



The ARC Bullion Account USD posted a gain of 4.21%, and is currently in profit as I write.

There is a driving factor, pushing investors worldwide toward hard assets as a hedge against economic disruption. Stagflation fears, weak global growth signals, and a flight from fiat are all increasing the demand.

Gold isn't reacting; it's leading, and that's what makes this rally different in my opinion. When gold rises despite headwinds, it's sending a clear message and as I have stated previously, confidence in paper money is eroding, and eroding fast.



The Market

What if gold were to fall below \$4,000?

Should gold fall below the \$4,000 per troy ounce, it would likely represent a buying opportunity, even if analysts begin to label any move lower as a downturn. I would not consider such a fall back a downturn, I do, however, recognise that a correction is overdue. That said, against the current backdrop there is further upside potential in precious metals.

Members should note that gold prices could fall back, driven by reduced expectations for further interest-rate cuts this year. After all, the Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said that another rate reduction before the end of the year was not a foregone conclusion, bringing bets on a December cut lower. I would also comment that the situation is further complicated by the lack of key data due to the US government shutdown. Meanwhile, there is also the fact that Beijing got rid of long-standing tax incentives for some retailers, and with that, gold may see additional downward pressure due to growing concerns over the Chinese demand.

Gold prices had moved closer to \$4,400 an ounce last month, and given central bank buying and increasing demand for gold from several hard money sources, I would not be surprised to see bullion set a new high, and a move above \$4,500 is perhaps a given.

Morgan Stanley has finally fallen in line with RIO - they have just issued an investment report recommending their investors allocate up to 20% of their portfolios to gold. As members know, for years we have been recommending that members hold 10-20% of their investment portfolios in gold.

I would point out that gold isn't reacting to traditional metrics anymore.

Big banks and mainstream investment houses used to say gold only goes up when the dollar goes down, or when interest rates fall or when inflation spikes. Well none of this applies today. Gold is rallying despite high rates and despite a strong dollar.

Over the years I have written and circulated countless reports to members, in these I clearly stated that gold is an insurance policy. And right now, many people are buying insurance, not against inflation or rate cuts, but against a system and a world which is unstable.

Central banks have been actively buying gold at unprecedented levels, it's not because they want to sell gold for a quick profit. It's because they don't want to be left holding the bag (an empty bag) when the system fails.

Gold prices neared \$4,400 an ounce last month and I am confident that we will see gold surpass \$4,500. I am sure that most experts would concur with that.

William Gray
The RIO Club