

regulation, and financial matters. Like the Thatcherite free marketeer that he is, he outraged many Europeans by deregulating life insurance, telecommunications, the postal service, and energy. He knocked down barriers to the import of Japanese cars. And, as he dismantled protectionist tariffs and barriers, he forced several major European automobile companies to return government subsidies they needed to remain competitive.

Ironically, the one merger he blocked, which angered many in France and Italy, was those countries' joint bid to take over Haviland aerospace in the British Empire colony of Canada, on the grounds that it would create a monopoly.

Brittan was also part of enforcing the "self-containment" of Germany. According to Detlef Junker, in an article in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* on March 13, when Prime Minister Thatcher was ultimately compelled to accept the reunification of Germany, Chancellor Helmut Kohl had to agree to give up much of reunified Germany's national sovereignty through the Maastricht process, including the German currency, the deutschemark.

Although Brittan ostensibly never opposed the reunification of Germany, his portfolio put him in a position to stop dirigistic development of eastern Germany, including ruling on each West German takeover of an East German firm that had been "privatized." Brittan told the London *Financial Times* in this period: "Our [the European Commission's] involvement in East Germany raises a much broader political point. It is one of the most important factors in reassuring people who are anxious about German reunification that the Commission is there as a guardian of the interests of the community."

Today, there are mass strikes throughout Germany in protest against the economic devastation that the British free market approach has brought about.

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## A Chronology

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# The British war against the U.S. and China

by Jeffrey Steinberg

*The Editors have chosen to begin this timeline with the tragic death of U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, because that event marked a dramatic escalation in London's already ongoing drive to wreck the Clinton Presidency, and, especially, to subvert U.S.-China relations. The timeline does not note every single instance of a British-directed assault upon the*

*U.S. Clinton administration, China, or the Eurasian Land-Bridge policy, now widely associated with Lyndon and Helga Zepp LaRouche and the Schiller Institute. Its purpose, rather, is to give the reader a sense of the intensity of the British-led offensive, since the spring of 1996, and to suggest fruitful areas of further investigation on this singularly vital strategic battle-front.*

**April 3, 1996:** An airplane carrying Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown and 34 American business leaders and government officials mysteriously crashed near the Bosnia-Croatia border. The death of Secretary Brown was a significant setback to President Clinton's efforts to build strong government-to-government economic cooperation with leading American trading partners, especially China.

**May 5-6, 1996:** London International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS) official Gerald Segal chaired a conference in Canberra, Australia, devoted to building a new Asian-Pacific "balance of powers" alliance to contain China. The conference was co-sponsored by the Taiwan-based Chinese Council for Advanced Policy Studies.

**May 7-9, 1996:** Helga Zepp LaRouche led a Schiller Institute delegation to a conference on the Eurasian Land-Bridge in Beijing, China. Also in attendance was Sir Leon Brittan, vice president of the European Commission, who delivered a stern warning against China pursuing the New Silk Road policy. Brittan was former British Home Secretary under Margaret Thatcher.

**May 9, 1996:** Fresh from disrupting the Beijing Land-Bridge conference, Brittan met with Australian Foreign Minister Tim Fischer in Singapore, while both were attending an Asian finance conference.

**May 10-12, 1996:** The American Enterprise Institute, the Bohemiae Foundation, the Center for the New Europe, and the National Review Institute jointly sponsored a conference in Prague, Czech Republic. Henry Kissinger and Margaret Thatcher delivered keynote speeches, and were identified as the co-directors of the project. Other attendees included Zbigniew Brzezinski, Richard Burt, Lane Kirkland, Donald Rumsfeld, Vaclav Havel, Vaclav Klaus, Lord Alan Chalfont, Mont Pelerinite Antonio Martino, and Leszek Balcerowicz. Conference documents subsequently posted on the Internet confirmed that John O'Sullivan was the founder and co-chairman of the Prague Initiative, otherwise known as the "New Atlantic Initiative."

**May 22, 1996:** The Department of Justice handed down 14 indictments, including against officials of Poly Technologies, a Chinese government firm, for illegal sales of 2,000 AK-47 guns to West Coast youth gangs. The case was the result of a U.S. Customs Service sting operation, dubbed "Dragon Fire." The Chinese government formally disavowed any involvement in the illegal arms sales.

**June 3, 1996:** Sir Leon Brittan again met with Australian Foreign Minister Fischer, while attending an event in Austr-

lia, sponsored by the *Australian Financial Review*, at the time a Hollinger Corp. publication.

**June 3, 1996:** Senior officials from the FBI National Security Division briefed two senior staff members of the U.S. National Security Council (NSC), including one FBI agent, on the fact that the FBI was conducting a foreign counterintelligence probe of possible Chinese government efforts to make illegal campaign contributions to the Democratic Party, and to the President's re-election campaign. The NSC officials were instructed not to inform anyone else at the White House about the probe.

**June 6, 1996:** Australian Foreign Minister Tim Fischer visited Washington to meet with Clinton administration officials. At a press conference at the National Press Club, he launched into a tirade against Lyndon LaRouche and the Schiller Institute, declaring: "I simply say there is no place in Australia for the type of agenda being pursued by the LaRouche organization."

**Sept. 24, 1996:** U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-Va.), a board member of Baroness Caroline Cox's Christian Solidarity International, got the House of Representatives to unanimously pass House Resolution 515, denouncing China, Sudan, and Islamic nations in general, for persecuting Christians.

**Oct. 7, 1996:** The Hollinger Corporation's *Sunday Telegraph*, the London *Independent*, and the London *Guardian* all ran prominent news stories, out of the blue, accusing the Chinese government of committing new "atrocities" in Xinjiang and Tibet.

**Oct. 7, 1996:** *New York Times* columnist William Safire wrote about President Clinton's "cronism" with James Riady, of the Lippo Group, reviving a story that had been first published in the *American Spectator* in September 1995.

**Oct. 10, 1996:** The *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal* all ran prominent stories "exposing" President Clinton's ties to the Indonesia-based Lippo Group, headed by Mochtar and James Riady. Lippo was accused of having facilitated the late Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown's 1994 visit to China, and arranging a \$1 billion power plant project in China, that involved a former partner in the Rose Law Firm.

**Oct. 11, 1996:** Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) wrote to Attorney General Janet Reno, demanding the appointment of a special prosecutor to probe allegations of foreign campaign contributions to the Democratic Party.

**Oct. 23, 1996:** Federal District Court Judge Royce Lamberth, of the District of Columbia, granted a request for subpoenas to be issued to the widow of Ron Brown and three former Commerce Department officials, including John Huang, in a civil lawsuit brought by Judicial Watch, a neo-conservative Washington, D.C. outfit, bankrolled by Richard Mellon-Scaife.

**Oct. 28, 1996:** Rep. Benjamin A. Gilman (R-N.Y.) wrote to White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, demanding all "telegraphic or electronic mail messages" or written docu-

ments relating to the Lippo Group, in preparation for hearings of the House Committee on International Relations. Gilman charged in the letter that "American policy toward Indonesia, China, and Vietnam may have been affected by the influence of highly questionable, if not illegal contributions made to political campaigns by or at the behest of the owners of the Lippo Group."

**Oct. 30, 1996:** Five Republican Congressional committee chairmen wrote to Attorney General Reno demanding the appointment of an independent counsel to probe "suspected illegal activities" of the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee—all relating to the "Lippo-gate" affair.

**Nov. 12, 1996:** Justice Department official Mark Richard, on behalf of Reno, wrote to Senator McCain that the threshold had not yet been reached for appointment of a special prosecutor.

**Nov. 15-16, 1996:** Former British Prime Minister Lady Margaret Thatcher visited Beijing to deliver a diatribe against the Chinese government and President Clinton. She announced a campaign to scrutinize China's takeover of Hongkong, vowing to be present for the July 1, 1997 ceremony, and to mobilize European and American parliamentarians to pressure China.

**Nov. 22, 1996:** *Executive Intelligence Review* published a cover-story by Lyndon LaRouche, exposing Britain's "Ring around China" destabilization plan, utilizing separatist and other ethnic assets to break up China, along the lines spelled out by IISS's Gerald Segal in the May/June 1994 issue of *Foreign Affairs*, in an article titled "China's Changing Shape."

**Jan. 15, 1997:** The *Wall Street Journal* published a commentary by Peter Schweizer, "Lippo's Chinese Connections," raising "national security" dimensions of the Clinton fundraising scandal. Schweizer was co-author, with Sir Caspar Weinberger, of a recent book, *The Next War*.

**Jan. 21, 1997:** Tim Hames wrote in the London *Times*, "Clinton Policy on Beijing Under Congress Spotlight," asserting that "a broad coalition of Republicans and Democrats, along with a supportive press, will ensure that China's behavior toward Hongkong's six million residents is scrutinized. . . . Over the past six months, legislators have become increasingly unconvinced that engagement is producing any change in China's actions on human rights, compliance with international trade law or behavior toward its neighbors. Influential conservative publications such as the *Weekly Standard* are campaigning for an alternative strategy based on containment of China." The article referenced Rep. John Porter (R-III.) as leading a campaign to rewrite and toughen the U.S.-Hongkong Act of 1992.

**Feb. 5, 1997:** Helga Zepp LaRouche gave a detailed briefing in Washington, D.C., at an FDR-PAC event, where the just-published *EIR* Land-Bridge Special Report was released.

**Feb. 13, 1997:** A *Washington Post* front-page story, by

Brian Duffy and Bob Woodward, "Chinese Embassy Role in Fund-Raising Probed," appeared, based on leaks from a Department of Justice investigation that uncovered evidence that representatives of the People's Republic of China "sought to direct contributions from foreign sources" to the Democratic National Committee before the 1996 Presidential campaign. The article reported that electronic eavesdropping of the Chinese embassy in Washington had revealed the plot, and, as the result, "a foreign counterintelligence component" had been added to the ongoing Justice Department probe of Clinton campaign fundraising. As a result, the FBI task force was increased to 25 fulltime investigators, including several with foreign counterintelligence expertise, under the direction of Justice Department attorney Laura Ingersoll. The article focused on John Huang and the Lippo Group, especially Lippo's sale of a 50% stake in its Hong Kong-Chinese Bank to a corporation owned by the Chinese government.

**Feb. 13, 1997:** Rep. Frank Wolf called a press conference, to demand that Attorney General Reno appoint an independent counsel to probe the Clinton "China funding scandal."

**Feb. 13, 1997:** Rep. Doug Bereuter (R-Neb.), with bipartisan backing, introduced H.R. 750, a bill to toughen the measures to be taken against China, should it fail to comply with a laundry list of demands concerning the return of Hongkong.

**Feb. 16, 1997:** Ambrose Evans-Pritchard wrote "Clinton's Chinese Takeaway," in the London *Sunday Telegraph*, which began, "China finally replaced the old Soviet Union as the number one enemy last week in the eyes of the U.S. political establishment. If one could date the beginning of the new Cold War, it would be Thursday, Feb. 13, 1997, the day that the *Washington Post* reported that U.S. counterintelligence had caught the Chinese embassy plotting to subvert the U.S. political system. . . . It looks as if the avalanche has now begun. A two-month investigation by the cable TV network NET alleges that the Chinese government laundered large donations to the Democratic Party by passing the money through the Lippo Group." Evans-Pritchard concluded the article, noting: "Now President Clinton will have to reassure America that he is not on the Chinese payroll."

**Feb. 18, 1997:** White House General Counsel Charles Ruff wrote to Deputy Attorney General Jamie Gorelick, requesting answers from the FBI and the Department of Justice to a series of questions regarding the probe of Chinese efforts to influence U.S. elections. The request was made in preparation for Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's visit to Beijing. According to a *New York Times* account by David Johnson, published March 25, 1997, the FBI complied with the request, and obtained approval from the DOJ to pass the information to the White House General Counsel. However, FBI Director Louis Freeh blocked its release.

**Feb. 19, 1997:** The London *Telegraph* published "Chi-



*Rupert Murdoch's media empire began cooking the "China-gate" scandal months in advance.*

nese Spy Inquiry Uncovers Mystery Visit," by Hugh Davies.

**Feb. 21, 1997:** Margaret Thatcher, on a tour of the United States to fundraise for the Thatcher Foundation, met with Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich in Florida.

**Feb. 22, 1997:** The London *Telegraph* published "China Spy Scandal Threatens Clinton as Four Stay Silent," by Hugo Gurdon.

**Feb. 23, 1997:** The London *Sunday Times* published an article by James Adams, "FBI Checks Clinton's Chinese Connection," targeting John Huang as a Chinese government spy and bagman. Adams wrote: "After a meeting in the Justice Department a month ago, FBI agents went back over tapes of bugged conversations that took place in the Chinese embassy and the Chinese ambassador's residence in Washington. The result was a series of conversations between Huang and Chinese diplomats, including the ambassador, about how China could use money and propaganda to ensure another Clinton victory in the Presidential election. The National Security Agency is now going back over messages intercepted between Peking and Washington to see if information passed on by Huang from the 37 classified intelligence briefings he received may have compromised national security. . . . While corners were cut, laws broken and national security compromised, it is likely that the President himself will remain largely untouched by the scandal. Several indictments are certain and an immensely damaging Congressional investigation will

take at least three years.”

**Feb. 24, 1997:** The *Weekly Standard* published “China: The Issue,” a special edition devoted to bashing U.S.-China relations, featuring articles by Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), Rep. Chris Smith (R-N.J.), Gary Bauer, Martin Lee, Richard Bernstein/Ross Munro, Michael Ledeen, and others.

**Feb. 28, 1997:** *Strategic Weekly Briefings*, of Lord William Rees-Mogg, published a front-page “Due Diligence” column by Craig S. Karpel, linking Whitewater special prosecutor Kenneth Starr to China International Trust and Investment Corp., a Chinese government company that bought Citi-Steel USA, Inc. While at the law firm of Kirkland and Ellis, in late 1993, Starr was the attorney representing CitiSteel before the National Labor Relations Board. CITIC’s chairman is Wang Jun, also chairman of Poly Group Corp. Karpel argued that, based on this conflict of interest, Starr cannot continue as chief Whitewater special prosecutor, now that Clinton is being probed for ties to China.

**March 1997:** The New York Council on Foreign Relations journal, *Foreign Affairs*, published an article by Ross Munro and Richard Bernstein, titled “The China Threat.”

**March 1997:** The *American Spectator* published a “special report,” titled “Is John Huang a Chinese Spy?” by Kenneth Timmerman.

**March 6-7, 1997:** The London IISS held a behind-closed-doors seminar in San Francisco, chaired by Gerald Segal, under the title, “Sino-Russian Accommodation and Asia’s Evolving Balance of Power,” calling for decisive Western action to block a Russia-China axis from dominating the Asia-Pacific region in the 21st century.

**March 9, 1997:** The *Washington Post* published a front-page story by Duffy and Woodward, “FBI Warned 6 on Hill About China Money.” The story referenced Sen. Diane Feinstein (D-Calif.) as one of six members of Congress who were warned last year that they were “targeted by China to receive illegal campaign contributions funnelled through foreign corporations, according to U.S. government officials.” The story reported that, based on “specific and credible” intelligence information, the members of Congress were given “classified individual briefings,” a highly unusual move. Senator Feinstein told the *Post* that she had been briefed by the FBI on June 14, 1996. Duffy and Woodward claimed that in the spring of 1995, U.S. intelligence agencies first discovered the effort by China to influence Congressional races. This was on the eve of an important vote on Most Favored Nation trade status for China. They reported, from government sources, that \$2 million was earmarked by the Chinese government for the effort to buy influence with the Congress and the Clinton administration.

**March 10, 1997:** The FBI issued a press release, confirming that on June 3, 1996, officials of the FBI’s National Security Division had briefed two senior staff people at the National Security Council, including one FBI special agent posted to the White House. The FBI release claimed that there

had been “no restrictions” placed on the dissemination of the briefing.

**March 10, 1997:** The *New Republic* published a special edition, “Dancing with the Dragon,” targeting Clinton China policy, featuring an editorial, “Destructive Engagement: Our Failed China Policy.”

**March 11, 1997:** The *Washington Post* reported that Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) had announced that she, too, had been briefed by the FBI in June 1996. But, Pelosi added that she had been earlier given the same warning—in 1991. She said that, during subcommittee hearings sometime in 1992, she had queried then-Attorney General William Barr about the China investigation. Barr had refused to comment. The *Washington Post* also reported that the White House General Counsel, Charles Ruff, had personally debriefed the National Security Council staffers briefed by the FBI in June, and one of the two men was “adamant” that they had been urged by the FBI briefers “not to disseminate the information outside the briefing room.” At a White House briefing, spokesman Mike McCurry said that President Clinton was “mystified” by the contradictory accounts of the meeting, and the failure of the staff to brief him.

**March 12, 1997:** Henry Kissinger delivered a speech in Manila, Philippines, “defending” U.S.-Chinese cooperation.

**March 13, 1997:** Mona Charin wrote in the *Washington Times*, about the Clinton administration “Accepting Blood Money from China,” which detailed the planned mobilization of Christian Solidarity International, Freedom House, and other neo-conservative groups against China’s “persecution” of Christians.

**March 14, 1997:** The *National Review* published an article by Rich Lowry, “China Syndrome,” repeating all the themes from the Woodward stories, accusing President Clinton of “selling out.”

**March 14, 1997:** A town hall meeting in Long Beach, California almost erupted into a riot, as the result of protests over the planned leasing of a moth-balled port facility to Chinese Overseas Shipping Company (COSCO). The incident signaled the activation of the “grassroots” mobilization of groups like Baroness Cox’s Christian Solidarity International and the Unification Church, which had been propagandizing against the contract with the Chinese government-owned shipping line.

**March 16, 1997:** Ambrose Evans-Pritchard wrote again in the *Sunday Telegraph* about the looming confrontation between Washington and Beijing. “Washington is in the early stages of a ‘yellow peril’ fever provoked by growing alarm about the strategic and military threat of a resurgent China,” he lied. Pritchard gloated over the growing predicament created for the Clinton administration: “For the Clinton administration it is a difficult time to formulate a new strategic policy in the Far East. The U.S. Congress is currently investigating allegations that the Chinese government conspired to re-elect President Clinton in 1996 by funnelling millions of dollars of

laundered funds through front groups tied to the Democratic Party. So Vice President Al Gore will be walking through a minefield when he goes to Beijing next week, the highest-ranking U.S. official to visit China for eight years. Any sign of cordiality will be pounced upon by the Republicans as evidence that the Clinton White House is subject to subtle Chinese blackmail.”

**March 17, 1997:** A Department of Justice statement claimed that in 1995, the FBI learned of “possible Chinese plans to influence the Legislative branch.” At the time, the information was treated as a “routine” matter, and internal cables were routed to the CIA and the State Department, but not to the White House, the DOJ or the Congressional intelligence oversight panels. Only in May 1996, after additional information was acquired by the government, were other agencies briefed.

**March 18, 1997:** *Human Events* sponsored a Washington forum to declare “war” against the Clinton administration over its China policy. Speakers included Rep. Gerald Solomon (R-N.Y.), former GOP Presidential candidate Pat Buchanan, and Gary Bauer of the Family Research Council. Representative Solomon railed at the administration’s recent lease arrangement with the Chinese firm COSCO, declaring, “We must act at this point to begin the process of preparation that might lead to impeachment” of Clinton and Gore.

**March 25, 1997:** White House spokesman Mike McCurry, in response to questions generated by a *New York Times* David Johnson article, on Freeh’s refusal to pass information on the FBI’s China probe to the White House, stated: “We made a request to the Justice Department to provide information necessary for the President’s conduct of foreign policy in his role as President and Commander-in-Chief. We would be discomforted if there was anything withheld from the President that was necessary for him to have in order to fulfill his constitutional obligations to conduct this nation’s foreign policy. As to whether or not that information was withheld from the President, you’d have to ask the Justice Department. We’re not in a position to know. . . . The President’s obligations under the Constitution to manage the affairs of the nation and to help conduct this nation’s foreign policy, are the highest priority, because he’s acting, in that case, in the interests of all Americans.”

**March 26, 1997:** The *Wall Street Journal* published an exposé of Sen. Diane Feinstein’s husband, Richard Blum, “Feinstein’s Husband Is Linked to Cosco,” by Craig Smith.

**March 26, 1997:** The *Wall Street Journal* published a commentary by Michael Ledeen, “A Scandalous Policy,” targeting the Clinton administration’s China policy, and identifying China as the only 21st-century military threat to the United States.

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