

Editorial

One last hope

On March 23, 1983, when President Reagan announced the Strategic Defense Initiative as an alternative to Henry Kissinger's policy of mutually assured destruction (MAD), a chain of events began to unfold which led ultimately to a true hope for peace in the world. It really all began in December 1981. At that time Lyndon LaRouche was approached by the Reagan administration and asked to begin exploratory talks with the Soviet Union on his "beam weapons" proposal, which later became known as the SDI.

LaRouche's policy was initially adopted by President Reagan, only to be sabotaged by forces grouped around then Vice President George Bush, who used Gen. Danny Graham to argue for the disastrous substitution of off-the-shelf technology in place of the frontier laser and beam weapon-related technologies proposed by LaRouche.

The Soviet response was to agree with LaRouche that his proposal to apply new physical principles such as lasers to the development of a strategic anti-ballistic missile system, would work scientifically and would generate the spinoff of new technologies into the civilian sector. They balked on this, however, even though LaRouche proposed that the United States and the U.S.S.R. should develop this in tandem, sharing the civilian applications.

This, the Soviets said they could not accept, because they recognized that the West would outpace the culturally backward Soviet system. Their rejection of the LaRouche/Reagan offer led the Soviet leadership down the track to disaster, as indeed LaRouche warned at the time.

In 1983 he told the Soviets that if they did not go the way of the SDI, which could be the engine to bring their economy out of backwardness, by 1988 they would see a breakdown crisis, which would emerge first in crucial parts of the eastern European economies. LaRouche was off by one year; however, in a celebrated speech in Berlin on Oct. 12, 1988, he foresaw the fall of the Berlin Wall and German reunification. At the end of 1989, he developed the Productive Triangle proposal. In response to the fall of the so-called Iron

Curtain, LaRouche proposed using the concentration of productive power in the Paris-Vienna-Berlin spherical triangle area, as the generator of new technologies which would be used to rapidly rebuild the economies of the former East bloc.

This was a continuation of the thinking which underlay the specific features of LaRouche's SDI proposal. The proposal was decisively rejected by Margaret Thatcher and George Bush, a miscalculation far more wicked than the infamous conduct of Neville Chamberlain in creating the Frankenstein's monster Hitler. Thatcher and Bush opted to collaborate with Mikhail Gorbachov and the Soviet *nomenklatura* and KGB, to suppress any potentials for rebuilding the destroyed economies of the East bloc. In collaboration with Gorbachov, they moved to destroy the potential of a unified Germany. Their policy was implemented first by unprovoked war against Iraq. Today the Russian apparatus, heir to the Soviet *nomenklatura*, is supporting the Serbian war machine, with the complicity of the British ruling elites who also support Serbia.

For the stupid British elites this appears to be another opportunity to clobber Germany. For the Russians, who have a historical alliance with Serbia, it functions as a backdrop for their own imperial ambitions, which have been temporarily put on the shelf. For the peoples of the world and future generations, it is nothing short of a proposed descent into the hell of a new Dark Age.

This need not happen; it never need have become a danger were it not that Bush and Thatcher (and now John Major) have done everything in their power to weaken the more positive forces in Russia, to destroy the Croats and the Bosnians, and to fan the flames of war. Thus they have brought us to the brink of a renewal of the Cold War, played out in a series of ever more brutal regional "proxy" wars.

Unless the ambitions of Greater Serbia are immediately checked by appropriate military measures and the sovereignty of Bosnia defended, we will be in the maelstrom of a third world war. This will be a war at least as terrible as World War I and World War II, even if no nuclear missiles are ever exchanged.