

EIRSpecialReport

Can America revive its military tradition?

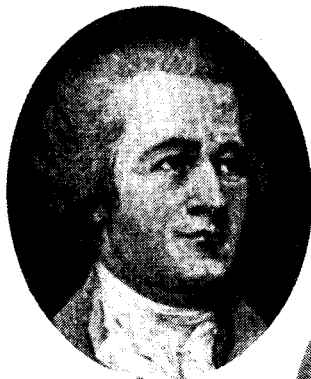
by Criton Zoakos, Editor-in-Chief

To efficiently evaluate the current military policy debate in the United States, one must place the current developments in the context of the uphill political fight that Gen. Douglas MacArthur was fighting since at least his tenure as Commandant of West Point Military Academy. During the Korean War, those around General MacArthur who embodied the American military tradition were forced into a defensive political struggle of opposition to President Truman and Dean Acheson's concept of "no-win wars." Douglas MacArthur and the military classicists lost that political fight. As a result, the United States was led into another war which was regulated by the "no-win doctrine," in Vietnam.

So we come to the present period in which the principal authors of the Vietnam no-win war, Robert McNamara and Gen. Maxwell Taylor among others, are coming forward with their new proposal for a defense policy which would start with a pledge for "no-first-use" of nuclear weapons and end, in the foreseeable future, with gradual elimination of nuclear weapons. Both McNamara and Taylor argue that such a pledge to outlaw nuclear weapons will give the Western alliance a free hand to expand unlimitedly its conventional military capabilities to be deployed against a variety of Third World countries. The authors of this doctrine further happily envisage situations in which the two superpowers might securely engage in conventional conflict without fear of escalation into nuclear conflict. The polite word for assessing the military views of McNamara, Gen. Maxwell Taylor and their co-thinkers, is "hogwash."

Nostalgia for cabinet warfare

This hogwash can best be understood as atavistic nostalgia for set-piece, cabinet warfare in the nuclear age. Behind the conception is a bunch of second-rate, senile minds still enamored with 14th century feudal policies. One such figure is Dr. Robert Runcie, the Primate of the Church of England and one of the chief authors of this military doctrine; another is



In the American military tradition (from left to right): U.S. Army Inspector-General Alexander Hamilton; General of the U.S. Army Ulysses S. Grant; Gen. Douglas MacArthur; Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

the late Carroll Quigley of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. Both have expounded in detail plans for the eventual disintegration of the two nuclear superpowers, all based on an eventual outlawing of nuclear weapons, placing international controls over technological developments, and manipulating the two superpowers into negotiating a new set of "rules of the game," which in effect will reintroduce set-piece cabinet warfare in the nuclear age.

Archbishop Runcie detailed this approach in a sermon at the Trinity Church in lower Manhattan during May 1981 before an audience of the entire financial and political elite of U.S. Episcopalians, including Robert McNamara, Cyrus Vance, Averell Harriman, and the board of directors of Morgan Guaranty. An article published in the spring 1982 issue of *Foreign Affairs* magazine, the journal of the New York Council on Foreign Relations, authored by McNamara, McGeorge Bundy, George F. Kennan, and Gerard Smith, basically repeated the argument developed by Archbishop Runcie less than a year ago. Runcie's significance in this matter is not only that he maintains political relations with the U.S. Episcopalian elite on behalf of Britain's Royal household, but also maintains similar relations with those elements of the Soviet leadership which harbor British triple agent Gen. Kim Philby of the KGB.

Where do the Soviets stand?

There is no reasonable possibility that the Soviet military establishment will ever revert to military doc-

trines of cabinet warfare in the nuclear age no matter how much Soviet propaganda howls in favor of the "nuclear freeze" movement.

The special review of the subject presented in this *EIR*, gives the reader a map of the political groups who are attempting to promote this policy. It also presents in summary form the general argument against this strategic insanity as developed by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., Chairman of the National Democratic Policy Committee's Advisory Committee and potential presidential candidate for the 1984 elections. This published item by Mr. LaRouche is the shortened companion piece to an extensive policy memorandum now circulating among NDPC officers as part of a policy deliberation in that organization. The title of that larger piece is "Only Beam Weapons Could Bring To An End The Kissingerian Age of Mutual Thermonuclear Terror," pre-publication copies of which can be obtained through *EIR*.

With these two policy proposals, LaRouche provides a comprehensive military policy required of the United States in complete opposition to the hogwash put forward by Taylor, McNamara, McGeorge Bundy, et al. LaRouche's approach could well be described as an expansion on Douglas MacArthur's professional military outlook. It is in that American military tradition which correctly views a nation's armed forces as the shooting front-end of its organized logistical/economic capabilities which are continually upgraded through uninterrupted technological and scientific advances.