

## Editorial

### *Blunders worsen Russian crisis*

Just three months ago, Lyndon LaRouche issued a major policy document, "Blunders in U.S. National Security Policy." It was issued as his first Presidential campaign white paper. He warned of the blunders which were destroying the U.S.-Russian partnership which President Clinton had sought to create, amidst the deepening human catastrophe in Russia.

No sooner had the Berlin Wall come down in 1989, than LaRouche issued a call to the leaders of the West to oppose British free-trade policy and implement instead a massive development initiative which would call upon the resources of what he named the Productive Triangle of Europe, centered on German industrial potential. Tragically, although LaRouche's proposal elicited much interest, it was not implemented, and instead, the economies of Russia, Ukraine, and the other former East bloc nations, including Poland, have been systematically stripped of their economic capacities and ruthlessly exploited.

Under such circumstances, no one should be surprised at the large support for the Communists in the Duma election in Russia in December. This should have been taken as a sign that time is now running out for the West, a warning to take heed of LaRouche's warnings and act accordingly. The election results were followed by the resignation (i.e., dismissal) of Anatoly Chubais, who as privatization czar was playing a key role in the destruction of what was left of the Russian economy, and by the appointment of head of Foreign Intelligence and former Oriental Institute director Yevgeny Primakov, as foreign minister.

What makes the emerging crisis even more dangerous, is the fact that the ongoing political shakeup in Moscow is being played out to the accompaniment of the fiasco for Moscow, that is occurring in Chechnya. The events there are exemplary of the viciousness of British geopolitical manipulation. The Chechnya crisis is not an internal problem of Russia, but an outgrowth of British intelligence's oil politics over the past de-

cade. (Chechnya is a major oil transshipment point for Russia.) Terrorist forces under the control of the British have been introduced into Chechnya, in order to control the whole region, including Turkey.

One reason for the present danger, is the role being played by the Republican Party, whose spokesmen have been working closely with the British intelligence services to undermine the authority and credibility of President Clinton. They have deliberately fostered the delusion among Russians that President Clinton is a lame duck. This was backed up by the British, who told the Russians that this was true; and unfortunately, credulously, they tended to believe it.

Moreover, in a continuation of the vicious policies pursued by George Bush and Margaret Thatcher, the GOP has worked to defeat those forces within Russia who wished to present a genuine nationalist alternative to communist tyranny and International Monetary Fund conditionalities. The victory of the Communists in the recent election can be directly attributed to the Republicans who worked hand-in-glove with the British to defeat forces associated with Gen. Aleksandr Lebed, who wished to rebuild Russia as a modern nation-state, with cooperation from the United States and other nations—contrary to what Thatcher and Bush had done.

A great opportunity is being lost, because of the stupid, and in many cases wittingly treacherous, behavior of the Republicans (and some Democrats, as well), who are acting in the interests of the British Foreign Office. There is still time for the West to wake up to reality, and implement the policies spelled out by LaRouche at the time that the Soviet Union dissolved, and now most recently in his paper cited above. But the window of opportunity is closing rapidly.

In the present situation, British liberal economics and the machinations of their Republican stooges, are being fast discredited. The question is, whether we can create the conditions rapidly enough, to turn the situation around.