



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Margaret Rogalski
Margaret.Rogalski@smithpublicity.com
856-489-8654 x335

Stormwall: Observations on America in Peril
By Michael Wilkerson

CEO & international investor forewarns of convergent threats facing America

History takes a long time to arrive suddenly. When it does, it is often unrecognizable. While most agree that there is something terribly wrong in America, everyone has a different diagnosis of the problem and how to treat it. As a nation we do not yet understand how seemingly disparate events are working together to create a dark storm cloud headed for our shores. Most of the “weathermen,” our leaders, journalists and pundits, are missing the meaning in the signals, while we Americans struggle to interpret the unrecognizable shapes looming on the horizon.

We are in a pivotal moment in history. America stands at a fundamental turning point where the forecast requires clarity and accuracy, and the response demands urgency. Without sufficient warning and understanding of what may soon happen, concurrent economic, social, political and natural disasters may overwhelm our circuit breakers and remake our way of life.

In his new book *Stormwall: Observations on America in Peril*, Michael Wilkerson, CEO of Fairfax Africa, describes the interplay of four major factors – the Economy, the Pandemic, External Threats, and Internal Strife – that are threatening the US and can no longer be ignored. His analysis includes:

- **Economy:** The vast disconnect between the strong performance of financial markets and the underlying fragility of the US economy, challenged by mushrooming government deficits and foreign debt, and the looming risk of inflation
- **Pandemic:** The COVID-19 pandemic and related lockdowns, exacerbated by nefarious actors and misinformation campaigns
- **External Threats:** Escalating conflict between the US, China, Russia, and Iran – countries actively seeking to take advantage of America’s challenges and domestic discord
- **Internal Strife:** Social unrest – ostensibly stemming from racially-charged killings by police, but belying a deeper disease related to injustice and economic dislocation

As Wilkerson writes, “While the media and the public are talking about each of these separate challenges, there is little recognition that they are interlinked and feeding off of each other, like strings of a bow resonating from one issue to another and back, creating what wave physics calls constructive interference, where each individual wave combines into one massive tsunami-like effect. This monster wave is poised to break on our shores in the aftermath of the election season.”

With a background in finance, economics, and international relations, and as CEO of the publicly-listed investment company Fairfax Africa, Wilkerson takes a clear-eyed view of the issues, their

alchemy, and how the presidential election will exacerbate it all. He dives into monetary policy and why the US may soon experience devaluation and high inflation; the implication of a globally bungled response to COVID-19 with bad faith actors and sinister intentions; how the US is already in a “Cold War, version 2.0” with China and her proxies, which is challenging the US for global economic, political and military leadership; and how long-standing issues of racial injustice and widening income inequality are keeping America from living up to its ideals and delivering on its promises.

Facing a potential deluge, America may find herself standing alone in the world. Wilkerson notes, “One of the great things about Americans is that we tend to take our entrepreneurial spirit, our optimism, and our faith in our institutions and ideals into our engagements with the rest of the world. One of the downsides is that we assume other nations look at the world the way we do. We conveniently forget that many nations do not share our values, our ideals, and our rules-based institutions.” He continues, “If America did not have external enemies, then there would be nothing more important to focus on than fighting our two most pressing domestic enemies: COVID-19 and its economic fallout, and the legacy of racism, the bitter fruit of what has been rightly described as our nation’s original sin. However, the United States is one nation among many, and not all wish us well. America is today in rising conflict with adversaries employing increasingly aggressive and active measures against US interests.”

Stormwall: Observations on America in Peril not only raises awareness of what is headed our way, it provides suggestions and ideas for government and corporate leaders, as well as individual Americans, outlining how we, as a nation, can prepare and overcome these challenges. Wilkerson concludes, “The lights are flashing red, the danger is imminent, and it's time for us to take heed.”

ABOUT MICHAEL WILKERSON

Michael Wilkerson is **Chief Executive Officer** of **Fairfax Africa**, a publicly-listed company with a mandate to invest in high-quality African businesses in food & agriculture, education, financial services, and renewable energy infrastructure. He is also **Chairman of the Board** of **charity: water**, one of the world’s largest and most well-recognized organizations focused on solving the world water crisis. Previously, Mr. Wilkerson was a **Managing Director** at **Lazard**, a preeminent financial advisory and asset management firm. Named one of the “**40 under 40**” in **investment banking and private equity** by *Dealmaker* magazine, Mr. Wilkerson holds an **MBA** from **Harvard Business School** and a **MA in International Relations** from **Yale University**. He is a frequent contributing author to **Jackson Hole Economics** providing commentary and analysis on economics, finance, history and politics.

Stormwall: Observations on America in Peril is available via [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) and other retail outlets.

REVIEW COPIES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

###