

# The Trilateral Commission declares war on East Asia

by Mary McCourt Burdman

“The much-heralded Pacific Century may well be upon us already—but only if the political process catches up with the economic process in the region. The big news from East Asia in the last two years—from the Philippines, Korea, Taiwan, and China—may be that this process is finally under way. But equally big question marks remain. The Trilateral countries must watch, and be prepared to play significant supporting roles.”

This is the conclusion of a new report, *East Asia in Transition: Challenges for the Trilateral Countries*, prepared for and presented at the April 9-11, 1988 Trilateral Commission annual plenary in Tokyo. It has just been published under Commission auspices.

The members of the Trilateral Commission, whose sins include promoting the worst U.S. presidency in history, that of Jimmy Carter, and who now want to top that by inflicting a Michael Dukakis presidency on the world, are intent on spreading their misery in Asia.

This report is an 80-page justification for trampling on the national sovereignty of the East Asian nations, wrecking their economies under the regimen of the utterly bankrupt and discredited International Monetary Fund and World Bank, and bringing the Republic of Korea, which is now one of the major heavy industrial economies, into the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). This step will drag Korea and other East Asian countries into the entire international financial “process,” which has turned the United States into a rusting, post-industrial hulk, threatens to starve to death the people of Africa, and has the once-powerful Western nations trembling at the Soviets’ feet.

The report attacks all remnants of national sovereignty in economic and political relations, denounces “bilateral” arrangements between nations in this region, and demands that national relations be subjugated to the needs of the international liberal financial elite. The authors want to make Japan, where a strong faction remains committed to industrial development, technological progress, and national sovereignty, the Trilateral enforcer for the region. The authors demand that Japan deregulate its financial markets and interest rate policies, and say that Tokyo must be “internationalized in all senses,” including language, lawyers, and “openness in of-

ficial and private information access.” This has been partially accomplished—Japanese were founding members of the Trilateral Commission—but now Japan is under attack from a particularly dirty financial crowd in London (see *EIR*, Oct. 7.)

Were the financial power behind the commission not so powerful, the report itself would be quite funny: The Trilaterals generously offer their full services, including education in subversion for East Asia’s young elites at Harvard University. And, in an insult to the intelligence of every person in East Asia, the authors tout the “extreme care and discretion” in the way “outside influence” is used to topple governments in the region, as the United States did in the Philippines. It even becomes pathetic, talking of Trilateraloids’ “bafflement and sorrow” at the way the very determined leader of Singapore, Lee Kuan Yew, trounced the U.S. embassy there for its attempts to foster the opposition in Singapore.

A brief review of the report’s authors tells much. Richard Holbrooke, now a managing director at Shearson Lehman Hutton, Inc., the single biggest financial institution in the world, was assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs during the doomed Carter administration. Holbrooke helped run the U.S. Vietnam war fiasco during the Johnson administration. Holbrooke, with Robert Scalapino of the University of California at Berkeley, was one of the Americans who accepted invitations to the Soviets’ Vladivostok conference Oct. 1-3 on the “Asia-Pacific Region: Dialogue, Peace, and Cooperation,” the *Far Eastern Economic Review* reported Sept. 29. The Soviets proposed special economic zones, joint ventures, and strengthening trade links with Asian countries at the conference.

Scalapino was listed as assisting what the authors call “the Trilateral Process” that produced this report.

The second author is Roderick MacFarquhar, director of the John King Fairbank Center for East Asian Research at Harvard University. MacFarquhar was previously at Britain’s Royal Institute of International Affairs, also known as Chatham House, the leading liberal establishment policy think tank in Britain. The RIIA was spun out of the conspiratorial British “Round Table” group founded by the late Cecil Rhodes, and its “Anglo-Soviet Roundtable” is a leading Western “back-channel” into the U.S.S.R.

The third author is Kazuo Nukazawa, managing director of Japan's Keidanren (the Federation of Economic Organizations) in charge of international affairs. Nukazawa's career has taken him to the Japan Economic Institute of America and the liberal establishment's Rockefeller Foundation. It was David Rockefeller who founded the Trilateral Commission in 1973.

Others who participated in the "Trilateral Process" are two who ran the coup against long-time U.S. ally Ferdinand Marcos on the ground from Manila and Washington: former U.S. Ambassador to Manila Stephen Bosworth, and Undersecretary of State Michael Armacost. Also among the many others listed, are key promoters of the "Europe 1992" project, to abolish customs barriers on the continent in 1992, and national sovereignty not long thereafter. These include former NATO head and noted "decoupler" Lord Carrington; Viscount Etienne Davignon, who charted the destruction of the European steel industry; senior French synarchist Paul Delouvrier; senior European Community policymakers Heinrich von Moltke and Karl-Heinz Narjes; and Sir Michael Palliser, chairman of Samuel Montagu Bank in London.

This crew has set itself against what they call the "aging leadership" of the nations of East Asia, the leaders who fought World War II, and led the nationalist independence movements against the colonial powers, but "whose views were molded by developments of diminishing relevance to younger generations." The authors lump, as aging authoritarians, Lee Kuan Yew, Ferdinand Marcos, the late Chiang Ching-kuo of the Republic of China, with isolationist Ne Win who destroyed Burma, Deng Xiaoping of Red China, and Kim Il-sung of North Korea, and make their international priorities clear by focusing their outrage at Singapore, Malaysia, and the former Philippines government while praising how "responsive to forces of change" is Deng Xiaoping. In truth, Deng's "reforms" have left 50 million people homeless, unemployed drifters.

### **The next assault**

The report calls the last two years' events in the Philippines and the Republic of Korea—the overthrow of Marcos by the U.S. embassy in Manila and the near-destabilization of Korea—"political evolution." But although the authors seem smug about the situation in Korea—"South Koreans are ready for democracy," is the way they assess President Roh Tae-woo's defusing of the near-revolt situation last year—not every national government will be so easy to overthrow as Marcos, a man who entirely trusted President Ronald Reagan, and even so, in the Philippines, communist insurgents, the IMF, the entire international press corps, and ultimately President Reagan had to be enlisted to bring Marcos down.

The East Asian nations are certainly vulnerable on many fronts, but factions exist in these nations which are committed to national sovereignty and economic development. These

factions also recognize, what the Trilaterals lie about: the threats posed by both the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, and the fact that the U.S. State Department and CIA have betrayed them repeatedly.

The report is, therefore, very pointed in its attacks. President Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore has the honor of being, with the government of Malaysia, next in line for "the Marcos treatment." "Overriding concerns with stability and with restraining potential sources of disorder persist among [the] leadership generation. . . ." the authors write. "Lee Kuan Yew at the recent ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] Summit in Manila . . . suggests some scepticism: 'Our young have no memories of past conflicts. They take the last 20 years of peace and prosperity as the normal course of events.' Ironically, Lee's concern about the fragility of the accomplishments of recent decades has led him to take conspicuously harsh measures against free expression which could erode his genuine accomplishments. These measures have been widely criticized, but the concerns they reflect are shared by many members of developing East Asia's governing elites regardless of generation."

### **A role for the United Kingdom?**

"The role and ability of the Trilateral nations in promoting political development in the region varies from country to country," the authors state in their "Recommendations" section. "There are times when outsiders can play an important role in other nations of the region, especially if the limits on outside influence are understood and any involvement is undertaken with extreme care and discretion. This is obviously most true of the United States, which remains the most important external influence on political and strategic events in the region. This influence was exercised effectively during the remarkable events in Manila and Seoul in the last two years, and it is to be hoped that this will continue to be the case. . . ."

"If the EC countries, Japan, and Canada had coordinated their positions in 1985-86 in Manila—they shared a common assessment of the disaster which a continuation of the Marcos regime represented—they might have had an effect on Marcos. Yet with the exception of an ad hoc effort put together by the EC ambassadors in Manila near the end, we are unaware of any significant actions by the Europeans, Canadians, and Japanese. In regard to other countries, such as Malaysia and Singapore, in the current circumstances, we wonder whether, at least at a private level, the United Kingdom in particular could play a role."

The United Kingdom is obliging. In July, both Devan Nair, who resigned as President of Singapore in disgrace, and an unidentified Malaysian who was imprisoned by the Mahathir government during last year's security crisis, gave talks at the Royal Institute in London.

Universities are also obliging, particularly in subverting the next generation. "There are a variety of indirect roles for

Trilateral countries. One of the most important, with the most enduring value, is the provision of educational opportunities in Trilateral universities," the report states. "The education of promising individuals in Trilateral countries is probably an important factor supporting the liberalization process. . . . Seoul National University, Beijing University, and Taiwan University have been among the top ten feeder schools in the world into graduate programs in Harvard University. . . .

"Significantly, pressures for more open political systems are coming primarily from the new, larger, and more sophisticated professional, technocratic, and business elites (increasingly possessing advanced degrees from leading Trilateral academic institutions)," the report states.

### Down with the national economies

A broader assault is being run against Japan and Korea, as well as the other "newly industrialized countries" (NIC): Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

"While bilateral approaches cannot be totally rejected," the authors intone, "the multilateral economic institutions established since World War II (especially the IMF, IBRD, GATT, and OECD) remain the underpinnings of the global economic system. Regional and bilateral arrangements should only be transitional or temporary aids for strengthening the global regime. . . .

"The need to avoid bilateralism and economic 'bloc-ism' will put strong pressure on these countries to open their own markets, adjust their exchange rates more smoothly, and support multilateral and global institutions more firmly. . . . East Asian nations . . . have been beneficiaries of these institutions . . . they can now be expected to begin to make positive contributions, instead of merely remaining recipients of benefits. Hence, their positive participation should be encouraged by the Trilateral nations. Peer review, dispute settlement, and policy coordination within various global and regional institutions should be strengthened. . . .

"The Trilateral countries should take particular care to mold and manage bilateral and regional arrangements to be compatible with the eventual free trade regime. . . .

"East Asian countries with trade surpluses should work much harder to open their domestic markets, for services as well as goods. Progressive liberalization in financial, capital, and foreign exchange markets is urgently needed as well."

Japan, the world's biggest creditor, receives special treatment:

To ensure the capability for wider use of the yen to replace the unstable dollar, "Japan's financial markets for short-term government bonds, commercial paper, and other instruments and products must be free of regulations, and interest rates have to reflect market conditions in and outside Japan. Also, as the largest creditor nation, Japan must fully integrate its markets internationally so that the world economy functions more smoothly."

# Megabucks media to the defense of

by D.E. Pettingell

Between Oct. 7 and 23, seven newspapers in the United States and Mexico published full-page ads warning about an alleged "major threat to the United States" due to "a state of insurrection in Mexico" supposedly led by Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas Solórzano, former presidential candidate for the four-party coalition National Democratic Front. The ads, signed by the ghostly Committee for Improved U.S.-Mexico Relations, so far have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Times*, and the *Los Angeles Times*, and, in Spanish, in Mexico City's *El Heraldo*, Monterrey's *El Norte*, and Miami's anti-Castro *Diario Las Americas*. It has been widely distributed on Capitol Hill and among media circles by mail and messenger, in the form of a pamphlet in Spanish and English. The cost of this black propaganda has been estimated at \$150,000.

Investigative journalists' efforts to determine who is behind the smear campaign to present Cárdenas as a pro-violence, Moscow-controlled communist, have so far yielded limited success. It has been determined that the address given in the ads for the committee, P.O. Box 16224, Alexandria, Va. 22302, is not the committee's, but that of Jerry J. Woodruff, of 4709 South 29th Street, Arlington, Va. 22206; telephone (703) 931-9099.

Woodruff claimed, when questioned by reporters, not to know who the members were of the "Committee for Improved U.S.-Mexican Relations," and said that all he knows is that the committee members were "prominent Americans" from the west of the United States; he explained that a friend, for whom he had worked in the past, asked him to use his post office box as the return address for the committee. He refused to give the name of his "friend," saying he was not authorized to do so. In answering questions by the Washington correspondent for the Venezuelan daily *El Araguano*, Woodruff disassociated himself from both the CIA and the Mexican government, two of many agencies rumored to be behind the ad.

Woodruff, a former member of the Young Americans for Freedom and Sen. John P. East's (R-N.C.) press secretary