi la Tchécoslovaquie pour ensuite mener une guerre frontalière courte mais brutale avec la Chine) à reconsidérer leurs politiques agressives.

Cela a fonctionné. Dans les années qui ont suivi, les Soviétiques ont fortement réduit les déploiements de troupes le long de la frontière avec la Chine et ont conclu des traités importants sur les armes nucléaires avec les États-Unis.

Ce qui nous ramène à l'heure présente. Poutine, un homme de Realpolitik sans effusion de sang s'il en est un, a plusieurs raisons de coopérer avec Biden - dont un grand nombre sont tout aussi convaincantes que celles qui ont motivé Mao et Zhou Enlai à accueillir l'ouverture de Nixon. Tout d'abord, parce que la Russie est plus isolée aujourd'hui que l'Union soviétique ne l'a jamais été, elle est devenue dangereusement dépendante de la Chine. Mais le principal bénéficiaire de l'antagonisme anti-occidental de Poutine au cours de la dernière décennie n'a pas été la Russie, mais la Chine. En ramenant la Russie au centre des débats, et donc en quittant le froid dans lequel l'Occident a placé son économie, Poutine pourrait inverser sa tendance à la sclérose et à la stagnation économique.

En fait, comme beaucoup dans l'establishment sécuritaire de la Russie, Poutine reconnaît que son pays a reçu peu de bénéfices de sa relation avec la Chine de Xi. Bien que la Chine ait massivement investi dans des entreprises et des infrastructures à travers le monde (en grande partie par le biais de l'impulsion donnée par Xi à la Nouvelle Route de la Soie), seule une infime quantité d'argent chinois est arrivée en Russie, où il a été extrêmement attendu pour compenser les effets des sanctions occidentales.

En outre, bien que les dirigeants chinois ne le mentionnent jamais, ils sont tout aussi amers face au vol russe de territoire chinois au XIXe siècle, qu'ils le sont à l'égard des prédateurs impériaux venus d'Occident. L'impérialisme occidental ayant été largement annulé, c'est l'occupation permanente par la Russie du territoire historique chinois qui est le fait le plus saillant pour des observateurs chinois ordinaires.

Par exemple, la ville de Vladivostok, avec sa vaste base navale, ne fait partie de la Russie que depuis 1860, lorsque les tsars y ont construit une base navale militaire. Avant cela, la ville portait le nom mandchou de Haishenwai. Lorsque la Russie a organisé les célébrations du 160e anniversaire de la ville l'année dernière, les internautes chinois hypernationalistes n'ont pas caché leur indignation.

Il y a aussi un argument démographique que Poutine ne peut négliger : les six millions de Russes disséminés le long de la frontière sibérienne font face à 90 millions de Chinois de l'autre côté. Et un grand nombre de ces Chinois traversent régulièrement la frontière russe pour faire du commerce (et un bon nombre pour rester en Russie).

Tout comme la négociation par Nixon de relations avec Mao n'a jamais été destinée à transformer la Chine en un bastion des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie, la stratégie Biden/Macron/Merkel n'est pas non plus destinée à transformer la Russie de Poutine en une société libre du jour au lendemain. Les dirigeants occidentaux ne se font pas d'illusions. Malgré tout ce qu'il a à gagner dans de meilleures relations avec l'Occident, Poutine ne s'éloignera pas de la Chine si cela représente une menace envers son pouvoir ou sa sécurité personnelle. Le régime de Poutine est bien trop fragile et dépend bien trop fortement d'un autoritarisme pur et simple pour pouvoir prendre des risques sérieux.

Si l'Occident souhaite que la Russie prenne ses distances avec la Chine, il lui faudra accepter Poutine tel qu'il est - en dépit de toutes ses imperfections. Bien qu'il y ait très peu de chances qu'il améliore ses antécédents en matière de droits de l'homme, il pourrait au moins être convaincu de reconnaître les normes internationales au sein du cyberspace, et cesser de menacer ouvertement ses voisins. Ce genre de négociation est plus que possible, et il suffirait peut-être d'alerter un Xi tête sur les dangers stratégiques de ses propres attitudes agressives aux niveaux régional et international.

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OP-ED

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Liberia's COVID-19 Trajectory: Experts' Advice on How to Halt the Outbreak

Fighting the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic: Employing lessons from the Ebola Virus Disease response. This is a summary of a full paper with recommendations that will be presented to the Government of Liberia.

By: Sara BeysolowNyanti, MPA; Tolbert Nyenswah, LLB, MPH; Dougbeh Chris Nyan, MD; and Mardia Stone, MD, MPH

Since the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) by the World Health Organization (WHO), there are over 183 million COVID-19 confirmed cases, and a staggering 4 million deaths worldwide. To date, this global COVID-19 death toll almost totals the entire population of Liberia.

The Global North (a specific reference to countries in Europe and North America) is making progress in vaccinating its populations, while the Global South (countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Oceania, often referred to as 'least developed' or 'developing') is disproportionately affected. With more fragile health systems, sub-Saharan Africa will very likely become home to the next COVID-19 hotspots.

In Liberia it is presumed that the situation is not as bad as it is in some other countries. Unfortunately, this perception may be misleading. In a little over a year (March 2020 to April 2021), Liberia recorded 2099 confirmed cases, with 85 confirmed deaths. However, in May to June 2021 alone, Liberia recorded 2205 cases and 44 confirmed deaths (NPHIL daily situation reports). The cases and deaths in 2 months are more than what we experienced in over a year.

The identification of COVID-19 cases has primarily been conducted using reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), commonly referred to as "PCR." Availability of testing has been very minimal across the country. Even where testing has been conducted, the results are alarming. Test positivity rates are now at a record high in Liberia at over 20 to 25% (NPHIL/MOH) from May to June 2021. Moreover, a test positivity rate above 5% to 10%, is deemed as an outbreak that is out of control (WHO).

Voluntary testing has not been a service that Liberians have enjoyed like others around the world. Testing for the most part has been largely for travel at cost. However, voluntary testing for COVID-19 is now being offered to those who are symptomatic and require clinical confirmation. Unfortunately, even when tests are conducted, those who get tested sometimes do not receive their test results, have no follow up, and their contacts are not traced.

Beyond testing, countries that have been successful in managing COVID-19 disseminate socially and culturally appropriate public health awareness messages and ensure engagement with communities. They actively trace those who have been exposed to the virus and follow available scientific data and experiences of other public health emergencies. Cross-border movements of populations are controlled, as well as crowds and gatherings in public spaces (schools included),

Vaccination campaigns are an important strategy implemented during an epidemic. However, vaccination is one of the major challenges with COVID-19. Around 77% of COVID vaccines being produced have already been

bought by only 10 countries in the Global North (WHO). So where does Liberia stand with vaccines? Liberia has only relied on donations of vaccines from COVAX which has allocated 384,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine. Of this allocation, 96,000 doses were received in March 2021. So far, 85,132 people (18,921 health workers and 66,211 others) have received the first dose of the vaccine, according to the Ministry of Health. In addition, 6,439 people have received the second dose of the vaccines. However, this has largely been in Montserrado country. What of the other 14 counties? We do not have sufficient vaccines for the population, and even with what Liberia has received, management of the vaccines has not been optimal. Countries around the world are now procuring vaccines and are not relying on donations. Liberia needs to vaccinate at least 3.5 million people. Donations will never be enough for the entire country. Countries procuring now are expecting vaccines in quarters 1 and 2 of 2022. When will Liberia enter this global procurement cue?

There is no substitute for political leadership and strategic management in any outbreak response. The 2014-2016 Ebola outbreak in Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Nigeria taught that very well. Liberia has



been down this road before and has gained the knowledge and skills to manage epidemics. By establishing the National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) and the emergency operation centers in all 15 counties, as well as training field epidemiologists for community-based events surveillance, the government resolved to build a more resilient health system, capable of responding to public health emergencies such as COVID-19. That system plus the over 2,000 personnel trained in various aspects of public health during and after the 2014 Ebola epidemic should be mobilized.

In the recent weeks of the COVID third wave in Liberia, scores of Liberians have died from what has been probably inaccurately diagnosed as malaria, typhoid, kidney failure and stomach ulcers, due to the lack of differential diagnostic capabilities in infectious diseases. Most are dying without ever being tested. Where testing is conducted, results are very rarely available on time. Anecdotal evidence suggests that waiting time for voluntary testing for COVID-19 is over 1-2 weeks in many instances. Some do not get results until after they have recovered. Nationwide testing, timely results and contact tracing are non-negotiables for dealing with COVID-19; and the private sector is needed.

Worst of all, misconception, misinformation, and incorrect information continue to pervade the population. Average Liberians still doubt the existence of COVID-19 or its presence in the country. Unlike Ebola, COVID-19 positive patients can be asymptomatic. This is an unfamiliar perspective in a country with high illiteracy and poverty rates.

With all of the issues raised herein taken into consideration, we advise the following in summary:

1. Demonstrate strong political and technical leadership going forward. A whole-of-government and whole-of-country approach is necessary, down to the household level.

2. The Minister of Health of Liberia officially should declare a "National Public Health Emergency" in keeping with Title 33, Chapter 14 of the Liberia code of Laws Revised, known as: The Public Health Law of Liberia.

3. The President should restructure and ensure a more efficient Incident Management System (IMS) by appointing a non-political and professional Incident Manager who will be directly accountable to him.

4. Mobilize all human and institutional resources and structures used for the Ebola response; as well as allocating the financial resources required - create the fiscal space.

5. Ensure adequate risk communication and community engagement that focuses on the uniqueness of COVID-19, such as asymptomatic presentation, as well as vaccine hesitancy.

6. Liberian leaders should lead by example: implement public health measures/practices, regarding testing, vaccinations, social distancing, mask wearing to boost public confidence and suffer consequences when they do not lead by example.

7. Ensure that health care and other frontline workers are paid well and on time, given appropriate incentives and provided personal protective gears to facilitate their work.

8. Commission experts to develop Liberia's COVID-19 test kits and scientific research for vaccine production.

9. Forge public-private partnerships for a whole-of-country approach including leveraging private clinics and hospitals to scale up testing and care services across the country.

10. Partner with the United Nations System, bilateral as well as multilateral development banks (MDBs) and International Financing Institutions (IFIs), to leverage multilateral financing options for procurement (especially of vaccines, oxygen plants etc.), technical assistance and administrative advice, setting up field hospitals and mobile clinics.

11. Develop a testing plan that involves scaling up rapid testing at private clinics as well as developing a dynamic database for contact-tracing.

12. Establish alternate care sites (ACS) for management of COVID critical cases in all 15 counties, building on the Ebola experience.

13. Establish at least two additional sub-reference laboratories in the Northeastern and Southeastern part of the country to augment the functions of the National Reference Laboratory.

14. Population management - ensure a comprehensive review of population movement and put in place mechanisms to manage spreader occurrences, including an analysis of risks to students, teachers, marketeers, shoppers etc.

Vaccines expire Saturday

The AstraZeneca vaccines brought into the country in April is expected to expire this Saturday, July 10, leaving Liberians with uncertainty when a fresh consignment of COVID-19 jabs would arrive, as daily cases of the delta variant rise in the country.

Liberia received 96,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccines in April, and out of this number, over 90,000 doses have been administered to the public in

from the National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) as of Tuesday, July 6, 2021 put total confirmed cases of the virus at 4,994 with 135 deaths.

Montserrado County that hosts the nation's capital has recorded 4,071 confirmed cases, followed by Margibi County, 226 cases; Nimba County, 108 cases; Bong County, 106 cases; Grand Bassa County, 91 cases; Lofa County, 88 cases, and Bomi County, 63 cases, among others.

Liberians have been pouring

dose maintain a potency of 8 to 12 weeks.

President George Weah recently 56,000 rapid antigenic tests and 40SIRIS3 Transport Respirators donated by the Government of France to help in the Covid-19 fight.

"I want to thank the government and people of France for this wonderful donation which comes on the back of my meeting with my friend and brother, President Macron. Let me also



the first round, according to Chief Medical Officer and Deputy Minister of Health, Doctor Francis Kateh who spoke on OK FM recently.

Anxious citizens reporting at the Ministry of Health daily for vaccination are being told to exercise patience, while modalities are being worked out to have more vaccines into the country, but no specific date set for arrival.

The current health crisis in Liberia is increasingly becoming bleak, as statistics

at the Ministry of Health and hospitals across Monrovia to get vaccinated in the wake of resurgence of the virus, specially the Delta variant, a new strain that is more dangerous than the earlier outbreak.

However, Dr. Kateh said government is working with partners, including UNICEF and WHO to have additional supplies in the country.

He added that lifespan of the AstraZeneca vaccines in the country expire on July 10th, but those who have taken the first

emphasize that I take Liberia-France relationship very seriously," the Executive Mansion quotes President Weah as saying.

The Ambassador of France to Liberia formally presented the consignment to President Weah on Saturday, July 3, 2021 upon the President's arrival from Paris, France where he attended the Generation Equality Forum along with other world leaders. -Story by Jonathan Browne

Lawmaker calls for benefits cut

By Bridgett Milton

Bong County Electoral District # 2 Representative J. Marvin Cole is

calling for benefits cut from the Executive and the Legislature to purchase COVID-19 vaccines and testing kits for the country.

Representative Cole said as leaders, it is important to protect the lives of citizens, which is key national responsibility.

Speaking to Legislative Reporters on Wednesday, July 7, 2021 in his office at the Capitol Building, Representative Cole said the Constitution is clear and when elected officials took the oath of office, they assured the Liberian people and the world at large to protect and defend



the Constitution through the rights of the people.

He said with the national budget currently before

lawmakers, not less than 10 million United States dollars should be allocated to purchase COVID-19 vaccines

Incident Management

Cont'd from page 6

leaders to make use of the needed resources available and trust the technicians for the full implementation of the IMS, and at the same time urged all political leaders to collectively work together in the interest of the state.

For his part, River Cess COVID-19 Incident command System Head, Dr. Joseph Topoe discouraged the existence of COVID-19 vaccine, terming it as a "myth".

"People should not believe that there is a vaccine or cure for this virus. This is just a complete myth. No one should lie to you that there exists any vaccine of the virus," he

stressed.

Making special statement on behalf of the political stakeholders, Grand Bassa County Superintendent for Development, Flee A. Glay thanked IMS for the meeting and asked the team to always invite stakeholders to such orientation for the dissemination of Coronavirus awareness messages to the Liberian populace.

He called on political stakeholders as well as all well-meaning Liberians to cooperate with health authorities in order to contain the spread of the virus. -Press Release

SURVEY NOTICE

June 28, 2021

The public is hereby informed that the undersigned Geomatician/Cadastral Surveyor and the Licensed/Registered Land Surveyor have been authorized to conduct a Resurvey of a one point eight (1.8) lots of land in favor of Mary Y. Cooper. The land is situated and located at Gardnersville Junction, Montserrado County.

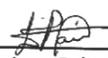
This survey will commence on Saturday July 10, 2021 at 1:00 P.M.

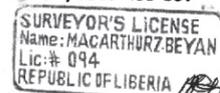
Therefore, all adjoining property owners and interested persons should be present with their deeds, diagrams and technical representatives on the date of the survey in other to avoid feature land dispute.

This notice should claim the immediate attention of the following personalities:

- 1) Lasana Donzo
- 2) M.S.F. (Fanta Joseph)
- 3) J.M.A.B
- 4) Abraham Kramah

CC: Mr. Nathan Forkoe Community Chairman

Signed: 
Jerry Roland Gayeko
Geomatician/Cadastral Surveyor
0776-619-802/0886-495-897



Approved: 
MacArthur Z. Beyan
Registered Cadastral Surveyor
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to protect the population.

"As deputy of the people, it is incumbent on us to ensure that thelves of the people are protected", he added.

He said if they did cut their salaries for harmonization, now is the time, adding the nation must be aware that this is an emergency and he's not the President of Liberia to call for emergency, but as a citizen and a senior member of the government, he knows there is a serious health crisis and people are dying, so there is urgent need to budget certain

amount of money to purchase vaccines.

"If you build roads and our people died, who will use the road? If we build infrastructure and our people died, who will use it, so I believe that vaccines to save our people should be our focus", Cole urged.

He at the same time called on the Ministry of Health to purchase more

COVID -19 vaccines and testing kits, saying if there were more testing kits

at the airport, Liberia will not be at this critical juncture.

The New Dawn

French Version Inside
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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Kane knocks out brave Denmark and sends England into Euros final



England captain Harry Kane fired his side into their first European Championship final by slamming in the rebound to his saved penalty in extra-time, as Gareth Southgate's team eclipsed the manager's icons of 25 years ago with a hard-fought 2-1 win over brave Denmark.

Southgate has carried the pain of his shoot-out penalty

miss at Wembley since Euro 96 but his Three Lions wrote their own history on Wednesday night, setting up a Sunday showdown with Italy back at Wembley.

It was far from straightforward, with Mikkel Damsgaard breaching England's previously watertight defence with the first direct free-kick goal of the tournament on 30 minutes after the hosts had

But England forced an equaliser home through a Simon Kjaer own goal and while they could not get the job done in 90 minutes against an increasingly-tired Danish side, who had flown back from their quarter-final in Baku, the majority of the 60,000 fans back at Wembley roared with delight when Kane eventually beat the otherwise brilliant Kasper Schmeichel.

For Denmark, it is a valiant end to an incredible story at this tournament, and they deserve huge praise for what they have achieved after the shock of Christian Eriksen's cardiac arrest in their first match.

But England and their supporters can now look forward to one more match and the country's first major tournament final since 1966.

That electric atmosphere surged with early dribbles from Raheem Sterling, when Mason Mount twisted on the edge of the Danish box, and when Kane whipped a wonderful cross just beyond the Man City man's reach.

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PSG accidentally confirm Ramos signing

The Ligue 1 side posted an article on their website confirming the defender will wear the No.4 before they had announced the signing itself

Paris Saint-Germain appear to have accidentally confirmed the signing of Sergio Ramos after his departure from Real Madrid.

Ramos was seen at Parc des Princes on Wednesday and is expected to officially be announced as a new PSG player on Thursday.

But PSG appear to have jumped the gun by posting an article on their official website on Wednesday which confirmed Ramos would be wearing the No.4 in Paris. The article was quickly deleted.

"This number four, I appreciate it a lot out of superstition, because I had it from the start of my career, and then it accompanied me throughout my life, continued [with] me, brought good luck, and a lot of victories," Ramos said in the article.

"Now number four is part of



me as a person and as a professional. For me, it's a privilege to be able to wear this number in such a great team, Paris Saint-Germain. So it will be very special to be able to wear my number here in Paris."

Ramos will add a new dimension to PSG's line-up as head coach Mauricio Pochettino bids to deliver success on both domestic and European stages in 2021-22.

The Spain international's vast experience at the very highest level might help the French outfit go all the way in the

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