

Horn of Africa, as surely as it did in the Congo, in the Great Lakes region, and in Angola. The current Eritrean leader's adamant refusal to accept compromises to end the war, is the price we must now pay for this failure of Western policy toward Africa.

4. We call upon the German Federal Government and the EU, at the very least to now seriously consider the Ethiopian government's present proposals for rapidly alleviating the urgent need, and to respond magnanimously to those requests. That would require up to 1 million tons of food, and \$450 million for comprehensive measures to ensure supplies of fresh water, health care, and shelter for the refugees. According to the Ethiopian government, in addition to the airlift into the Ogaden, which is needed right now, the ports of Djibouti and Berbera on the southern coast of the Gulf of Aden have enough facilities to receive the goods needed.

5. People are now dying in the Horn of Africa for lack of water. Just a few weeks ago, people in Mozambique and in southern Africa were drowning in flood waters. The crucial question in both cases, is why the economic infrastructure of these countries is insufficient to protect the population against such foreseeable catastrophes. The answer is to be found in the cynical character of the policy of globalization, and in the recipes of the IMF and the World Bank. Over the past 25 years, these institutions have robbed Africa of the opportunity to develop economically.

The German Federal Government also has to face the fact that the West has lost its moral credibility in Africa. For many years now, the West's main concern has been not development and peace, but rather only control and exploitation of raw materials. The rhetoric enunciated by the Federal Government about a partnership with Africa, cannot hide the fact that this partnership has failed to challenge the fundamental thrust of Western policy.

A radical change in policy is needed

6. We demand that there be a radical rejection of the IMF's disastrous Africa policy. The European decision to postpone discussion of the debt question until the next summit meeting in 2003, is naked hypocrisy. Africa's \$350 billion debt burden must be written off entirely. But this will only happen in the context of a reorganization of the world monetary system, without the IMF and World Bank. We need government agreements on a New Bretton Woods, a new worldwide monetary system, as the foundation for a new, just world economic order. We need a re-regulation of world trade, with capital controls and protective measures for the domestic markets of developing countries. Africa must finally get the chance to develop continent-wide infrastructure, without which neither the development of modern agriculture and industry, nor a victory over poverty, are possible. Only a perspective of real economic development which improves the population's living conditions, can give hope to the people in the nations of Africa. That is also the prerequisite for settling Africa's so many armed conflicts, because *peace means development*.

BAC extremists to gather in Bratislava

by Our Special Correspondent

As the world economic-financial crisis and strategic situation worsen, the more extremist elements among the British-American-Commonwealth (BAC) policy elites are making some ominous moves in Central Europe. *EIR* has learned that on April 28-30, the Washington-headquartered New Atlantic Initiative (NAI) is scheduled to hold its annual meeting in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. The NAI leadership comprises some of the most avid Western advocates of "radical free market" and "expansion of NATO" policies. That it would choose to meet this year in Slovakia, indicates that there is intense pressure on that nation, to adopt the policy combination of "free market reforms" and NATO membership.

This comes at a time when there has been widespread opposition expressed across the political spectrum in Slovakia, to the NATO war in Kosovo. Also, Slovak sources stress that the country is in such awful economic shape, that it cannot sustain the austerity that would accompany the usual free-market package of "free trade," "privatization," and the like.

It also comes at a time when there is a highly unstable strategic situation in crucial regions such as the Baltics, Ukraine, and the Balkans. For the NAI lunatics to be sticking their noses in this flight-forward manner into Central and Eastern Europe, could be a detonator, for very unpleasant things to come.

Thatcher, Kissinger, and the BAC mob

The NAI was originally known as "The Prague Initiative," because its founding meeting in May 1996, pompously entitled "The Congress of Prague," was held in the Czech capital. The organization was founded by a U.S.-based devotee of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, John O'Sullivan, of William F. Buckley's neo-conservative *National Review* magazine. Its founding was an obvious counter-move to the strategic and economic policies centered around the development of the Eurasian Land-Bridge; its first meeting was held almost simultaneously with a conference on the Eurasian Land-Bridge in Beijing, at which Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche spoke.

In Prague, Thatcher was the keynote speaker. She raved that "NATO's role should be expanded. It must be prepared to go out-of-area." To bolster her ravings, she quoted from 17th-century bestialist British philosopher Thomas Hobbes, and from writer Rudyard Kipling, a romanticist of the British Empire in the late 19th and early 20th century.

The NAI's executive director is Jeffrey Gedmin of the

Washington neo-conservative American Enterprise Institute (AEI) think-tank. Official “patrons” of the NAI include Thatcher, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, Czech President Vaclav Havel, former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, and Polish “Super”-Minister of Finance Leszek Balcerowicz, a fanatical proponent of “shock therapy” policies.

Kissinger is also chairman of the NAI’s International Advisory Board. That board brings together leading BAC geopoliticians, including Zbigniew Brzezinski, Samuel (“Clash of Civilizations”) Huntington of Harvard University, Lord Chalfont, and Thatcher foreign policy adviser Sir Charles Powell (brother of British Prime Minister Tony Blair’s chief of staff Jonathan Powell), with leading figures in the arch-“free market” Mont Pelerin Society, such as former Mont Pelerin chairman Ed Feulner of Washington’s neo-conservative Heritage Foundation, former Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Martino, and Herbert Giersch of Kiel University, Germany. Also on the board are former U.S. Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich; “Iran-Contra” conspirator and notorious spook Michael Ledeen, now at AEI; former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense and now AEI “resident fellow” Richard Perle, widely known as “the Prince of Darkness” because of his affinity for starting neo-colonial wars against developing nations, and for his lunatic confrontationist views during the Cold War; and William Kristol, editor of the neo-conservative *Weekly Standard* magazine and son of neo-con guru Irving Kristol.

Although not formally on the board, another individual closely associated with NAI operations is Conrad Black, head of the Toronto-based Hollinger Corp., which owns the British Telegraph newspaper chain and a wide range of newspapers in North America.

After the meeting in Prague, the NAI held gatherings in Phoenix, Arizona (1997); Istanbul, Turkey (1998); and Dresden, Germany (1999). At a forum in Washington, D.C. in 1998, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright addressed the group, the first Clinton administration official to do so. Albright has multiple ties to the “Project Democracy” nexus in the United States that is so influential inside the NAI.

Novak, Brzezinski, and the Blairites

At the Bratislava meeting, perhaps the most pernicious influence will be that of Michael Novak, who will be the featured speaker at an April 29 “Breakfast Roundtable” on the theme, “Social Trends, Transatlantic Ties.” Novak is notorious for a career of attempts to smuggle the satanic ideas of British East India Company economist Adam Smith into the Catholic Church, where there is strong opposition, especially under the current Pope, to the ravages of unfettered free-market capitalism. Himself of Slovak origin, Novak is obviously being deployed to build networks in this predominantly Catholic country, favorable to Mont Pelerin Society anti-Christian policies.

Another key speaker will be Ian Brzezinski, son of Zbigniew. Ian is the senior staff member of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and an aide to Sen. William Roth (R-Del.), one of the chief proponents of the “New NATO” policy of transforming the NATO alliance into a global policing instrument. Brzezinski will be speaking at the opening panel on “NATO’s Next Round: Opportunities, Obstacles.” His co-panelist will be Robert Cooper, recently appointed to be Prime Minister Blair’s chief foreign policy adviser, in his capacity as head of the Cabinet Office’s defense and overseas secretariat.

The meeting will also be addressed by Richard Perle.

Also interesting, will be the presence of John Lloyd, editor of the Fabian Society’s *New Statesman* magazine. This demonstrates that the NAI is by no means, in a simplistic sense, a “right-wing” group. When it was founded in 1996, one of its leading lights was Peter Mandelson, Blair’s guru, who is today Britain’s Northern Ireland Secretary.

There will also be senior figures from AEI and the New York Council on Foreign Relations.

From Eastern and Central Europe, the foreign ministers of Slovenia, Estonia, and Hungary will speak, as well as Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. From the host country, the foreign minister and deputy foreign minister will speak, and Slovak Prime Minister Mikulas Dzurinda will host a dinner and reception. Funding is coming from the German Marshall Fund of the United States, and possibly from other sources.

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