Alan Rohrbach

From: no-reply@vrmailer3.com on behalf of ROHR-BLOG <info@rohr-blog.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 9:51 AM
To: Alan Rohrbach
Subject: ROHR-BLOG: ECB Next, Quick Take, Calendar

View this email in your browser

Dear Subscribers,

There are no additional 'fresh' market influences until Thursday's ECB press conference. Even then, the recent significant downgrades to the EU economic outlook (most recently from the IMF) mean Signore Draghi is going to remain as accommodative as in all his previous communications. That should be good for the US EQUITIES (and possibly others) and problematic for the GOVVIES.

Even in the context of the World Economic Forum meeting this week in Davos, the same concerns and hopes remain. Those have to do with the previously noted slowing EU economy, continuing Brexit stresses, and the US-China trade faceoff.

And the US government shutdown continues to spawn further predations on government workers and contractors, with implications for the business who rely on their spending. Please see Monday's and especially Tuesday's emailed research notes for the technical discussion of how this still manages to create a 'bad news is good news' psychology despite the obvious impact on the US economy.

Market Quick Take

Ever since the FRONT MONTH S&P 500 FUTURE dropped below the

early 2018 lows into mid-December, we skipped a lot of our previous higher level activity discussion that becomes relevant once again as MARCH S&P 500 FUTURE pushes back above the 2,635 resistance. Along with lower 2,600 congestion it has been back above since Tuesday January 15th, that puts the 2,675-70 area (including the 2017 Close) and failed 2,708 UP Break back in play.

At this point it must be noted that the push back above the full 2,600-35 range has both ratcheted the MARCH S&P 500 FUTURE back into the October-early December trading range. The importance of that with the fresh weekly down channel UP Break (2,600) and key moving averages being exceeded is apparent on the 3-year weekly continuation chart (http://bit.ly/2Dmz3BE) (including weekly MA-13) updated through last Friday's Close. Only a failure back below 2,600 area will restore any near-term bearish momentum. Yet there is also key higher resistance back up into the Negated 2,708 UP Break, interim mid-2,700 area congestion (also weekly MA-41), and prominent low-2,800 area top of the range.

While the December drop below early-2018 2,529-52 lows was critical due to next significant lower support not being until the major 2,400-low 2,300 area, that held its Tolerance into the early 2017 2,318 congestion area low right after Christmas. This can still be seen on the monthly chart (http://bit.ly/2VBvb6D) from the end of last year; it highlights the degree to which broad up trend support was held.

Consistently weak data along with previous sharp EQUITIES weakness had also encouraged GOVVIES to predictably push up again. That recently also exhibited the volatility which seemed to be missing on the previous US EQUITIES selloffs, even if the recent US EQUITIES surge and strong data has weighed on GOVVIES again to a limited degree.

Combining the remaining Brexit concerns and weaker global data had seen strong sister DECEMBER BUND FUTURE back above the 160.00.-30 area as well as the upper-160.00 area highs on its way to the 162.00-.50 area next resistance. On its Thursday DEC 6 expiration the MARCH BUND FUTURE was trading at a recently unusual 0.85 premium to December contract, and was already above 162.00-.50 area. While it stalled temporarily into more major resistance in the 164.00-.50 area during the holidays, previous weak economic data and EQUITIES stalling into

resistance had pushed it back above that range after holding only marginally back below it.

And weak sister DECEMBER T-NOTE FUTURE well back above its 118-10 mid-May trading low also sustained its rally above higher trend resistance in the 119-00/-08 area. That pointed to the heftier 120-00 area congestion (also weekly MA-41) it is also pushed above in early December. That left the 120-24 area highs and previous trading highs into 121-12 area as next resistances it also exceeded on its way to a temporary push above next resistance in the 123-00 area prior to dropping only somewhat back below 122-00 at present into 121-12 area.

The same was true for DECEMBER GILT FUTURE above 122.00-.50, with next heavy congestion into the 124.00-.50 range it stalled into. That said, the MARCH GILT FUTURE was trading at roughly a 0.60 discount into the late-month December contract expiration. After the top of the year push back up into the 124.00-.50 range, it has now reversed to some degree to retest the 122.00-.50 range.

Similarly in FOREIGN EXCHANGE, a 'haven' bid that had returned to the US DOLLAR INDEX on the previous US EQUITIES drop has not been in evidence of late. As noted above, its typical crisis phase 'haven' bid can be the opposite if the US is the source of market stress.

Even as the US DOLLAR INDEX reacts once again from near its mid-upper 97.00 resistance, it was holding no worse than the mid-96.00 area seen on previous recent dips. Yet the more major support remains into 95.50-.00 area it finally tested early this month prior to the present rebound into the low-96.00 area. The additional major recent and historic congestion support remains into the 94.00 area.

Along with that EUR/USD that had surged back above 1.1400 to near the 1.1500 resistance in thin New Year's Day trading was back marginally below 1.1400 once again early this month. Next support into 1.1250-00 was again neared on the recent dip. While well back above 1.1400 last week and even temporarily above the 1.1500 area on recent US DOLLAR weakness, it has now dropped back below the 1.1400 area. More prominent resistance remains into 1.1600 area.

And the Brexit concerns that had dropped GBP/USD well below 1.28-1.30 toward next major support in the 1.25-1.24 area remain in place. And the 'bad-good' response to the Brexit bill failure has seen GBP/USD sustain activity well back above 1.2800. Already back above weekly MA-9 & MA-13 in the mid-1.2700 area, the higher likelihood of a Brexit delay has finally seen it push back above 1.3000 congestion as well. Yet the further question remains whether it can also push above the 1.31 area weekly MA-41?

And despite the US changeability, the previous hint of US-China rapprochement encouraged AUD/USD to squeeze back above its historic .7200-50 area (also weekly MA-9 & MA-13.) However, that same negative early-December Trump 'Tariffs Man' tweet that hit US EQUITIES on the lower chances for US-China trade rapprochement also dropped AUD/USD back from a hopeful early-December test of the .7300-50 area to back below .7200-50. It was recently down into more major .7000 area congestion, with the .6825 nearly 9-year trading low below that. This was not a surprise on current Chinese economic weakness and fraught US-China relations, even if the current potential rapprochement had it recovering toward another test of .7200-50.

And while the EMERGING CURRENCIES are still more country-specific trends than previous, they were also enjoying a bounce from support on US-China potential rapprochement that remains a key influence, along with the self-inflicted wounds of the US DOLLAR.

The government change-beleaguered MEXICAN PESO that had seen USD/MXN drop back temporarily below its 20.00-20.20 congestion, had been back up on multiple tests of the 20.50 area prior to sliding back below 20.00 again. It is also now below lower interim support at 19.70 as well as more major 19.60-.50 congestion. Next lower supports are in a range of congestion from 19.20 (high end) it is currently below to interim 18.70 and ultimately 18.50-.40 (low end.)

And that is just part of the EMERGING CURRENCY return from weakness, as USD/ZAR had pushed up from below 14.00 to testing and failing from 14.50 again on its way back below 14.00 in November. Next lower support in the 13.60-.50 area was probed into the beginning of December prior to pushing temporarily back up into 14.40-.50 area and even 14.60 into the holidays prior to dropping back below 14.00 into the

beginning of January. Those areas (including lower congestion) remain current resistance and support.

USD/RUB that had reacted back down from above 67.00 was back there again in the wake of imploding Crude Oil prices with next resistance as nearby as the 68.00 area. Even though the previous early December Fed shift had engendered slippage back below 67.00 there as well the encouragement both it and the OPEC situation had provided, the subsequent suffering of the Crude Oil market had USD/RUB back above 68.00, even if it failed once again at the 70.00 area resistance (just like early September.) It has recently been back below both 68.00 and 67.00 (including weekly MA-9 & MA-13) with support back into 65.00 (including weekly MA-41.) So basically back into the more sustained 3-month trading range areas.

In the meantime, the still improved TURKISH LIRA had USD/TRY slipping once again from 5.50, even if it experienced an intraday spike above it on January 3rd. And on the previous weakness it refused to drop to next support into the 5.00 area, with weekly MA-41 now up into the recent 5.20 area congestion as well. Outside of that recent temporary spike higher, the last two months have still been mostly a trading range affair between 5.45 and 5.22 until the recent US-Turkey Syria disagreement put it back up for a more sustained test of 5.50 once again.

If it should sustain activity above it, next minor resistance is the recent 5.6230 spike high, yet with not much above that until 5.90-6.00. However, the US-Turkey dispute over the US military's Syria withdrawal seems to have died down, and US DOLLAR strength along with it.

While more so than ever obviously less relevant (as we have been noting for some time) on the standard report releases in the midst of more major global trade and political cross currents, this week's Weekly Report & Event Calendar (accessible for Sterling and higher level subscribers) is available via the www.rohr-blog.com sidebar.

There were obviously no US report releases during today's Martin Luther King, Jr. Day memorial observation, and as noted previous there will also be some future US data cancellations or delays. There are also key central bank meetings this week, like the BoJ this morning and especially

Thursday's ECB decision and press conference.

The Rohr-Blog Research Team

info@rohr-blog.com

This review of market opinions and all other information is strictly for educational purposes. This information is provided without consideration of portfolio requirements, suitability for financial risk, or psychological state of any recipient. Any use of this information to implement actual trades or investments is the sole responsibility of the individual or entity authorizing that decision. This waives your right to any claim of explicit or incidental liability for financial loss or forgone profit against Rohr International, Inc. and any informational contributors under all circumstances. Information contained herein may have already been disseminated to others who may have acted upon it. Implicit in the Rohr services is the understanding that principals or employees of Rohr may have already taken positions. By review of Rohr alerts and/or Rohr views and all attendant information you confirm receipt of them as educational content, as well as agreement with all of the stipulations articulated above.