

Media Lies Incite Anti-Nuclear Hysteria

by Ramtanu Maitra

March 31—The mainstream media in the United States and Western Europe is pouring out blatant lies about the alleged threats posed to the population, in and beyond Japan, from Japan's Fukushima nuclear power reactors, following the March 11 great earthquake and tsunami, diverting people's attention from where it should be.

The real threat faced by the large population living along the U.S. West Coast, and other coastal nations along the Pacific Ocean-Indian Ocean "Ring of Fire," are the dozens of volcanoes that are becoming more and more active, and tectonic activity leading to earthquakes, and whatever follows them, are becoming increasingly life-threatening. The fact is that that we know very little of the source of these activities, which are galactic in nature. Instead of urging the authorities to evaluate the ongoing larger threat scientifically, and adopt measures which could save many thousands of lives, the media is spreading lies about pseudo-dangers posed by the now-crippled Fukushima Daiichi reactors.

A Bucketful of Lies. But, Why?

Why does the media spread these lies? It starts with the overwhelming role of British finance in the global media cartel. But a few other reasons should be noted.

To begin with, the backbone of the mainstream media, which pinch hits for the powers-that-be, is the generation of money. "What sells?" is the mantra. Truly, dishing out lies to generate fear and psychosis sells very well.

Also, the Western media works for the vested interest groups who have been dominated increasingly, over recent decades, by "green," anti-technology policies. Some of those are also corrupt, seeking larger investments in non-viable solar and wind power to make a fast buck. They use the mainstream media to influence the U.S. Congress and the White House to kill nuclear

The Washington Post



Mostly sunny 76-49 • Tomorrow: Rain early 64-61 • OUTLOOK: B10

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2011

Conditions 'hellish' at nuclear site

In leaked water from reactor, radioactivity 100,000 times the norm

BY CHICO HARLAN AND BRIAN VASTAG

TOKYO — Already-grave conditions at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant worsened Sunday with the highest radiation readings yet, compounding both the risks and the challenges for workers trying to repair the facility's cooling system.

Leaked water sampled from one unit Sunday had 100,000 times the radioactivity of normal background levels — though the Tokyo Electric Power Co., which operates the plant, first calculated an even higher, erroneous, figure that it didn't correct for hours.

Tepeco apologized Sunday night when it realized the mistake; it had initially reported radiation levels in the leaked water from the unit 2 reactor as being 10 million times the norm, which prompted an evacuation of the building.

After the levels were correctly



A woman whose mother died in Japan's recent natural disasters cries over her coffin outside Kesemuma, in Miyagi prefecture.

DAVID SAGOLIA/REUTERS

Where are the robots?

They do all sorts of jobs in Japan, but nuclear cleanup hasn't been high on the list. A10

to restart the critical cooling systems. Seventeen workers have been exposed to high levels of radiation, including three who were hospitalized last week, as technicians conducted highly nuanced electrical work in dark conditions that one nuclear industry

millisieverts absorbed fairly rapidly will eventually kill about half

Libya flag is

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Nuclear crisis could unfold for weeks

'BLACK SWANS'

Unlikely events, unparalleled dangers

IN TODAY'S PAPER

Fixing the reactors is simple, but it's not easy

Four factors key in stabilizing the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant present challenges. A13

Pressure mounts on NRC

Democrats in Congress want to ensure that U.S. reactors can withstand a disaster. A13

G-7 pledges 'solidarity'

JAPAN'S STRUGGLE

Warnings as authorities try to cool reactors

of ships carrying supplies of clean-
all's government. In broad
language, the council approved the
use of any means short of "foreign
occupation" to end strikes against
"civilian populated areas under
threat of attack ... including
bombing."

The vote marked a dramatic
turn in the world's response to the
Libyan crisis after weeks of debate
and indecision. But some in London

These two articles from the *Washington Post*, March 18 and March 28, 2011, are indicative of the Goebbels-style black propoganda spewing out of the U.S. and European new media concerning the Japan nuclear crisis. In both cases, the photos, showing the devastation and horror of the effects of the earthquake/tsunami, have **nothing** whatever to do with the problems at the Fukushima nuclear plant!—as suggested in the headlines.

power, the most efficient power source. The media would stoop to any level to aid these destructive forces, and they were, and are, even now, in full play to carry out that task. Their advantage is that a vast majority of Americans, who moved away from studying physical science years ago, have very little grasp of how nuclear reactors work. They know very little, and the media not only has suppressed the facts, but presented fresh lies to further confuse them.

So, what happened in Fukushima Daiichi Unit 1-3—the three units that were operational at the time an earthquake of 9.0 on the Richter scale hit Japan's north-east, and that massive earthquake was followed by a monstrous tsunami on March 11?

To put the whole thing in the right perspective, people should know that the dual killers (earthquake and tsunami) took at least 10,000 lives and destroyed towns, villages, and properties, which, to rebuild, will cost the nation some \$500 billion, if not more. Another

15,000 people are missing, 20 days after the event. In addition, the catastrophe has shut down a good part of Japan's highly efficient industrial sector. When all of this is added up, one can appreciate Japanese Emperor Hisahito's statement that "Japan faces the greatest crisis since World War II."

By contrast, the crippling of three operating reactors and one non-operating reactor, now considered unusable, did not cause a single death, and will not cause any deaths in the coming days and months. The abandonment of these four reactors means a capital loss of about \$10-15 billion. The cost will be much higher in cleaning up and entombing the reactors with concrete. In addition, the overall cost will be higher, since these reactors were producing a steady 2,000 megawatts of power, the lack of which will be sorely felt by the industrial, commercial, and domestic users.

Since the mainstream media is locked in the vise-grip of the interests it serves, it has pushed the people to

focus on the “impending threats” posed by damage to the nuclear plants. In order to understand what occurred at the nuclear complex, people should have a basic understanding how these reactors work.

There Was Never Any Danger: This Is Why

As soon the Tohoku earthquake hit, the power grid was cut, the operating reactors automatically shut down, and the control rods, loaded with neutron-absorbing boron, were automatically dropped to end the fission chain reaction. That means that, within seconds after the earthquake, all fission reactions came to an end in these reactors.

However, all nuclear reactors during the fission reactions generate many radioactive materials inside that decay, emitting energy in the form of gamma and beta rays generating more heat. To put this heat in the proper perspective, consider this: A 1,000 MW reactor can produce only 200 MW of power using this decay heat at its peak. But the heat reduces constantly due to radioactive decay. This decay process eventually ends these rays’ radioactivity, and they become stable elements. But, until that time, they continue to release heat. The heat is taken away by the cooling water that flows through the reactors.

After the monstrous tsunami hit the plant area, and washed away the back-up diesel generators that were cooling the reactors, back-up batteries were used for a while to cool the decay heat. Once the batteries were drawn down, and the conditions in the surrounding areas were such that no replacement could be made available within a period of 6-8 hours, the decay heat within the reactors rose. Tokyo Electric and Power Company (TEPCO), in consultation with all relevant authorities, flooded the reactors with seawater. The use of seawater—absolutely the correct action at the time—rendered the reactors unusable in the future. These reactors use only de-ionized water for cooling.

Once it became evident to the media that these nuclear reactors were not going to “melt,” since the fission reaction had stopped at the onset of the earthquake, it began a new ruse—the “threat” posed by the emission of radiation, which was vented out to reduce pressure within the reactors. But before the radiation was vented, the people still alive after the tsunami in the vicinity were provided with potassium iodide tablets. This potassium iodide stabilizes the iodine level on the human thorax, preventing the absorption of any iodine isotopes from the air.

Now, the lying media’s latest drumbeat is about the level of radiation that has engulfed Japan as whole, giving the impression that while the earthquake-tsunami had taken “some toll,” the real threat is the spread of radiation. An American engineer, Al Miller, who specializes in nuclear power plant safety, contamination issues, and clean-up procedures, and is now doing exactly that in Japan, had this to say about the reality:

“The saddest thing is that the nuclear part of this terrible disaster is taking all the headlines. The nuclear part is just money. The nuclear part is not going to kill anyone, not even anyone in the plant unless they do something really stupid. There probably will be a tiny extra incidence of thyroid cancer, but that’s pretty much curable. And, the close-in people are taking potassium iodide, which will protect against it. My crew had potassium iodide available, but I chose not to take it, because I didn’t think the benefits outweighed the risks. Please, if you’re concerned enough to consider buying some potassium iodide, don’t. It might hurt you and the money will be much better used if you send it to the American Red Cross.”

In other words, Miller sees, clear as water, the level of “threat” the radiation “leak” poses.

Traces of Plutonium? Yes, But Why?

The media lies take many forms, and unsuspecting readers have no way to figure out the truth. One such was the report that TEPCO found a “trace” of “plutonium,” a highly unstable element, in the vicinity of the reactors. Why was plutonium singled out as the element whose “trace” had been found near these crippled reactors, as the target of the lying media?

It is because plutonium, even to those who are unaware of many details about radioactive elements, is widely known as the material used for nuclear bombs—the killer stuff.

Now, here is the truth: Traces of plutonium can be found anywhere in Japanese soil, thanks to nuclear testing decades ago in the Pacific. In fact, the plutonium level found here, can be found anywhere in the world, thanks to atmospheric nuclear bomb tests conducted decades ago. The International Atomic Energy Agency, the UN watchdog agency of nuclear power around the world, pointed out: “Traces of plutonium are not uncommon in soil, because they were deposited worldwide during the atmospheric nuclear testing era,” which ended when such weapons tests were banned.