

## Denver ‘Summit of Eight’: a Mad Hatter’s tea party

by William Jones and Jeffrey Steinberg

The June 20-22, 1997 “Summit of Eight,” in Denver, Colorado, can be summarized by the following six observations. First, overall, the event was a Mad Hatter’s tea party, in which a non-head of state, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, played the part of the Mad Hatter, with Jacques Chirac a disgusting fill-in for the dormouse.

Second, no agreement on any substantive issue was reached. Third, the reason for the failure of the summit was the rabidly disruptive role of Blair. Fourth, the press leak insisting that that summit brought the Anglo-American “special relationship” back to life, was an outright lie, directly contrary to fact. Fifth, the failure of the summit was not a failure by President Clinton: He was given no opportunity, either to succeed or to fail. The failure was all on the side of the European representatives, who each and all sealed their impending political doom as a pack of fools who have lost all remnants of the political, moral fitness to remain much longer in office. Sixth, despite the absolute lack of any substantive accomplishments, the members of the summit patched together a soporific press release and pre-staged press conference, for the purpose of de-edifying the public.

### **Legacy of the Maastricht suicide pact**

That outcome of the Summit of Eight was pre-ordained by the recent years’ suicide pact among all of the participating European officials, especially France’s “bipolar” President, Jacques Chirac, and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who have gutted much of what remained of their nations’ economies, and their own political bases of support, by proceeding stubbornly ahead with the Maastricht Treaty, in order to provide the London-centered European financial oligarchy with a single currency, the euro, the main purpose of which, is to

wage financial and economic warfare against the United States and the U.S dollar.

The only European elected official who has gingerly broken from the Maastricht insanity, and who might therefore qualify as a viable European partner for the United States, France’s recently elected Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, wisely, did not attend the Denver summit, where he would have been obliged to witness the hysterical anti-American rantings of President Chirac.

The case of the Privy Council’s hand-picked successor to John Major, the Labour-Thatcherite Tony Blair, is of special note, given the pivotal role that he played at Denver, and during a followup visit to New York City, before his return to London.

In a radio interview with the weekly “EIR Talks” on June 24, Lyndon LaRouche commented on Blair, and his performance in Denver:

“He was brought in so as to be chief of the Labour Party, in order to groom him as a member of Britain’s Privy Council, to become a prime minister under a Labour Party label, to deal with the mess which was being created by the fumbling administration of John Major.

“So, that was done, in the usual British way of doing these things.

“Now, his purpose was — two things he had to do, or three things, actually. He was supposed to try to woo President Clinton, through people like Al Gore and so forth, into a more friendly attitude toward a special relationship between the United States and Britain; that is, to get the United States to submit to the kind of relationship to Britain which the United States had during the Thatcher-Bush period.

“Second, he was supposed to intervene in Europe, to lead

Europe, to push Germany aside, to push France into a second position, and to take leadership over all of western Europe. He was supposed to push NATO, in an aggressive way, eastward, which is not what the United States view is. The United States—the view of the President—is to bring Russia into NATO, as a coordinating agency for Europe, as opposed to an aggressive conflict arrangement. . . .

“The other aspect is, that is, behind the move, was to bring the British financier interests into an unchallengeable top position in the world, in the course of the inevitable financial crash, which is now onrushing. . . .

“But, Blair is supposed to be the slick operator who can woo the United States; perhaps woo Clinton, through Al Gore; woo people in Europe, through Socialist Party influences in Europe, particularly if Kohl goes down, that sort of thing.

“Look behind the mask, at the reality. Don’t say, ‘He’s the new bright guy in the neighborhood, he’s much nicer to shake hands with, than old poor John Major.’ He’s not. He’s a nasty reptile, and the sooner that the United States realizes that, the better policymaking will go.”

At Denver, President Clinton, through several subtle gestures, indicated that he is no more enthusiastic about an Anglo-American “special relationship” with Blair, than he was when John Major was residing at 10 Downing Street. At the opening banquet of the Summit of Eight on June 20, President Clinton prominently displayed his warm personal ties to Russian President Boris Yeltsin, while, through an oversight, there was not even a chair at the heads of state table for Blair. Earlier in the day, President Clinton had barely squeezed in a brief private meeting with Blair, while he held long bilateral talks with President Yeltsin, Chancellor Kohl, and Italian Prime Minister Prodi. In his meeting with Blair, Clinton focussed the discussion almost entirely on the Northern Ireland situation, which has been a serious point of contention between Washington and London, since President Clinton’s first term.

Despite these events, and despite Blair’s subsequent direct attack against the Clinton administration for failing to reduce greenhouse emissions, at a speech at the United Nations in New York, following the Denver summit, the London *Times* of June 24 lied outright that the Blair visit to the United States “sealed a new special relationship” between the United States and Britain, and established Blair as the “linkman” between President Clinton and the rest of Europe.

### **Unprecedented breach of protocol**

The clearest visible sign of the hostility in the air at Denver, came on the opening day of the summit, when French President Chirac, in a breach of summit protocol, stormed into the International Media Center, and held a press conference, at which he denounced President Clinton and the United States for everything from the ozone hole to the African crisis. Originally, all of the participating heads of state had been scheduled to hold individual press conferences at the end of the summit.

The other seven participants, including President Clinton, stuck to that arrangement.

In contrast to Chirac’s accusatory rantings, one of the few genuine issues discussed at Denver—at President Clinton’s initiative—was the need to do more to stop the descent into chaos and genocide in sub-Saharan Africa. At his post-summit press conference, in response to a question from *EIR* White House correspondent William Jones, President Clinton also expressed deep personal concern about the crisis in North Korea, where, according to Red Cross estimates, as many as 5 million people are on the verge of starving to death.

### **Secondary accomplishments**

Given the underlying hostile state of affairs between the Clinton administration and the British-led western European suicide pact, President Clinton had few opportunities to achieve anything of note. He did, nevertheless, manage to further improve American-Russian relations, by placing President Yeltsin center-stage at the summit, as a “full partner” of the Group of Seven, and by reiterating his intent to assist Russia’s dying economy.

Weeks before the Denver summit, the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) had cancelled a \$15 million contract with a Harvard University institute, headed by monetarist fanatic and George Soros stooge Jeffrey Sachs, to help re-write Russia’s commercial and tax codes. The move modestly undercut the International Monetary Fund’s murderous grip on Russia’s monetary and economic “reforms,” and was a blow to the IMF’s leading operator in the Moscow hierarchy, Anatoli Chubais.

### **LaRouche summarizes Denver results**

In his June 24 radio interview, LaRouche summed up the Denver non-event:

“The conflicts among the various participants in what was in fact a G-8 meeting, rather than G-7—that is, Russia was a partner in this—the conflicts among them, as, for example, the conflict of Jospin, the new prime minister of France, with the Maastricht proposal, and with this kind of proposal, the conflict between Jospin and Tony Blair of Britain; the conflict between Blair, the prime minister of England—or of the British Privy Council—and the President of the United States, is sharpened. The difficulties of Germany are sharpened. The conflict with China is somewhat sharpened.

“The British are now trying to run an operation to build a bridge into the United States, hoping they can outflank and subdue Clinton, and get the United States back under British control, with the help of people like George Bush and folks like that. I don’t think that’s going to work.

“So, you have a crumbling financial system. Nothing has been addressed, nothing has been cured. Time has made the situation worse, less stable. The conflicts among the parties at the summit have not been lessened; they have increased, they have sharpened.”