

EIR

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LaRouche Launches Campaign to Ban HMOs
Asia Prepares for Coming Dollar Crash
How Iran Will Solve Its Political Crisis

**Commission To Be Formed
Against the 'New Violence'**



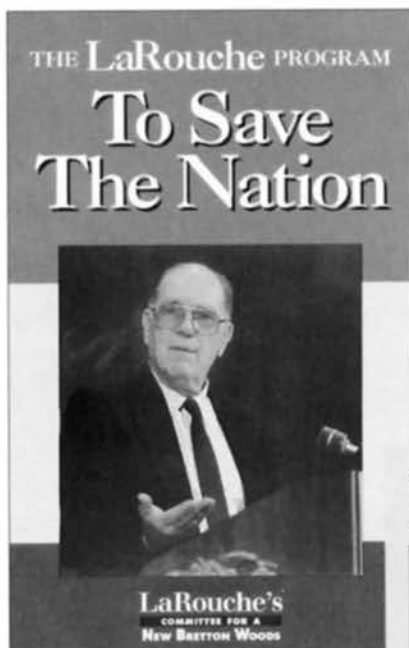
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World Wide Web site: <http://www.larouchepub.com>
e-mail: eirns@larouchepub.com

European Headquarters: Executive Intelligence Review Nachrichtenagentur GmbH, Postfach 2308, D-65013 Wiesbaden, Bahnstrasse 9-A, D-65205, Wiesbaden, Federal Republic of Germany
Tel: 49-611-73650. Homepage: <http://www.eirna.com>
E-mail: eirna@eirna.com Executive Directors: Anno Hellenbroich, Michael Liebig

In Denmark: EIR, Post Box 2613, 2100 Copenhagen ØE, Tel. 35-43 60 40

In Mexico: EIR, Río Tiber No. 87, 5o piso, Colonia Cuauhtémoc, México, DF, CP 06500. Tel: 208-3016 y 533-26-43.

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From the Associate Editor

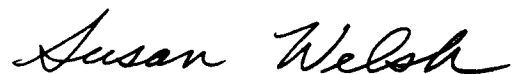
In this issue, we feature two important policy initiatives launched by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., about which we shall have a great deal more to report in the coming weeks.

First, our *Feature*, is the launching of a National Commission Against the “New Violence.” LaRouche outlined the tasks of the Commission, in his speech to a town meeting in New York City. When we see hideous, Samurai-style violence being perpetrated by young children, he said, we know some of the causes, and some of the effects, but we don’t yet know what the full reverberations are. We’ve got to find out, and we’ve got to put a stop to this. “It’s like putting a highly mutable virus into a population,” he said. “The fellow who circulated that virus with malice, knows what he did. We may detect what he did. But when that virus gets into human beings, and begins to spread from person to person, it undergoes change, and it produces incalculable side-effects, in interaction with other viruses and diseases.”

Second, is the campaign to repeal the legislation that allowed the creation of the murderous HMO system in America, a system that Adolf Hitler would have loved. In its place, we must compell the Congress to enact legislation (printed in this issue) that would reinstitute the Hill-Burton policy of 1946, providing health care in the interests of the General Welfare, as the Constitution mandates.

This is no “single-issue” campaign, of the sort that Americans are all-too-prone to fall for. Speaking to a town meeting in Washington, D.C., LaRouche explained the broader policy focus: “What I have to do,” he said, “is I have to get *you and others to focus on national and world questions*. Now, we have before us a national question, which helps to do that. There are several so-called social issues of this type. One is health care. Health care is an international policy problem, and a national policy problem. It’s a problem which helps you identify who are the bad guys and who are the good guys. You can test people on health care: Are they for the HMO system? If you as a citizen study what the HMO system is, you’re going to say that those who support the defense of that system are the *bad guys*. *These are the people we need out of office. And we need to put people in office who fix that problem.*”

Going into the fall elections, some heads are now going to roll.



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A type of violence, most efficiently identified with the virus of computer-kill-simulation games used to brainwash police trainees, very young children, and adolescents, has emerged, designed to drown any effective political resistance to the impending collapse of the financial oligarchy's global system. *EIR* is publishing articles directed toward arming the American population with the conceptual weapons needed to combat what Lyndon LaRouche has termed the "New Violence."

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LaRouche Movement Launches Campaign To Ban HMOs

by Marianna Wertz

On April 26, Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche launched a nationwide campaign to ban health maintenance organizations (HMOs), and managed care generally, and to replace it with the approach to health care embodied in the 1946 Hill-Burton Act, which guaranteed quality health care to all citizens (see below). While thousands of individuals and organizations, including those backing the proposed "Patients' Bill of Rights," are already fighting to *alter* or *ameliorate* the savage effects of managed care on our nation's population, LaRouche said that this approach is insufficient to the threat, and it won't work.

Managed care must be treated "like Hitler coming on, in the 1930s," LaRouche told an April 27 town hall meeting in the nation's capital: "Adolf Hitler's regime had exactly the same policy. It was called, 'Cut out the "useless eaters." Eliminate the useless eaters.' You target some groups of people and say, 'We've got too many of them. So reduce their health care.' It started in the medical institutions in Germany, among the mentally ill, other ill people who were hospitalized: 'Cut 'em out! Accelerate the death rates. We can not afford to pay for them. Cut their health care. Get rid of useless eaters.' It was this policy which led to the death camp system in Nazi Germany, especially during the war years. That policy."

That policy must be stopped now, LaRouche said, and that means voting out of office every Congressman who supports it, or who is receiving funds from the HMOs. "I don't care what else you vote for. Register to vote, and go out and vote these guys out of office at all costs. *Your life may depend upon it!* Or the life of a member of your family may depend upon it."

As LaRouche stressed, the genocidal policies which Hitler implemented in the 1930s "can happen here," and they *are* happening here right now.

LaRouche called on Americans to get the text of legislation he has endorsed, "The Right to High-Quality Health Care Act," and its companion memo (see below), into the hands of every Congressman and state legislator in the coming days and weeks. These legislators must be told, by you, their constituents, to support it, or forget about being reelected.

As the accompanying figures and tables make clear, the time for trying to win some crumbs from a financial elite that is hell-bent on killing sick and poor Americans, is past.

The Nuremberg Precedent

The American jurist at the Nuremberg Tribunal following World War II, Robert Jackson, emphasized that the law "shall not stop with the punishment of petty crimes by little people. It must also reach men who possess themselves of great power

TABLE 1
Revenues and Enrollees of Managed Care Firms

	1998 (millions \$)	Enrollees (thousands, as of 3/31/99)
Aetna/U.S. Healthcare	\$22,767.6	7,367
United	18,672.0	6,778
Humana	9,828.0	5,442
Pacificare	9,650.0	3,600
Foundation	8,885.6	5,445
Wellpoint	6,960.6	6,913
Oxford	4,410.6	1,691

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1999*; Standard & Pooers Industry Survey 1999/Managed Care.

TABLE 2

Net Income of Managed Care Firms, 1988-98

(millions \$)

Company	1988	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Aetna/U.S.H. Foundation	667.7	-615.3	467.5	473.9	205.1	901.1	848.1
Humana	NA	61.9	82.2	49.4	166.4	NA	NA
Oxford	NA	89.0	176.0	190.0	12.0	173.0	129.0
Trigon	NA	14.9	27.9	52.4	99.6	-291.3	-596.8
United	NA	NA	NA	51.7	196.5	95.1	123.6
Wellpoint	-36.8	194.6	288.1	286.0	355.6	460.0	-166.0
	NA	186.6	213.2	180.0	202.0	227.4	319.5

Source: Standard & Poors Industry Survey 1999/Managed Care.

TABLE 3

Health Care CEOs: Compensation and Stockholdings

CEO	Firm	Compensation 1996 (millions \$)	Stockholdings/options 1997 (millions \$)
Stuart Balnum	Manor Care	\$0.9	475.4
Thomas Frist	Columbia/HCA	CEO 1997	460.4
Richard Scrushy	Health South	11.4	409.0
Richard Scott	Columbia/HCA	1.9	269.2
Stephen Wiggins	Oxford	4.6	230.4
David Jones	Humana	10.5	223.4
Robert Walter	Cardinal	1.1	212.4
Alan Miller	Universal	4.4	201.2
William Schoen	Health Mgt Assn	5.8	183.3

Source: Managed Healthcare Market Report, 7/15/97.

and make deliberate and concerted use of it to set in motion evils.”

According to the principles stated at the Nuremberg Tribunal in 1945, under which Nazi officials and doctors were tried and convicted for “crimes against humanity,” the present-day crimes of the managed care/HMO system constitute violations of the Nuremberg precedent. The practices of managed care that are demonstrably harming and killing American citizens are not the “mistakes” of the system; they are *characteristic* of the managed care/HMO system. And the originators and backers of the managed care system know this.

Just look at the salaries and stock options of the CEOs of these major health-care firms, or the multibillion-dollar revenues of the companies, if you want to get a sense of how evil this is (see **Tables 1, 2 and 3** and **Figure 1**). Managed care was originally created, according to the 1973 enabling legislation, for the purpose of “encourag[ing] the provision of medical care at reasonable costs.” Yet, managed care companies and CEOs are raking in the dough while they cut down

services delivered by their physicians to the bare bone.

Consider what managed care has done to the nation’s hospitals in the past decade. **Table 4** compares, for the years 1985 and 1996, the availability of community hospital beds in selected states. Community hospitals are the bulk of hospitals in the United States, the others being long-term care, psychiatric, and veterans hospitals—all of which are also being demolished by managed care. As of 1985, when the destruction began, you find that ten states closed down 10% or more of their community hospitals, and nine states shut down 10% or more of their hospital beds. In extreme cases, Massachusetts eliminated nearly one-quarter, and Illinois more than one-fifth of their hospital beds.

The 1946 Hill-Burton Act specified a ratio of 4.5 to 5.5 beds in use per 1,000 population, and mandated the construction of hospitals and hospital beds. In most localities, by adhering to this Act, up through the 1970s, the United States developed a good health care system. But today, the vast majority of states, as well as the United States as a whole, are below — many far below — the Hill-Burton standards.

At the same time, compare the growth in medical administration —

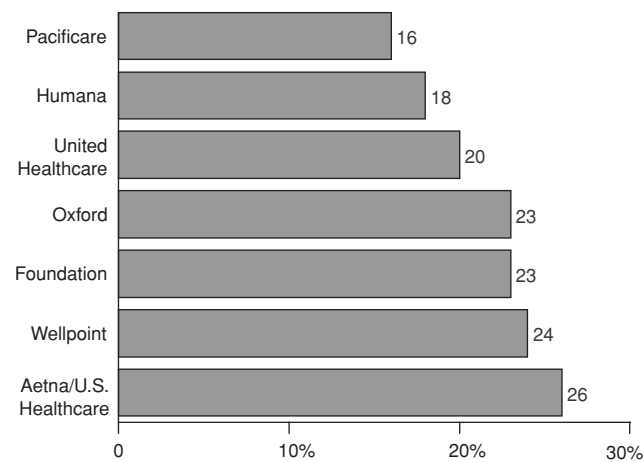
those who are hired simply to process the mountains of paper forms that managed care has generated — to the virtual stagnation in hiring of nursing staff, since the advent of managed care (**Figure 2**). Registered nurses are considered the most expensive, and therefore the most dispensable, part of the health care system by managed care accountants. Within large cities today, there is a marked reduction of both the absolute number of RNs per hospital, and per 1,000 population. Those who are still working, are increasingly being hired on a per-diem basis, and forced to work outrageous shifts — up to 24 hours at a time. In many cases, RNs are hired as “part-time” workers, with 30-hour work weeks, thereby enabling the HMOs to deprive their nursing staff of such full-time benefits as health insurance!

Note in Table 2, that the net income of many of these firms has taken a drastic drop in recent years. This is the result of the fact that, after nearly two decades of looting of the American medical system, HMOs have begun to run out of new areas to loot. The result is that all the managed care companies have begun to raise their premiums, with rate hikes upwards of 6%,

FIGURE 1

HMO Overhead and Profits

(overhead and profit as percent of premiums)

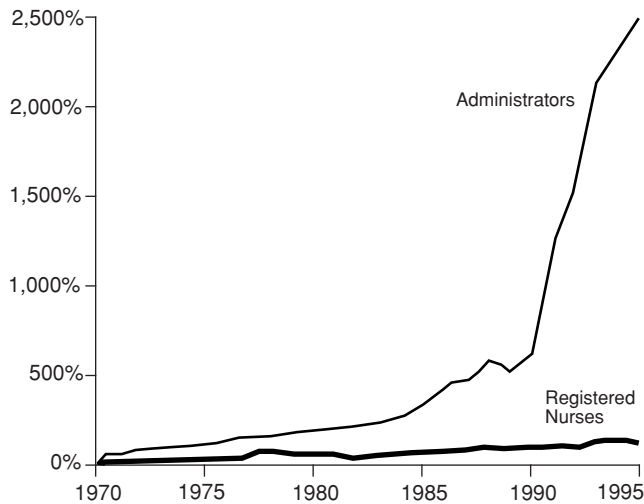


Source: Corporate Research Group, *Outlook for Managed Care*, 1997.

FIGURE 2

Growth of Registered Nurses and Administrators, 1970-96

(percent growth since 1970)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Himmelstein/Woolhandler/Lewontin Analysis of CPS data.

on average, for 1998, with 7-9% in additional hikes expected in 1999. Standard & Poor's estimates that the average monthly HMO premium for a family was approximately \$495 in 1998, while average monthly premiums for individuals were about \$160.

TABLE 4

Managed Care's Forced Shutdown of Community Hospitals and Beds, 1985-96

(selected states)

State	Number of hospitals		Beds (per 1,000 population)	
	1985	1996	1985	1996
Massachusetts	112	88	4.45	2.96
Texas	480	408	4.03	2.95
Michigan	193	164	4.13	2.96
Tennessee	145	124	5.29	3.88
Illinois	238	205	4.76	3.44
Minnesota	165	142	5.23	3.79
Washington	103	90	2.99	2.01
Alabama	129	113	4.90	4.36
New York	259	227	4.45	3.98
California	479	420	3.16	2.38
Missouri	141	125	5.11	4.01
Louisiana	145	129	4.50	4.45
Ohio	197	178	4.41	3.31
Oklahoma	118	108	4.13	3.28
Pennsylvania	241	223	4.74	3.90
U.S. total	5732	5134	4.19	3.25

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Statistical Abstract of the United States*, various years.

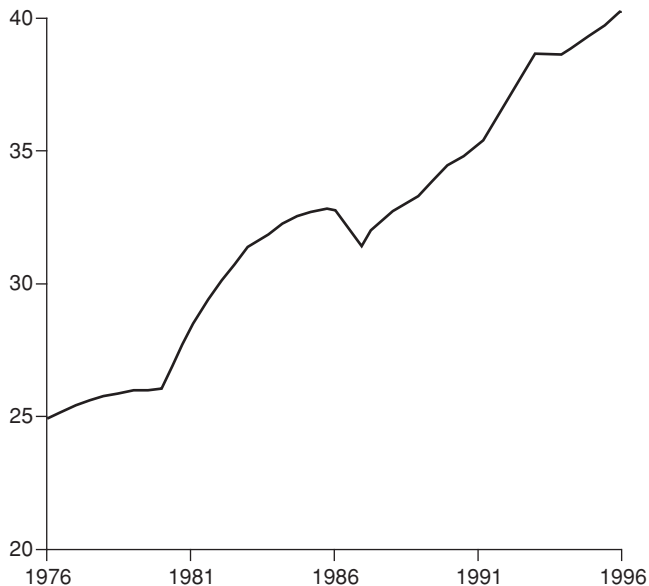
It's no wonder that the majority of labor union strikes in recent years have involved employer coverage of medical benefits. Who can afford such prices out of a normal salary? Nor is it any wonder that more than 40% of Americans are currently completely uninsured (**Figure 3**).

Killing Infants

Perhaps the comparative rates of infant mortality — deaths within the first year of life per 1,000 live births — (**Figure 4**) says most clearly what managed care has done to the nation. The United States has a significantly higher rate of infant mortality than all the European nations, including those, such as Italy, whose economies are significantly weaker than the United States. In some parts of the United States, such as the District of Columbia (15), Mississippi (11), and Alabama (10.5), for example, and for African-Americans as a whole (14.7), the infant mortality rate in 1996 approached Third World levels. In 1996, infant mortality for African-American babies was more than 18 per 1,000 in Arizona, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, and Wisconsin.

In upcoming issues, we will delve more deeply into this Nazi policy growing in our midst. We will explore, for instance, the recent shocking find, that, in 1999, approximately half a million bankruptcy filings were related to an illness or injury to the person who filed for bankruptcy or to a member of that person's family. This was the result of either the lack of insurance, because of the high cost of premiums, or the fact

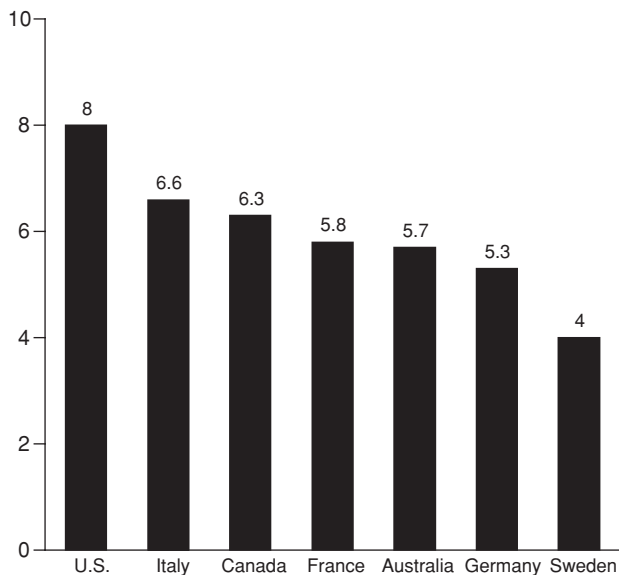
FIGURE 3
Number of Uninsured Americans, 1976-96
 (millions)



Source: David U. Himmelstein, M.D. and Steffie Woolhandler, M.D., M.P.H., *Healthy Profits, Unhealthy Care: An Update on Market-Driven Health Care*, tabulation from CPS and NHIS data.

FIGURE 4
Infant Mortality, 1995

(deaths in first year of life/1,000 live births)



Source: OECD, 1997.

that HMOs or insurance companies refused to cover necessary medical procedures.

We will also report on the campaign which you will be carrying out, to get this Nazi policy banned. So, be sure you are registered to vote, and use the list of Congressmen you will find below to begin this campaign now. As LaRouche said: Your life may depend on it!

The Proposed 'Right to High-Quality Health Care Act'

Declaration of Purpose

The purpose of this legislation is: a) to affirmatively establish the right of every person to the highest quality health care available; b) to abolish Health Maintenance Organizations, Managed Care Organizations, and the practice of managed care by health insurers; and c) to re-assert the principles of the Hill-Burton Act (42 U.S.C. Section 291 et seq.) as the primary policy governing U.S. health policy.

This Act is necessitated by the immediate crisis in the health conditions in the United States, where millions of citizens are denied access to necessary health care services due to the financial practices of Health Maintenance Organizations, Managed Care Organizations, the practice of managed care by health insurers, and the lack of adequate medical facilities in many communities in the country. This has created a health care emergency in the United States.

Under the Preamble to the United States Constitution, the Federal Government is required to "promote the general welfare," thus necessitating immediate action by the Federal Government to address this health care emergency.

The lack of access to adequate health care, and the practices of the Health Maintenance Organizations and Managed Care Organizations, are in violation of Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations, and Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, which establish the universal right to adequate health care, and require governments to take steps to assure access to quality medical care. The United States is a signatory to these declarations and covenants.

The practice of denying needed medical treatment to certain persons in order to cause their death, was prosecuted as a crime against humanity by the United States in the post-World War II Nuremberg Tribunals.

Section 1

A. It is hereby established and affirmed that every person has a right to the highest quality health care available.

B. Any practices by health insurers, that deny any person the right to the highest quality health care available, for financial, or any other reasons, are hereby prohibited.

Section 2

A. 42 U.S.C. Section 300e, et seq., providing for the establishment and operation of Health Maintenance Organizations, is hereby repealed.

B. It shall be unlawful to operate a Health Maintenance Organization, Managed Care Organization, or any health insurance program that practices managed care, or seeks to control costs by limiting necessary health care services provided to patients.

Section 3

A. It is hereby re-affirmed that the provisions of the Hill-Burton Act, 42 U.S.C. 291 et seq., are the governing principles for U.S. health care policy.

It Can Happen Here!

The following is a memo in support of the Right to High-Quality Health Care Act:

To calm the credulous, in the wake of the latest round of crashes on the world financial markets, U.S. administration officials, such as Treasury Secretary Larry Summers, loudly proclaimed, “The fundamentals of the economy are sound.” Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, the fundamentals are very sick, weakened by more than 30 years of deregulation, de-industrialization, globalization, and privatization, that have left the U.S. economy a shadow of its former self.

Just look at the state of health care in the United States. Currently, millions of Americans are without access to adequate health care, either because they have no health insurance, are enrolled in a managed care plan that denies or delays medical care on the basis of cost, or, even if they are financially able to pay for whatever medical care they need, their local communities lack the adequate facilities through which to deliver the care. Consequently, millions of Americans routinely die or are injured, as the result of a lack of adequate medical care. Meanwhile, the health maintenance organizations (HMOs) suck millions of dollars out of the health system, to feed the income streams that fuel the speculative bubble on Wall Street. Like predatory sharks, HMOs have created enclaves of death in the United States, where the poor, disabled, elderly, and uninsured are sacrificed on the altar of shareholder values. The present looting of the U.S. health care system by the HMOs, is comparable only to the policy of eliminating “useless eaters,” carried out by Hitler’s Nazi regime.

This state of affairs is, in fact, a sharp deterioration from conditions that existed in the U.S. health care system under the guidance of the Hill-Burton Act of 1946, under which most Americans had access to high-quality medical care, whether they could afford it or not. Congress passed the Hill-Burton Act, consistent with the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution, which establishes the promotion of the “General Welfare,” as a purpose of the Federal Government. The Act provided for Federal and state cooperation, to establish the minimum standards for health care infrastructure, required to maintain the general health of the U.S. population. The Act also established a right to receive adequate health care, regardless of the ability to pay. The Act reflected a general commitment on the part of the U.S. government and citizens to the U.S. Constitution’s “General Welfare” clause.

In the name of the “New Economy,” the high-quality health care achieved under Hill-Burton has been replaced with the Nazi-like death policies of managed care. If the fundamentals are so sound, how come America can no longer afford the high-quality health care it once had? If the fundamentals are so sound, how come HMOs routinely deny or delay needed medical treatments, in order to save money and cut costs? If the fundamentals are so sound, how come you or your relative might die for want of medical treatment, because your local hospital has been downsized in order to make ends meet? If the fundamentals are so sound, how come you receive primary care from medical technicians, because the hospital can’t afford to pay living wages to nurses or doctors?

In earlier times, Americans would have called these policies crimes against humanity. After World War II, Americans often said, “Never Again,” and, “It Can’t Happen Here.” Yet it is happening here. A holocaust is ongoing in the United States, where millions of Americans, especially the poor, elderly, and disabled, are routinely sacrificed for financial considerations, under the practice of managed care. The only solution is to outlaw HMOs and managed care, re-assert our commitment to the U.S. Constitution’s “General Welfare” clause, and go back to the system that once worked: the Hill-Burton Act.

Some might say, “But we can’t afford it.” Well, if we can’t afford today, what we once afforded in previous times, maybe the fundamentals aren’t so sound, after all.

How It Happened Here

On Aug. 15, 1971, President Nixon pulled the plug on the Bretton Woods monetary system, which led to the creation of an international financial bubble, inflated to this day, by the successive measures of Federal Reserve Board chairmen Paul Volcker and Alan Greenspan. This hyperinflationary bubble was not, in reality, fueled by the funny-money that Volcker and Greenspan printed, nor by the sundry other varieties of financial paper that have achieved currency. In truth, the bubble was fed, in the same way that Nazi Economics Minister



A renal dialysis patient confers with his physician, prior to the takeover of American health care by the HMOs. Today, under the “managed care” regime, life-and-death decisions are no longer made by the doctor, but by bureaucrats who are sacrificing patients on the altar of “shareholder values.”

Hjalmar Schacht fed the Morgan/Harriman financial interests of George W. Bush’s grandfather, Prescott Bush—with human blood.

The collapse of the Bretton Woods system triggered an acceleration of the then-ongoing collapse of America’s industrial and agricultural production, and the shift of the U.S. economy into a non-productive, parasitical service economy, euphemistically called today, the “New Economy.” As the once highly productive agro-industrial economy collapsed, America became poorer. As America became poorer, it relied increasingly on slave labor and looting the standard of living of the population, to survive.

Exemplary is the case of the U.S. health care system, which was looted by the take-down of the Hill-Burton Act, and its replacement with the practice of managed care and HMOs. The contrast couldn’t be clearer. Under Hill-Burton, America established the minimum requirements for a health care system, necessary to promote the general welfare. The costs of that health system were provided by increasing production of the agro-industrial economy. Today’s “New Economy” cannot support the necessary health system required by the U.S. Constitution. Consequently, HMOs and managed care loot the health care system to feed the hopelessly bankrupt bubble. The result: People die!

Hitler would have loved the HMOs.

There was a time when we had no HMOs. In fact, HMOs were established in 1973 by an act of Congress, only after the collapse of the Bretton Woods system. Over the course of the 1970s and 1980s, as the financial bubble grew, Congress gave

more and more support to HMOs, until, like a Molloch, HMOs and the practice of managed care came to dominate the health care system, siphoning billions of dollars from medical treatment, into the growing hyperinflationary bubble.

Hitler would have loved the HMOs.

Today, needed medical care is routinely denied or delayed, by accountants and financial managers of HMOs, who make life-and-death decisions about medical care, based solely on cost management considerations. Horror stories abound, about how HMOs and the practice of managed care, are causing death and injury, in the name of keeping costs down.

Hitler would have loved HMOs.

The brunt of the suffering is borne by the weakest members of

society—the poor, the elderly, and the disabled. According to a study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, elderly, poor, and chronically ill patients had worse physical outcomes when treated under managed care and HMOs. The HMOs have eliminated more “useless eaters” than the Nazis ever dreamed of killing.

Hitler would have loved the HMOs.

Whole sections of America’s health infrastructure have been devastated by the cost-cutting policies of managed care and HMOs. Hospitals around the country have been downsized, or driven into bankruptcy, because HMOs refuse to pay their bills. This affects everyone. Even if your insurer is not an HMO, your local hospital has been looted by them, and if you need care, it won’t be there. This way, the HMOs can kill people without even enrolling them in their plan.

Hitler would have loved the HMOs.

Even if Americans are getting sicker and dying because of HMO looting, the financial bubble is “healthy.” HMO profits are up, fueling the orgy of speculation on Wall Street.

Hitler would have loved the HMOs.

HMOs Violate International Law

In 1948, the United States, as a member of the United Nations General Assembly, adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Article 25 of that Declaration states, “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment-

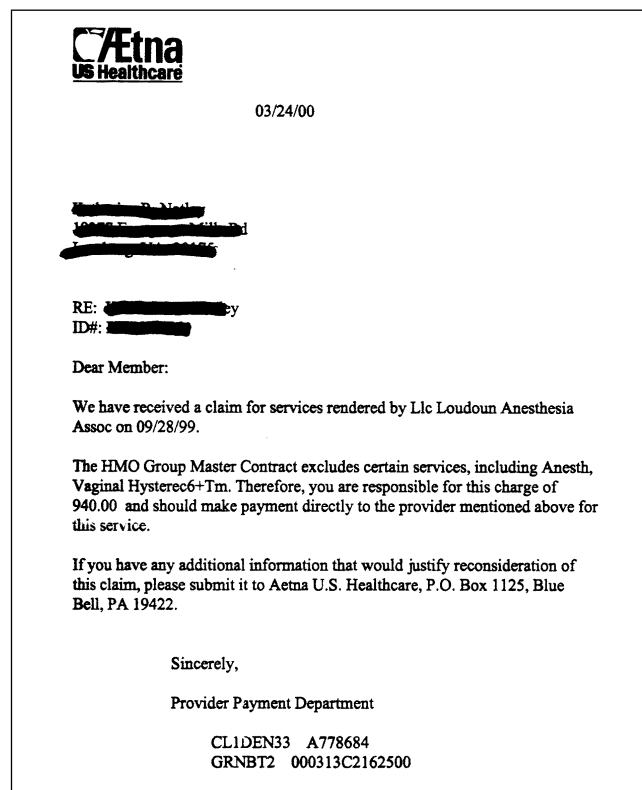
ment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age, or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.” In 1977, the United States signed the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, which, in Article 12, requires states to “Create conditions which would assure to all medical services and medical attention in the event of sickness.”

Furthermore, after World War II, the United States tried Nazi officials at Nuremberg, for denying medical care to what the Nazis deemed “useless eaters.” These practices were termed, “crimes against humanity.”

Under the current state of the U.S. health care system, especially the practices of the HMOs and managed care, the United States is in violation of both these international declarations and covenants, as well as the rulings of the Nuremberg Tribunal.

For these reasons, it is imperative that the U.S. Congress pass “The Right to High Quality Health Care Act,” which establishes the right to the highest quality health care available to every person, abolishes the practice of managed care, and re-affirms the principles of the Hill-Burton Act, as the governing framework for U.S. health care policy.

Any Congressman who does not support this legislation, should be driven from office.



An example of the murderous policies of HMOs: Six months after an HMO member had a hysterectomy, which her HMO had authorized, Aetna/US Healthcare informed her that anesthesia was not included in her benefits for such a surgical procedure.

How the Congress Voted

Below is a list of Republican Senators who protected HMOs and managed care companies and their human rights violations against Americans, by voting against the Bipartisan Patients’ Bill of Rights (S. 6) in July 1999:

Abraham (Mich.); Allard (Colo.); Ashcroft (Mo.); Bennett (Utah); Bond (Mo.); Brownback (Kan.); Bunning (Ky.); Burns (Mont.); Campbell (Colo.); Cochran (Miss.); Collins (Me.); Coverdell (Ga.); Craig (Id.); Crapo (Id.); DeWine (Ohio); Domenici (N.M.); Enzi (Wyo.); Frist (Tenn.); Gorton (Wash.); Gramm (Tex.); Grams (Minn.); Grassley (Iowa); Gregg (N.H.); Hagel (Neb.); Hatch (Utah); Helms (N.C.); Hutchinson (Ark.); Hutchison (Tex.); Inhofe (Okla.); Jeffords (Vt.); Kyl (Ariz.); Lott (Miss.); Lugar (Ind.); Mack (Fla.); McCain (Ariz.); McConnell (Ky.); Murkowski (Ak.); Nickles (Okla.); Roberts (Kan.); Roth (Del.); Santorum (Pa.); Sessions (Ala.); Shelby (Ala.); Smith (N.H.); Smith (Oreg.); Snowe (Me.); Specter (Pa.); Stevens (Ak.); Thomas (Wyo.); Thompson (Tenn.); Thurmond (S.C.); Voinovich (Ohio); Warner (Va.).

The House Vote

For five years, the House Republican leadership has opposed any true HMO patient protections, and has refused to allow even a single subcommittee vote on the Bipartisan Patients’ Bill of Rights—despite national support from patients, physicians, hospitals, advocacy groups, and employers. House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) used every trick that House Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-Tex.) handed him, to defeat the bill in the House. When it became clear that a bipartisan majority was forming in the House that would pass the bill, Hastert brought up several bills which would allegedly expand assistance to the uninsured, but in fact would allow proliferation of plans which would skirt the protections in the Patients’ Bill of Rights. On Oct. 7, 1999, the Patients’ Bill of Rights, renamed the Bipartisan Consensus Managed Care Improvement Act (H.R. 2723), was passed 275-151 as an amendment to the GOP “Uninsured Help” or “Affordable Health” bill, H.R. 2990.

The full list of those who voted *against* patients’ rights, and to continue murderous managed care policies, follows. They are Republicans unless otherwise indicated:

Aderholt (Hi.); Archer (Tex.); Armey (Tex.); Baker (La.); Ballenger (N.C.); Barrett (Neb.); Bartlett (Md.); Barton (Tex.); Bass (N.H.); Bereuter (Neb.); Biggert (Ill.); Bliley (Va.); Blunt (Mo.); Boehner (Ohio); Bonilla (Tex.); Bryant (Tenn.); Burr (N.C.); Burton (Ind.); Buyer (Ind.); Calvert (Calif.); Camp (Mich.); Campbell (Calif.); Chabot (Ohio); Chenoweth-Hage (Id.); Collins (Ga.); Combest (Tex.); Cox (Calif.); Crane (Ill.); Cubin (Wyo.); Cunningham (Calif.); Deal

(Ga.); DeLay (Tex.); DeMint (S.C.); Dickey (Ark.); Doolittle (Calif.); Dreier (Calif.); Dunn (Wash.); Ehlers (Mich.); Ehrlich (Md.); Emerson (Mo.); English (Pa.); Everett (Ala.); Ewing (Ill.); Fletcher (Ky.); Fossella (N.Y.); Fowler (Fla.); Gekas (Pa.); Gillmor (Ohio); Goode (D-Va.); Goodlatte (Va.); Goodling (Pa.); Goss (Fla.); Green (Wisc.); Gutknecht (Minn.); Hansen (Utah); Hastert (Ill.); Hastings (Wash.); Hayes (N.C.); Hayworth (Ariz.); Herger (Calif.); Hill (Mont.); Hilleary (Tenn.); Hobson (Ohio); Hoekstra (Mich.); Hostettler (Ind.); Houghton (N.Y.); Hutchinson (Ark.); Isakson (Ga.); Istook (Okla.); Johnson (Conn.); Johnson, Sam (Tex.); Kasich (Ohio); Kingston (Ga.); Knollenberg (Mich.); Kolbe (Ariz.); Kuykendall (Calif.); LaHood (Ill.); Largent (Okla.); Latham (Iowa); Lazio (N.Y.); Lewis (Calif.); Lewis (Ky.); Linder (Ga.); Lucas (Okla.); Manzullo (Ill.); McCrery (La.); McInnis (Colo.); McIntosh (Ind.); McKeon (Calif.); Metcalf (Wash.); Mica (Fla.); Miller (Fla.); Miller, Gary (Calif.); Myrick (N.C.); Nethercutt (Wash.); Ney (Ohio); Northup (Ky.); Nussle (Iowa); Ose (Calif.); Oxley (Ohio); Packard (Calif.); Paul (Tex.); Regula (Ohio); Riley (Ala.); Rogan (Calif.); Rogers (Ky.); Rohrabacher (Calif.); Royce (Calif.); Ryan (Wisc.); Ryun (Kan.); Salmon (Ariz.); Sanford (S.C.); Schaffer (Colo.); Sensenbrenner (Wisc.); Shadegg (Ariz.); Shimkus (Ill.); Simpson (Id.); Skeen (N.M.); Smith (Mich.); Smith (Tex.); Souder (Ind.); Stearns (Fla.); Stump (Ariz.); Sununu (N.H.); Talent (Mo.); Tancredo (Colo.); Tauzin (La.); Taylor (N.C.); Terry (Neb.); Thomas (Calif.); Thune (S.D.); Tiahrt (Kan.); Toomey (Pa.); Upton (Mich.); Walden (Oreg.); Watkins (Okla.); Watts (Okla.); Weller (Ill.); Whitfield (Ky.); Wicker (Miss.); Young (Ak.).

Not Voting on H.R. 2723 were:

Clyburn (D-S.C.); Granger (R-Tex.); Hulshof (R-Mo.); Kaptur (D-Ohio); Portman (R-Ohio); Sabo (D-Minn.); Scarborough (R-Fla.); Shuster (R-Pa.).

Conference Committee

Now, the House version, a combination of the Bipartisan Consensus Managed Care Improvement Act (H.R. 2723) and H.R. 2990, and the Senate version, S. 1344, the Republican-passed bill that *broadens the rights of HMOs*, have been to conference. So far, nothing conclusive has emerged from the conference committee.

Traditionally, conference committee members are chosen from the committees of jurisdiction, and may include other members who were instrumental in crafting the bill at issue. Hastert ignored this in his Nov. 3 appointments to the committee. Of the 14 Republican members he appointed, 13 opposed the Bipartisan Patients' Bill of Rights. Norwood (R-Ga.), Ganske (R-Iowa), and Coburn (R-Okla.), all members of the Commerce Committee's Health subcommittee, and all instrumental in drafting the Bipartisan Consensus bill, were all excluded from the conference committee.

Other House Republican conferees are: Bill Archer (Tex.); Michael Bilirakis (Fla.); Tom Bliley (Va.); John A. Boehner (Ohio); Dan Burton (Ind.); Ernie Fletcher (Ky.); Por-

ter Goss (Fla.); Nancy L. Johnson (Conn.); Joe Scarborough (Fla.); John Shadegg (Ariz.); Jim Talent (Mo.); and Bill Thomas (Calif.). The House Democratic conferees are: John Dingell (Mich.); Marion Berry (Ak.); William L. Clay (Mo.); Robert Andrews (N.J.); Frank Pallone (N.J.); Charles Rangel (N.Y.); Pete Stark (Calif.); and Henry Waxman (Calif.).

The Senate Republican conferees are: James Jeffords (Vt.); William Frist (Tenn.); Tim Hutchinson (Ark.); Don Nickles (Okla.); Phil Gramm (Tex.); Mike Enzi (Wyo.); and Judd Gregg (N.H.). The Senate Democratic conferees are Edward Kennedy (Mass.); Christopher Dodd (Conn.); Tom Harkin (Iowa); Barbara Mikulski (Md.); and John Rockefeller (W.V.).

The Hill-Burton Act

The Hill-Burton Act became law on Aug. 13, 1946, as Public Law 725. The official title is, "Hospital Survey and Construction Act," and the document is nine pages in length. The chief sponsor was Sen. Lister Hill (D-Ala.). The act was an amendment to the Public Health Service Act, which authorized grants to the states for surveying their hospitals and public health centers and for planning construction of additional facilities, and it authorized grants to assist in such construction. The law was extended in several subsequent acts of Congress.

The following are excerpts from 42 U.S.C. 291 et seq., which are, at present, incorporated into current U.S. law by the Hill-Burton Act.

291. Declaration of Purpose

The purpose of this title is

(a) to assist the several States in the carrying out of their programs for the construction and modernization of such public or other nonprofit community hospitals and other medical facilities as may be necessary, in conjunction with existing facilities, to furnish adequate hospital, clinic, or similar services to all their people;

(b) to stimulate the development of new or improved types of physical facilities for medical, diagnostic, preventive, treatment, or rehabilitative services; and

(c) to promote research, experiments, and demonstrations relating to the effective development and utilization of hospital, clinic, or similar services, facilities, and resources, and to promote the coordination of such research, experiments, and demonstrations and the useful application of their results.

291c. General Regulations

The Surgeon General, with the approval of the Federal Hospital Council and the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, shall by general regulations prescribe

(a) Priority of projects. The general manner in which the State agency shall determine the priority of projects based on

the relative need of different areas lacking adequate facilities of various types for which assistance is available under this part, giving special consideration

(1) in case of projects for the construction of hospitals, to facilities serving areas with relatively small financial resources and, at the option of the State, rural communities;

(2) in the case of projects for the construction of rehabilitation facilities, to facilities operated in connection with a university teaching hospital which will provide an integrated program of medical, psychological, social, and vocational evaluation and services under competent supervision;

(3) in the case of projects for modernization of facilities, to facilities serving densely populated areas;

(4) in the case of projects for construction or modernization of outpatient facilities, to any outpatient facility that will be located in, and provide services for residents of, an area determined by the Secretary to be a rural or urban poverty area;

(5) to projects for facilities which, alone or in conjunction with other facilities, will provide comprehensive health care, including outpatient and preventive care as well as hospitalization;

(6) to facilities which will provide training in health or allied health professions; and

(7) to facilities which will provide to a significant extent, for the treatment of alcoholism;

(b) Standards of construction and equipment, general standards of construction and equipment for facilities of different classes and in different types of location, for which assistance is available under this part.

(c) Criteria for determining needs. Criteria for determining needs for general hospital and long-term care bed, and needs for hospitals and other facilities for which aid under this part is available, and for developing plans for the distribution of such beds and facilities;

(c) Modernization, criteria for determining the extent to which existing facilities, for which aid under this part is available, are in need of modernization; and

(e) State plan requirements. That the State plan shall provide for adequate hospitals, and other facilities for which aid under this part is available, for all persons residing in the State, and adequate hospitals (and such other facilities) to furnish needed services for persons unable to pay therefor. Such regulations may also require that before approval of an application for a project is recommended by a State agency to the Surgeon General for approval under this part assurance shall be received by the State from the applicant that (1) the facility or portion thereof to be constructed or modernized will be made available to all persons residing in the territorial area of the applicant; and (2) there will be made available in the facility or portion thereof to be constructed or modernized a reasonable volume of services to persons unable to pay therefor, but an exception shall be made if such requirement is not feasible from a financial viewpoint.

German Rail Derailed by Privatization

by Rainer Apel

The famous times when one could set one's clock by the trains in Germany, which used to run on schedule down to the precise second, are definitely over. The new summer train schedule, beginning at the end of May, will be one that very few German trains will be able to keep. Delays, cancellations, and accidents are becoming the daily norm for passengers—resembling the situation in Britain, where a train ride almost always is an adventure.

In Britain, the leading protagonists of rail privatization are those whose train service is the worst. Sir Richard Branson, for example, one of the closest personal friends of “New Labour” Prime Minister Tony Blair, owns Virgin Trains, which holds the dubious record of having the most delayed or cancelled high-speed trains in the entire nation.

“High-speed trains” in Britain operate at speeds of 120-140 kilometers per hour (kph), which is the technological standard that continental (state-owned) European railway companies had in the late 1970s. Branson would not invest in electrification of the outdated lines, to equip them for modern high-speed trains, that run at 240-280 kph, as they are now in use on the European continent. Branson wants to purchase Canadian trains powered by gas turbines, that operate at speeds of 160 kph.

Branson is but a small scoundrel to blame—the real culprits are those who decided, during Margaret Thatcher's reign, not to invest in the lines as such, nor to electrify them, nor to invest in rolling stock or signals technologies. When Thatcher took office in 1979, rail privatization became a top item on her agenda, and in the late 1990s, rail investments were reduced to one-third what continental European railways invested. Railtrack, the privatized company that runs the lines and signals infrastructure in Britain, published a memorandum that called for £52 billion (roughly \$75 billion) to be invested over the next 12 years, which would bring the British system up to the levels of the continental European railways today.

Privatization comes to the continent

On the continent, the privatization drive has also hit the state-owned railway systems. All European Union (EU) member governments approved the European Commission's 1991 guideline 91/440, which had the ambitious target of decoupling the control of the lines from the control of the rolling stock, and, after ten years, fully privatizing the rail-



Construction of a tunnel for the ICE high-speed train in Nidenhausen, Germany.

ways, relieving the state of the “burden” and leaving rail travel to the mercy of the private capital markets. In 1995, that guideline was revised, so that its target would be met by 2005.

The German government, it seems, wants to be in the forefront of those that meet the EU guideline within the present time frame. Surprisingly, the radical ecologist “red-green” government of Social Democrats and Greens, that took power in October 1998, wants to outdo the former conservative-liberal government. The appointment of Helmut Mehdorn as chairman of the Deutsche Bundesbahn (DB) German railway in December 1999, was to ensure that the transformation of the state-owned railway company into a fully privatized operation, which could issue shares on the stock market, by the year 2005 at the latest, would be accelerated.

Mehdorn forged ahead with inflammatory statements, to the effect that in order to cut losses, he would have to fire one-third of the workforce, close down or sell off 25% of the lines, and cut Christmas and other benefits as well as shortening the work-week and cutting paid leave. By late March, this created a conflict with the three labor unions in the rail sector, which threatened to provoke the biggest rail strike since the end of World War II. That strike was called off at the last minute, with an agreement to work out a compromise formula over the next two months, and with Mehdorn’s “concession,” to eliminate only 36,000, instead of the originally planned 70,000 jobs.

But, Mehdorn would not discuss the substance of the privatization strategy, as he and the government had agreed. Thus, when the negotiating period expires in late May, the nation might again be faced with a rail strike, because it is not

clear what compromise would be acceptable to the trade unions — not to mention the millions of German passengers who depend on a functioning rail structure.

The Bookkeeping Debt

One of the decisive catalysts for the government’s decision to accelerate the rail privatization, has been the “need” to consolidate the railway debt. But only a minor portion of that debt originated from revenue losses caused by a decline in cargo volumes transported by DB; a major portion of the debt of 70 billion deutsche-marks (a little more than \$40 billion), is that which the government took over in 1994, at the beginning of phase one of the “railway reform,” originally incurred by the East German state,

before German reunification in 1990. That bookkeeping debt was turned into “real debt” by a conservative-liberal government under Chancellor Helmut Kohl, which subscribed to the neo-liberal ideology and viewed any cancellation of debt (real or unreal) as an assault on one of the “fundamentals” of the free market, supposedly the bedrock of the free Western world.

Consolidating that debt, implied lowering investments into the rail system, and selling off railway property wherever it was not immediately needed. This followed the privatization model of British Rail, and the policy was continued by the red-green government under Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, who replaced Kohl in the autumn of 1998. The new government increased the pressure on Deutsche Bundesbahn, with the introduction of an ecology tax in April 1999 — which alone added an extra tax burden of DM 400 million on the company, for the nine months it was in effect last year. Losses in passenger revenue of another DM 170 million led Mehdorn to cancel investments in German high-speed train technology, and to announce, in early April, that beginning in the year 2010, all trains made in Germany would be replaced by those produced on the basis of the French high-speed train system TGV.

Already in January, Mehdorn and his management team at DB had announced that the original plans to build a maglev rail connection between Germany’s two biggest cities, Hamburg and Berlin, would be dropped. Without DB’s involvement, the government would not build the line; thus, the project was abruptly buried, with no alternative on the horizon. The future of Germany’s rail system seems to be what many British passengers have already experienced: waiting for a train that never arrives.

Euro Currency Is Being Trashed in Order To Prop Up Wall Street

by Lothar Komp

EIR has documented the birth defects of Europe's new artificial, supranational currency, the euro, often enough over the past months. But the current monetary crisis which is now storming over Europe, has nothing whatsoever to do with the problems of the euro per se. Indications are accumulating that a calculated Anglo-American financial assault is under way, with the sole aim of diverting investors' capital from Europe into the U.S. stock markets, since that might be the only way to avoid a financial crash in the midst of the Presidential election campaign. This kind of cannibalistic maneuver is typical of the last phase of the collapsing world financial system.

On April 19, the U.S. Commerce Department published new and shocking figures on the U.S. trade deficit. While the deficit had already reached a historic record level of \$27.4 billion in January, it increased again in February to \$29.2 billion. Pure commodity trade, without counting services, was \$36.0 billion in the red in February, 42% more than a year before. With imports rising unchecked to \$113.4 billion in February, U.S. exports are dropping, especially in the categories of civilian aircraft, telecommunications equipment, and machinery. The U.S. trade deficit exploded in 1999 by 60% to \$268 billion, and in pure commodity trading, the deficit was even \$347 billion. In all likelihood, the year 2000 will yield a deficit which far outstrips that.

According to the usual textbook thinking, the publication of such figures is associated with a predictable effect on foreign exchange markets, namely, it exerts downward pressure on the national currency. But something miraculous happened on April 19: Instead of falling, the dollar shot up to a new record peak against the euro. The euro went into a tailspin with respect to the dollar, the yen, and the pound sterling, and the dive accelerated during the following days. In the week after Easter, the euro was positioned at 21% below its dollar value at the beginning of 1999. With the fixed exchange rate of the euro and the German *deutsche-mark*, the latter plunged to its lowest level in 14 years to the dollar and British pound. With respect to the yen, the euro lost 26% since the beginning of 1999, although the Japanese economy is officially said to be in recession, and

has just gone through two quarters of negative growth. On April 27, the European Central Bank hiked its interest rates by a quarter percent, but the euro plunged again immediately following that announcement.

In the meantime, western Europe is in the worst monetary crisis since the events of the fall of 1992 and summer 1993. At that time, international currency speculators conducted a weeks-long currency war against Europe and burst the European Monetary System (EMS), which had been holding together successfully up to that point. Leading the pack of international speculators was British agent of influence George Soros, a portfolio manager for Queen Elizabeth II. The City of London itself steered the assault against the British pound sterling and the Italian lira, in order to wreck the EMS, and to begin the destruction of Italy's postwar political and economic institutions. (See article in this issue, p. 54.) Since the finance ministers and the heads of the central banks only considered, but did not implement, controls on capital transactions, they had nothing with which to counter the immense war-chest and leverage of the financial derivatives which the speculators were deploying against them. When a series of interventions on the exchange markets, in sums of two-digit billions, proved ineffectual, Britain and Italy left the monetary union, the margin of allowed exchange deviations for all the remaining member countries was drastically enlarged, and a process of replacing national currencies with the euro was set into full swing, in line with the Maastricht Treaty.

Today, however, currency speculators have set their sights on the euro itself. Bankers, finance ministers, and the economic media concede rather openly that they are "very surprised" by this development, or, as the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* put it, that the "exchange-rate weakness of the euro cannot be satisfactorily explained with the usual rationale." And in fact, the recent collapse of the euro has nothing whatsoever to do with economic prospects or "slow reforms" in Europe. Even the inherent problems of the artificial euro currency currently play at best a secondary role. Instead, the easily incited gaggle of speculative funds and exchange traders, who behave like animals, following their

herd instincts, are once again functioning as useful instruments for special, geopolitically motivated operations.

Financial triage

But this time, what is at stake is not some shenanigans on some proxy battlefield of the world economy, such as in 1992-93 in Europe or in 1997-98 in Southeast Asia. This time, the whole kitty is at stake: the short-term rescue of the largest speculative bubble in human history, which, if it pops, could bury the entire world financial system under the ruins of its collapse. In an attempt to postpone that cataclysm, no matter what the cost, at least until the end of the U.S. Presidential campaign, the crisis managers — with U.S. Treasury Secretary Larry Summers and Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan leading the pack — are pursuing a policy of cannibalistic destruction within the world financial system. And Europe's currencies have to be beaten to a bloody pulp.

What both sides are choosing to overlook, is that there does exist a sane solution to this crisis: the New Bretton Woods reorganization of the bankrupt financial and monetary system, which Lyndon LaRouche has proposed. That would mean putting the speculators out of business, shutting down the enormous financial derivatives market, and restoring fixed parities among currencies. It would also mean shifting the resources of sovereign national banking systems toward industrial and agricultural production, and the development of infrastructure. This, the central bankers, and the financier oligarchy generally, are rejecting.

In order to survive, in the current insane speculative mode, the U.S. economy and the U.S. stock markets need a continuous flow of fresh capital from abroad, and the volume of flow that is needed can be gleaned from the record high U.S. current account deficit: \$336 billion last year. Last year alone, a net \$150 billion left Europe for the United States. The maintenance of this flow of capital from Europe and Asia requires that alternative investment opportunities in other parts of the world be undermined. The U.S. government has thus exerted immense pressure on the government of Japan, to continue its zero interest rate policy introduced in the summer of 1995, despite the fact that the ostensible purpose of Japan's policy — stimulation of domestic demand — has not shown the slightest hint of success. The dramatic events on the financial markets since mid-March made another expansion of the flow of foreign capital to the United States necessary, so there is hardly anything more obvious than a speculative assault on the already weakened euro to achieve that desired effect.

The most recent drop of the euro to the dollar, the pound, and the yen began immediately following the spring meetings of the Group of Seven, International Monetary Fund (IMF), and World Bank, together with finance ministers and heads of central banks, on April 15-16 in Washington. Just prior to that meeting, the U.S. Nasdaq new-technologies market went through the worst collapse in its history, losing one-fourth of

its market value within five trading days, from the April 10-14. Over the same week, \$2 trillion of U.S. market capitalization disappeared. Topping it all off, was an avalanche of margin calls and forced selloffs of stocks bought on credit. Fear of a "Black Monday" on April 17 dominated all the reports in the weekend media.

The assembled finance ministers and heads of central banks in Washington put on a public show of unity and confidence. But, as the German edition of the *Financial Times* reported on April 17, there was a bitter altercation over a proposal made by Larry Summers to emphasize the euro's weakness in the G-7 final communiqué. "U.S. Treasury Secretary Larry Summers had insisted in vain already in Tokyo, that the weakness of the euro should be cited as an indication for fundamental imbalances in the world economy. The three G-7 members, Germany, France, and Italy, rejected that proposal, and pointed to the inner strength of the common currency. In their view, mention of the euro in the communiqué would be tantamount to admitting that there were problems with the new currency."

The following week, it was chiefly London and Wall Street funds and exchange traders who began the attacks on the euro, which then, within a few days, dropped from 96 cents to 91 cents. Continental European diplomats as well as financial experts in London, asserted to *EIR* that it is an open secret on the markets that the current punitive action against the euro is actually a desperate "charm offensive" on behalf of the dollar, because the battered U.S. stock market urgently needed new liquidity. The hypothesis was being raised, that certain London-directed, U.S.-linked central banks, including those of Britain, Canada, Australia, and several Latin American countries, could be directly involved in the operation, spearheading the assault on the euro.

Norbert Walter, the chief economist of Deutsche Bank provided a taste of the anger in west European financial circles. On April 26, he said the Europeans ought to take a stance of threatening the U.S. — meaning Larry Summers — and "pushing through the relocation of the IMF from Washington to Paris," or else using the \$250 billion obsolete currency reserves of European central banks to make an impression "on international speculators." Echoing Walter, the chief economist of HypoVereinsbank, Martin Hoefler, said the time had come for a political intervention, because the situation had deteriorated into a "real crisis of the exchange markets."

In France, fears are spreading about a possible wave of bankruptcies in the banking sector, because the French are highly exposed in euro investments, and can not handle another drop of the euro. But now, even these problems are considered peripheral.

The mutual slaughter of the operators on the financial markets highlights the fact that the final phase of the systemic collapse of the world monetary and financial system has begun.

Asia Begins New Arrangements for the Coming Dollar Crash

by Kathy Wolfe

The April 10 announcement that North and South Korea will hold a heads of state “Reunification Summit” in Pyongyang on June 12-14, is part of a broader move by China, Japan, the Koreans, and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), faced with the coming crash of the U.S. dollar-based global financial casino, to create new arrangements for their nations. The joint statement by Seoul and Pyongyang, calling for an “end to the Cold War structure of confrontation,” was encouraged by Beijing, which provided the venue for negotiations. It was followed by two successful meetings in the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), on April 22 and 27, the first on Korean soil since 1994.

The Inter-Korean summit focus will be a drive to rebuild the infrastructure of the North, Yonhap News and other Korean press report. South Korean President Kim Dae-jung on April 14 announced plans to issue more than \$1 billion in “unification bonds” for large rail, road, power, and other projects, in the vein of *EIR*’s “Euro-Asian Land-Bridge” plan, widely circulated in Beijing and Seoul. Such a “great project” would not only jumpstart South Korea’s economy, but could also allow Kim Dae-jung to escape from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) austerity program, which has gutted his country since the global financial crisis broke out in Asia in 1997, one Korean official told *EIR*. Despite the popularity of the April 10 announcement, Kim had been shocked by his defeat in Seoul’s April 13 National Assembly election, as voters, with more than 50,000 auto workers on strike against rising unemployment, cast their ballots against the IMF.

Meanwhile, Asian officials may be creating groundwork for a bigger challenge to the IMF: a new fund modelled on the Asian Monetary Fund (AMF) proposed by former Japanese Vice Finance Minister Eisuke Sakakibara during the 1997 crisis. The Korean move follows the March 24-26 finance ministers summit of ASEAN plus Japan, South Korea, and China, or “ASEAN Plus 3,” in Brunei. In a March 26 statement, they announced plans to expand joint currency swaps into a larger “Asian reserve fund,” to protect Asian currencies against attack. ASEAN Deputy Secretary Suthad Setboonsarng, said in Brunei on March 25, that there was “over \$700 billion in international reserves” among the group. “We can use that to help each other.”

Federal Reserve Bank of New York President William McDonough quickly denounced the idea, saying that the

United States opposed Sakakibara in 1997, and continues to oppose any type of Asian facility that would undercut the IMF. “Will they [the IMF] fund us when we have problems?” Suthad retorted.

The Post-Dollar World

No matter how loudly the Fed and the U.S. Treasury scream, it has finally become obvious in Asia, especially following the April 17 “Black Monday” collapses of Asian stock markets after U.S. markets crashed the previous week, that the emperor has no clothes. Plans must be made to keep the region afloat when the U.S. and global dollar markets collapse, even if it means challenging the IMF.

“It is a fact that the dollar hedge system was behind the 1997 currency crisis,” Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told the Tokyo Diet’s (parliament) Lower House Budget Committee on April 25, the *Nikkei* daily wrote, reporting on a speech Miyazawa made to explain the Brunei Asian currency fund plan. Miyazawa “appears to be returning to the idea of a regional version of the IMF,” meaning the AMF, “after Tokyo’s plan for an Asian Monetary Fund was shot down by the U.S.” in 1997, the newspaper stated.

Miyazawa told the Diet that Japan plans to propose “a very large multilateral currency swap accord,” to include ASEAN, China, South Korea, and Japan, “to guard against future currency crises.” He will propose this at the follow-up to Brunei during the May 6-8 Asian Development Bank meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand. This would have to include wider use of Japan’s yen as a “safety net” against fluctuations by the dollar against other currencies, Miyazawa said. “We had been reluctant . . . about the yen’s internationalization. But . . . unlike in the past, we are positive now.”

“As a matter of fact, we are planning to expand swap and repurchase agreements between Japan and other countries,” Miyazawa told the Diet. “Through such things, I hope other countries will have a sense of affinity with the yen.” Miyazawa said that he planned to encourage other countries to use the yen more often this way. Currently, 60% of world foreign exchange is conducted in U.S. dollars, and 23% of it in European currencies, so that every time an Asian nation wants to import or export, it has to dump its own currency to buy dollars or European currencies in order to trade. The Japanese Finance Ministry hopes a region-wide swap network “could

develop into an Asian monetary fund," *Nikkei* reports.

Asian officials are refusing to use the term "Asian Monetary Fund," Japanese and Korean officials have told *EIR*, simply due to the furious U.S. opposition to any such challenge to the IMF. They are referring to the new fund only as a regional currency support facility. One official told Agence France Presse that ASEAN is taking the lead and down-playing Japan's role, "to try to cool Washington opposition to anything" that could be seen an alternative to the IMF.

A New Korean Future

South Korean President Kim Dae-Jung's visit to Pyongyang to meet North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il on June 12-14 is meanwhile being firmed up rapidly. Kim's plan to rebuild the North's infrastructure is the core of the summit, and it could become a way for South Korea to circumvent the IMF austerity program. Kim has to move fast, because his Millennium Democratic Party was beaten on April 13 by the opposition Grand National Party, which now has 133 seats, just four short of a majority in the 273-seat National Assembly.

Voters cited the economy as an overriding reason they went against Kim. "Many blamed the government for having to rely on the IMF," Dr. Kim Jong-nam of the Sejong Institute said on April 14. "Many people at the bottom don't feel improvements have trickled down."

After the election, President Kim issued a statement that he plans to pay more attention "to the economic needs of the people," and called for revising all security and budgetary laws which now prevent large-scale assistance to the North.

Seoul and Pyongyang made rapid strides during talks on April 22 and 27, as the South made it clear that economic support was its focus. North Korea in turn did not make any of the maximal demands it often makes, which have derailed past meetings, such as calling for the removal of U.S. troops from Korea. The Seoul press on April 27 was filled with photos of negotiators embracing each other. The meeting was "successful, making 80 miles of the 100 mile distance," South Korean Unification Minister Park Jae-Kyu said, "enough to sign an accord at the third meeting," which will be in the southern part of Panmunjom in the Korean DMZ on May 3.

In a move with immense emotional impact in the South, North Korea announced on April 26 that South Koreans can now, for the first time since the end of the Korean War in 1953, research the whereabouts of family members in North Korea, and send food, clothing, and money to them. Union Community, a Seoul Christian charity group, and Hanvit Bank said that they will start remittance operations for divided Korean families on May 2. South Koreans can apply to Union, which will contact Kumgangs International Group of North Korea to confirm whether the relatives are alive. The South Korean Unification Ministry for its part, then granted permission for South Koreans to send money to family members in North Korea, something which has been strictly forbidden under the South's security laws.

China at the Center

China has been the key player in the Korean developments, the one without which nothing of weight can be created in Asia. Now, Beijing has helped bring North and South Korea together, while also agreeing for the first time to discuss joining an Asian alternative to the IMF. China hosted three weeks of secret negotiations in Beijing between Seoul and Pyongyang starting on March 17, after years of support for direct inter-Korean negotiations, which have previously been carried out with Washington as the middleman. The Inter-Korean Summit agreement was signed in Beijing on April 8 by Seoul's Culture and Information Minister Park Jie-Won and vice-chairman of the North's Asian and Pacific Peace Committee Song Ho-Gyong. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhu Bangzao expressed "welcome and support" for the summit.

South Korean Foreign Affairs-Trade Minister Lee Jung-binn arrived in Beijing on April 26 for a three-day visit to request help in moving the Inter-Korean summit forward quickly, from his Chinese counterpart Tang Jiaxuan, *Yonhap* news reported. "Consultations over the unprecedented summit between President Kim Dae-jung and North Korean leader Kim Jong-il topped the agenda," they said. "Minister Tang pledged to make all possible efforts "to help the summit create momentum for a peace settlement on the Korean peninsula." Tang said that Li Peng, chairman of the standing committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, is set to visit Pyongyang in May, and will convey the peaceful intentions of Seoul's engagement policy to Pyongyang.

Similarly, without China's participation, any new Asian monetary fund could not effectively challenge the IMF global system. Numerous Japanese and Chinese diplomats have told *EIR* that China and Japan had found it difficult to agree on joint participation by the two countries when Sakakibara originally proposed the AMF in 1997, and that this was the real reason it did not then get off the ground. Japanese officials seem to think that China, which during 1997-98 was in intense negotiations to strengthen its friendship with President Bill Clinton, did not want to provoke the wrath of the U.S. Federal Reserve and Treasury Department just at that point. Many Chinese officials, for their part, did not believe Japan was ready to make a serious attempt to actually challenge the IMF. They also feared providing funds for a multilateral institution which might be run by Japan.

After China's full participation in the Brunei "ASEAN Plus 3" meeting, however, some Japanese officials believe that Beijing is now ready to move. Referring to the U.S. bombing of the Chinese Embassy, one official said, "The Belgrade event did not make the U.S. as popular in Beijing as previously. China is getting closer to working with Japan on the AMF. If the ASEAN Plus 3 group actually does set up an exchange stabilization fund in May, which China joins, then it's a big move. As the minister from Brunei mentioned at the meeting, 'It's not \$2 they are discussing.' "

Business Briefs

Health

Opioids Damage Immune System, Research Shows

Psychoactive drugs such as heroin, morphine, cocaine, and marijuana not only damage the immune system, but there is "strong experimental evidence" that they may actually be cofactors in the progression of infectious diseases, according to recent biomedical studies by several different research teams.

The April 17 issue of *Scientist* magazine reports that the new discoveries affect not only drug abusers, but also people who are hospitalized and have been given morphine or similar pain-killers. One researcher commented, "Our results were quite astounding. . . . We never expected to see results as powerful" as were found. Studies with mice showed that morphine sensitized them to *Salmonella* infection, sepsis, and other opportunistic microbes.

Some of the studies have focussed on marijuana's role in suppressing the immune system, in particular the suppression of the T-helper cells that are critical in regulating the ability to fight infection.

Great Britain

Social Gulf Has Grown under Tony Blair

A new report by Britain's National Bureau of Statistics documents that the social gulf between rich and poor has increased under Prime Minister Tony Blair. The report reveals that the uppermost income brackets of the population control 42% of the domestic income, whereas the lowermost brackets control barely 7%. The difference between the average highest-income and the average lowest-income strata is 13-fold: an annual income of £57,430, as compared to £4,520.

The figures are for the end of 1999, and they correspond to the highest social divide since the era of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, which ended ten years ago.

Mathew Taylor, financial policy spokesman for the Liberal Democrats, in comment-

ing on the report, said that Blair and his entourage of New Labourites like to pose as "Robin Hood, but in reality, they are acting like the Sheriff of Nottingham."

Russia

Gazprom Collections Bring Power Cuts

During the past month, blackouts have begun to occur across Russia, as the natural gas company, Gazprom, has been cutting off customers, among them the national electricity firm, UES, for non-payment. The stepped-up collections have intersected a decline of oil and gas production in Russia, due to the "lack of real investment in maintaining the necessary equipment," which is the longer-term problem threatening to cause blackouts, as reported by *EIR* from Russian sources on April 18.

One reason for Gazprom's stepped-up collections drive, is the continuing demand from the International Monetary Fund that large, tax-paying firms collect more revenues in cash. At the same time, Gazprom is experiencing "a very hard production crisis," as UES Chairman Anatoli Chubais said on April 7. (Chubais himself is one of the principal architects of Russia's financial catastrophe.)

On April 4, ORT TV reported that UES had switched off the electricity to whole towns and a number of factories, citing Gazprom's reduction of fuel deliveries to electric power plants by a factor of three. Because Gazprom is demanding immediate payment from UES, an official of the utility said, UES has been forced to "stimulate" its own debtors. Chubais said, the same day: "We shall still supply strategic facilities, but if the position of Gazprom remains the same, anything is possible. During the last year, we managed to increase the level of cash payments, including to Gazprom, from 15% to 56%."

On April 5, *Kommersant-daily* reported that Gazprom had threatened to reduce gas deliveries to the city of Moscow by one-third, due to the massive debt of the municipal public sector. Mayor Yuri Luzhkov proposed to pay 120 million rubles immediately, but Moscow's debt to Gazprom is 9.6

billion rubles, equivalent to a month's tax payments by Gazprom to the federal budget.

Tatarstan is experiencing a 14% reduction of gas supplied by Gazprom this year. In Vladivostok, the official heating season ended on April 10, two months early, because the local utility was out of fuel.

After public attacks by Chubais on Gazprom and on Fuel and Energy Minister Kauluzhny, Gazprom Chairman Rem Vyakhirev blasted Chubais, saying, "After these foolish statements, we have nothing to talk about. He has offended me. I have 40 years more experience in the fuel industry than this person. He is like a village fool on a pile of potatoes, unaware where it comes from."

President-elect Vladimir Putin rushed to Gazprom headquarters on April 7, to meet Vyakhirev and broker a compromise with UES, in the name of "state interests." What Chubais called a "partial compromise" was reached between him and Vyakhirev on April 11. Gazprom is to deliver 24.2 billion cubic meters of natural gas to UES during the second quarter, as against 26 billion requested by UES and 22 billion offered by Gazprom before. Chubais said the shortfall would mean cut-offs of electricity by UES to enterprises that don't pay their bills. A UES spokesman said that electricity would be reduced to Nizhny Novgorod (the third largest city in Russia), Samara, Yaroslavl, Kostromo, Tver, Tula, Volgograd, Rostov, Chuvashiya, Orenburg, and Sverdlovsk.

Meanwhile, Chubais has proceeded with preparations to dismember UES.

Asia

Experts Lay Out Plans for ASEAN Integration

A meeting of 55 "eminent persons" from the ten member-nations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, on April 1 in Manila, the capital of the Philippines, released a blueprint for the political, economic, and social integration of ASEAN, to be presented to the legislatures of the respective states, the Thai daily *The Nation* reported on April 1.

The proposal includes the following: A "United ASEAN" political center would be

set up on the Indonesian island of Singtep; and a central bank in Jakarta, Indonesia, and a common currency would be created. Yangon, Myanmar would serve as the headquarters for the Army; Hanoi, Vietnam, the Air Force; Manila, the Navy; and Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the police. Malaysia would be the center for communications and information technologies; Bangkok, Thailand, the transportation hub; Jakarta, foreign affairs, partly due to its role in the Non-Aligned Movement; and other similar divisions of labor.

The UN Human Rights declaration is to be followed, meaning the end of capital punishment. English is to be the common language. The three top candidates for "head of state" are from Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Economic Policy

'Washington Consensus' Panned by Stiglitz

"The successful developing countries do not follow the precepts of the 'Washington Consensus,'" said former World Bank chief economist Joseph Stiglitz, at a World Bank conference on development in Washington on April 18, the Malaysian daily *New Straits Times* reported on its website. He singled out China as a country which had not followed International Monetary Fund (IMF) or World Bank diktat, which is what the term "Washington Consensus" refers to.

Stiglitz, who resigned from the World Bank in January, said: "We know that many of the successful developing countries do not follow the precepts of the Washington Consensus. China is probably the most successful of the low-income countries, both in terms of growth and in terms of poverty reduction."

Stiglitz said that "recommendations" from the "international community" to developing nations need intense scrutiny, to find out why advisers were offering policies that they preferred, especially when they did not seem to work. "Reform cannot be imposed either from the outside or from the top down," he said. "The recent crisis in East Asia has reminded us that economic instabil-

ity may arise from a multitude of sources. Indeed, it is increasingly being recognized that some of the policies of the international financial agencies pushed in the name of promoting growth, increased economic volatility and insecurity."

Stiglitz said it had been wrong of the IMF, to tell Asian countries to rein in their spending, as the financial crisis hit in 1997. He also said that it was foolish of the IMF to impose free-market reforms on Russia, without first ensuring that the infrastructure was there to make sure that the reforms would work.

Eurasia

China, Turkey Seek To Revive the Silk Road

China's President Jiang Zemin said that China and Turkey "will work to revive the Silk Road," speaking in Ankara, on April 19. And, in a statement to *China Daily* as President Jiang arrived for a state visit, Turkey's President Suleyman Demirel called for reopening the ancient Silk Road between the Mediterranean and Xi'an, China.

A Turkish official said that several projects are planned, some have been agreed to, and others await further discussion. "There are major projects in transportation, such as the Kars-Tbilisi rail project. Its completion will be a crucial step for the revival of the Silk Road," he said. This railroad would link the Turkish city of Kars to the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, completing a section of an east-west rail link across Asia. Turkey also plans to restore an existing, but unused, rail tie to Iran.

Demirel said he had hopes for closer economic and commercial ties. "It is my sincere opinion that authorities of both countries should do their utmost to create suitable conditions and find ways and means for their respective businessmen with a view to expanding already existing relations," he said.

Jiang and Demirel signed three protocols aiming at improving political ties, and increasing trade and energy investments. Jiang said that China wants to increase annual imports from Turkey from \$40 million to \$300 million. Annual trade stands at \$900 million.

ISRAEL'S ministerial committee for the economy has decided to build a \$150 million desalination plant with a 50 million cubic meter annual capacity, with an option of doubling that figure. The Finance Ministry, which has been blocking the project, claiming that the best way to deal with shortages is through less consumption, particularly by increasing the price of water for agriculture, now has to issue the guidelines for a tender.

RUSSIA'S Federal Justice Ministry announced on April 20 that a new prison facility housing only inmates infected with HIV will open in Irkutsk Oblast, Siberia, ITAR-TASS reported. The only other prison housing only HIV-infected inmates is in Kaliningrad Oblast, another area with high rates of HIV infection.

MALNUTRITION among Indonesia's 3.5 million newborns and infants born in the last two years, is 30%, State Minister of Women's Empowerment Khofifah Indah Parawansa reported on April 18. Serious malnutrition has become prevalent since the onset of the economic crisis in the summer of 1997.

JAPAN'S Sumitomo Bank and Sakura Bank said on April 21 that they will accelerate their plans by a year to merge, to form the world's third largest bank. The merger will now take place on April 1, 2001; the new entity will have combined assets of \$936.3 billion.

MOLDOVA, after Parliament refused to approve the privatization of the state-run wine and tobacco industries, as demanded by the International Monetary Fund, has been hit with an IMF suspension of lending to the country. These two sectors bring in \$200 million a year, and are considered therefore "strategic."

SUDAN hosted the African Workshop on Machines and Equipment of Railways, on April 18-20. Standardizing materials and systems throughout the continent, and increasing productivity, were discussed.

Commission To Be Formed Against the ‘New Violence’

by Dennis Speed

EIR is in the process of publishing a series of ground-breaking articles by its founder, Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche, directed toward arming the American population with the conceptual weapons needed to successfully combat what LaRouche has termed the “New Violence.” As the global financial casino crumbles as spectacularly as did Roderick Usher’s house in the famous Edgar Allan Poe story, the financial “Wizards of Oz,” including their Wall Street subsidiary, “Oz.com,” exposed, have turned mean. A type of violence, most efficiently identified with the virus of computer-kill-simulation games used to brainwash police trainees, very young children, and adolescents, emerges, designed to drown any effective political resistance to the impending, and inevitable, collapse of the financial oligarchy’s house of (credit) cards into a sea of blood and Gore.

Speaking of Vice President Al Gore, who has just re-released his ecological Satanic Bible *Earth In the Balance*—sometimes referred to by those who have studied it carefully as “Earth, I’m Imbalanced!!”—it is in the policies of the eponymous candidate, and his media twin, George W. Bush, the “Texas Chainsaw Governor,” on health care and education, that we see the spirit of hate behind the eruption of the “New Violence.” Jeffrey Steinberg exposes, in his contribution to this *Feature*, the roots of Al “I Invented the Internet” Gore’s, and George “What’s the name of that country again?” Bush’s “edjucation” policy. He quotes Bertrand Russell’s *The Impact of Science on Society*, where Russell states: “I think the subject which will be of most importance politically is mass psychology. . . . Its importance has been enormously increased by the growth of modern methods of propaganda. *Of these the most influential is what is called ‘education’*” (emphasis added).

It is the practices of teaching for the test, and of advocating “computer literacy” as opposed to Classical literacy, that create *hatred for learning* in the mind of the child, because it is clear to that child that the society does not value his mind. He or she cannot, usually, effectively fight this “programmed learning” by *thinking*, precisely because they have been “dumbed down” by a comic-book-like “popular



Death can strike anyone.
For the right price.

You never know when death will come—unless you make a few special arrangements. Because once the Hitman takes your assignment, someone takes a bullet. It's not a righteous way of life, but we all have to make a living. Even if it means making a killing.



Video-game companies advertise their Satanic wares. The “New Violence” involves the use of such games and related means, to transform children and adolescents, as well as law-enforcement personnel, into programmed killers.



culture” that they have imbibed since infancy—for example, “Sesame Street.” Thus, rage. Thus, impotent, violent, anti-social behavior. Thus, an Al Gore/George Bush constituency.

Candidate LaRouche, in response to a question put to him at the April 8 town meeting, held in New York City in response to his urging the formation of a National Commission Against the “New Violence” (see below), said, “We must stir up a fight of sorts, within the teaching profession. Because it’s the complicity of large parts of the teaching profession which allows this to go on, and which promotes this. We must address those who are responsible for giving out Prozac, and Ritalin. . . . They don’t know *what they are doing*. They’re just *doing it*.” That is the explanation, not only for Columbine High School, but for why Columbine High School can happen in America, at any time.

There is a Bush-Gore *constituency*, particularly in places such as Silicon Valley, which has chosen to re-name violence and call it *entertainment*. Under this cover, the same intelligence agencies and Nazi doctors that pioneered the MK-Ultra drug-experiments of the 1950s, have now mass-marketed video games and kill-simulators, turning an illegal multi-agency “secret government” project into a “main-stream” multibillion-dollar business. This is amply documented by researcher Anton Chaitkin.

Where do we get the present generation of “Nintendo cops,” of the variety that kill innocent and unarmed men on the streets of New York City (“Why did you shoot him 16 times?” “Well, I *thought* he had a gun—and I only had 16

bullets.”)? It was the attack on the “authoritarian personality” and the idea of Progress, and the enlistment of the Baby-Boomer generation on the side of the anti-authoritarians, that paved the way for the “New Violence.” “If fear and destructiveness are the major emotional sources of fascism, *eros* belongs mainly to democracy,” stated the conclusion of the 1950 study *The Authoritarian Personality*. The *erotic* rejection, particularly by “Baby-Boomer” parents, of what is crudely termed “the performance principle”—that is, any efficient responsibility to promote the general welfare of the country, and its posterity (i.e., their children), in favor of Dr. “Virtual” Spock methods of child-rearing, results in killer children—*precisely as the Frankfurt School alumni intended would be so*.

The Long-Wave Cultural Matrix

LaRouche has analyzed the long-wave cultural matrix out of the which this auto-da-fé of the Authoritarian Personality’s Frankfurt School originates (see Lyndon LaRouche, “Information Society: A Doomed Empire of Evil,” *EIR*, April 28, 2000). *Eros and Civilization*, the Bible of the Baby-Boomer movement, written by Frankfurt School alumnus Herbert Marcuse, states: “We look for the ‘culture-heroes’ who have persisted in imagination as symbolizing the attitude and the deeds that have determined the fate of mankind. Prometheus is the archetype of the performance-principle. . . . He symbolizes productiveness, the unceasing effort to master life; but in his productivity, *blessing and curse, progress and toil* are

inextricably intertwined. . . . And in the world of Prometheus, Pandora, the female principle, sexuality and pleasure, appear as a curse—disruptive, destructive” (emphasis added).

You will read in the Steinberg report, that one of the primary goals of Russell and the Dark Age precursors of the “New Violence,” was to create a culture of *necrophilia*, a “sex/death constituency,” like the viewer-audience of the World Wrestling Federation (WWF). The non-thinking, irrational “fan”—slang for fanatic—replaces the thinking citizen. The voter is replaced by the consumer. Consumer of what? Of “WWF,” “slasher movies,” “Doom,” “comedy horror,” “gangsta rap,” of Bushels and Bushels of Gore. That is what Marcuse and his friends, mean by the “erotic.”

To end the New Violence, demands not a compromise with the present (counter) culture, but an overthrow of it. To that end, *EIR* presents this initial report, so that our readers may take conceptual “arms against a sea of troubles, and, by so opposing, end them.”

Toward a Commission on the ‘New Violence’

On April 8, in the Teacher’s College auditorium of Columbia University in New York City, a meeting was held to organize toward the founding of a commission to investigate the causes of the “New Violence.” The meeting was moderated by Dennis Speed, and carried live on Lyndon LaRouche’s Presidential campaign website (www.larouchecampaign.org).

Speed: Welcome to our live webcast, and satellite broadcast, of a town meeting to begin organizing a National Commission Against the New Violence. This evening we’re going to be discussing a topic about which everyone in the United States, and frankly, also around the world, is quite concerned: the epidemic of violence, of what we refer to as a “New Violence,” that has engulfed the United States. It’s an epidemic that everyone is not only concerned about, but about which something needs to be done.

With me today, is a panel here in New York City, at Columbia University, and on the line with us, is the convenor of the National Commission, Lyndon LaRouche. Today’s



Dennis Speed

meeting is a response to the call made by Mr. LaRouche, shortly after the verdict in the Amadou Diallo case in New York City, to form a national commission to investigate the New Violence.

So, on our panel today, we have: Jeffrey Steinberg, the co-author of *Dope, Inc.*, and an editor of *Executive Intelligence Review*; Minister Charles Quinn Muhammad, the former head of the Nation of Islam in Jackson, Mississippi; Sister Esther Quinn Muhammad, who is the former head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Mississippi; and Dr. Kildare Clarke, the assistant medical director of King’s County Hospital in Brooklyn, New York. We will also be joined by Matthew Fogg, chief inspector deputy, U.S. Marshal, and founder of the Congress Against Racism and Corruption in Law Enforcement, and also Pennsylvania State Rep. Harold James, the former head of the state Legislative Black Caucus.

So what we’re going to do now, without further introduction, is to go to our keynote speaker, Lyndon LaRouche.

Lyndon LaRouche: A Chemistry of Violence

LaRouche: I’ve heard from my wife, who is in Germany, that during the past three days, the leading German tabloid, one of the largest-circulation newsprint publications in the world, *Bildzeitung*, has been featuring a story about a boy of about 15 years of age, in Spain, who asked his parents to assist him in purchasing a Samurai sword. The parents refused, suspecting that there was something awry with this request. And, shortly thereafter, the boy beheaded both his parents.

This is exemplary of what’s going on.

Now, I think that, as people know from what I’ve said about these matters earlier, that I know essentially what the source of the problem is, but there’s much that remains to be investigated, before any final judgment on the problem can be stated. That is, I know what has *caused* the problem; I know how it is developed; I’ve studied this matter over a period of some decades, knowing the people who have set this into motion, how it was set into motion. But we don’t know always what the *effects* are. It’s like a man who—you know the man is crazy, he drove a car into a restaurant, but you have to investigate the effects, and the side-effects, of that action, even knowing that the man willfully did that.

And the same thing here. People have set into motion something which has fostered a radiating explosion of what we called “New Violence.” Typical of this New Violence are two things. One, is the separation of children, the estrangement of children, from their parents. Now, many of us know the factors which were involved in causing this. We have a breakdown over the past three decades or so, of the quality of

education in the United States. We have, at the same time, a dependency among the lower 80% of income brackets, in particular, of more incomes per household. The result is, we've produced the phenomenon of latch-key children, more and more, at all levels in society. If parents have a child who is not a latch-key child, the children with whom that child is associated during the day, are usually latch-key children.

We have a crisis in housing, as in parts of New York City, of overcrowding, at great cost. We have this around the country. These conditions are hellholes for children. The schools have become hellholes for children.

Now, you feed into this estrangement, of the child from the parent, the sense of abandonment of the child, and you start at three to five years of age, and you condition this child in certain ways to certain circumstances, and you have an explosion of what used to be called alienation of the children from parents, and society.

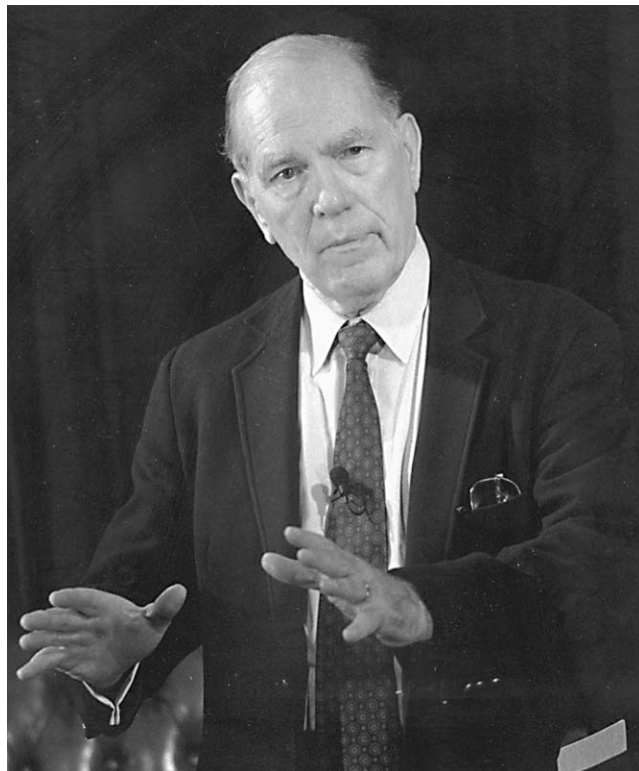
Somebody introduces into this situation the chemistry of violence, such as these Samurai-tradition-modelled Nintendo games, on television, and bought through game stores, which teach children how to kill. Now, what you've created, is the effect of a forest fire. You've put into society, you've created a potential among children, estrangement, distance between parents and children, this kind of thing—the use of the 911 number to cause children to turn against their parents, the fostering of these values in the schools by teachers, more and more of them, the wide-scale use of drugs, such as Ritalin, among children, which causes an aggravation of the problem.

Now, you take this child, who feels abandoned, who's estranged; you put this child, at three to six and older, in front of a television set, or in some kind of a game, in which the child plays at shooting people, perpetrating horrible violence. This has calculable effects.

As a result of this, we have the things—such as what happened in Spain: This child, with a boy decapitating his parents, Samurai-style, to see what it would *feel* like to do it, according to the story in *Bildzeitung*. You see the Nintendo-type violence at Littleton, which is infamous around the nation. You see similar incidents. A child who had never used a gun before, because they had practiced through a Nintendo game, going out at the age of six, and making skillful headshots the first time he used a gun, in killing people.

In other words, on the one hand, you've created the social potential, the circumstances for this kind of estrangement among children. Now, you come along with games, and drugs, and other things. You create a new subculture among children with these Nintendo-style games. Such as Pokémon, which in many cases, is sold widely throughout the country, and is on television, in the afternoons, by certain television networks and circuits. And we've created a chemistry of violence.

Then, we have the same thing at a different level. We have, in the case of the New York Police Department, we know, as in other police departments, there's a military-style training going on. And police units, who are inadequately



Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. at a Philadelphia Town Meeting, March 31, 2000.

trained by normal standards to be policemen, are sent out as killers. They are essentially programmed killers, because they have been trained to shoot and kill, by military-style methods, through Nintendo game-style training. And that's what you get, for example, in the Diallo case, in New York City.

So, we know some of the causes, and some of the effects, but we don't know *fully* what the extent of the problem is. We don't know what the reverberations are of what's being done. We don't know some of the side effects yet. We've got to find out. And we've also got to motivate people to pay attention to this fact. We've got to tell the President and others, getting guns out of the society, is not going to deal with this problem. If a child burns down the house with his parents in it, you're not going to stop that by banning guns. If a child uses a kitchen knife to kill his parents, or other people, you're not going to stop that by banning guns. The gun-related violence in this country, normally, of the kind we used to have, is actually somewhat less than it was in former times—particularly at the beginning of the 1990s. That kind of violence is on the ebb, at least for the time being. But, in the meantime, a new kind of violence, typified by out-of-control police units, which are operating as deployed zombies—that is, they are brainwashed zombies, sent out in the streets to kill *on program*, not on the basis of judgment. They are not cops, they're just plain deployed killers. And people try to cover that up; you can't do that.

We have also the core of the New Violence, is, we're taking the present generation of children, now between the ages of 3 and 16, approximately. We're subjecting them, with the aid of drugs, to become programmed killers on impulse, turning these children against their parents. *Children killing their parents.*

There are precedents for this in history, precedents in the ancient cult of Dionysus. It's come back.

As I say, we know where the sources, we know the people who push society to create these conditions. We do not yet know what the reverberations of the conditions are.

It's like putting a highly mutable virus into a population. The fellow who circulated that virus with malice, knows what he did. We may detect what he did. But when that virus gets

into human beings, and begins to spread from person to person, it undergoes change, and it produces incalculable side-effects, in interaction with other viruses and diseases. Just the same way, we have with this tuberculosis epidemic coming back.

So, on the one hand, we should know, and the entire population should know, what some of the causes of this problem are—a new form of violence, a new kind of violence. We don't yet know what the reverberations are. We've got to pay attention to the causes; we've also got to investigate the reverberations, which have taken off, and may be out of control, of those who set this kind of thing into motion in the first place.

Thank you.

What Is the 'New Violence'?

This policy memorandum, directed to LaRouche's Committee for a New Bretton Woods (LBW), was written by Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. on April 26, 2000.

1. The term "New Violence," as employed by LBW, signifies, chiefly, the introduction of new methods, those of Nintendo games and related means, to transform young children and adolescents, as well as law-enforcement personnel, into "Samurai"-style programmed killers. The term "New Violence" will be used in LBW proceedings solely to identify forms of violence which feature this distinctly new element. Old forms of violence will be included in this classification only when the role of Nintendo-style games and related means is a characteristic feature of the problem being considered in the study and report.

E.g., the classification of "New Violence," as distinct from new revivals of old forms of violence, will be included, only in such cases as the revival of old-style lynching conducted by law-enforcement agents, that only insofar as it is congruent with the pattern typified by the activities of Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's special teams of "Nintendo Cops" in New York City.

By "New Violence," we emphasize the Littleton-Columbine model, in which Nintendo-style games and related methods and means was a crucial, distinguishing feature. We include the use of related methods and objectives in the training and deployment of law-enforcement agents, or analogous instances. We must do this to avoid ruining the results of the investigation by fallacy of composition.

2. The standpoint of comparison used to aid in concep-

tualizing the common characteristics of this "New Violence," is the utopian programs, such as H.G. Wells' *The Open Conspiracy*, Wells-Russell protégé Aldous Huxley's utopian "New Age" models, the 1931 and 1951 models set forth by Bertrand Russell, and *Clockwork Orange*, as points of intellectual reference. What is specifically new, is the adaptation of the mythos of the Samurai warrior, and related "martial arts" mythology, combined with lunatic legacies such as "Dungeons and Dragons" and Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*, to the childish mad-killer pornography of cinematic cartoons and Nintendo-style games. The use of this method and its derivatives, for the purpose of programmed conditioning of military, law enforcement teams, and for indoctrinating children in a programmed impulse for terrorist forms of violence, is adequately understood only when such Nintendo-game-style conditioning is situated within the utopian doctrine of Russell's relevant 1931 and 1951 writings on the required methods of population control to realize his own and H.G. Wells' oligarchical utopian ends.

3. A crucial feature of a clean inquiry, is to recognize the fraud implicit (or actually intended) in the use of any hysterical "gun-law reform" diversionary effort, to cover up for the crucial role of the popular mass-media, and firms such as Hasbro, in mass brainwashing of children to become, even as young children, programmed agents of blind-terrorist modes of mass-murder by means which do not depend in any characteristic fashion on firearms.

4. A most important feature of the inquiry, is to recognize the lessons to be learned from the role of "bread and circuses" in manipulating the population of ancient Rome into the pathological state of mind aimed at by the design of Nintendo-style games and related "New Age" tactics today.

Minister Charles Quinn Muhammad: We Are Seeing a New Form of Lynching

Speed: I'd like to go directly to Minister Charles Quinn Muhammad. Our audience here in New York is already familiar with Minister Muhammad, but the audience on the Internet might not be.

There's a case—it became quite famous, actually—back in 1992, of a hanging, in a jail in Mississippi. As a result of the investigation of that case, some 47 other cases of hangings, in the state of Mississippi, between 1987 to 1992, came to light. And the cause of that coming to light, was the determination of Minister Charles Quinn Muhammad, as well as Sister Esther Muhammad, to get at the bottom of the death of their son.

I'd like to bring Minister Charles Quinn Muhammad to the microphone, to relate that story, and to make his contribution to the formation of our commission.

Muhammad: In the name of Allah the Beneficent, the Merciful, we thank Almighty God, Allah, for blessing us, and showing us grace and mercy, by giving us all of his servants. I'd like to greet all of you in the greeting words of peace: We say, As-salaam Aleikum, peace be unto you.

To Mr. Lyndon LaRouche, and the Schiller Institute, and to Mr. Dennis Speed, and all of those who have worked so hard to bring this issue before the world, it is an honor and a privilege to be asked to be a part of this Commission on New Violence.

As we consider what has been said by Mr. LaRouche, as well as some of the panelists here today, we understand that we have a moral obligation to stand, and to express to the society that what is happening in America, is something that we can stop, if we lend our hearts and our minds to do so.

On Aug. 22, 1992, our son, Andre Jones, was stopped at a routine sobriety check, or road block, in Brandon, Mississippi, which is located about 12 miles south of Jackson. Within 19 hours, our son was hung in a Simpson County jail, in Mendenhall, Mississippi. The officials said that he hung himself with his own shoelaces. Of course, we know that our son was taken out of that jail, on that night, and he was hung, and brought back into the jail, and hung up again in a dingy shower stall. And since that time, we have been fighting for justice on behalf of Andre.

But, not just on behalf of Andre alone, but on behalf of your sons, your husbands, your uncles, your relatives. Because we recognized that it is not just Andre who has become a victim of such hideous crime—it has been many others. Our case in Mississippi uncovered that, within a five-year period, from 1987 to 1993, over 48 others had been found in Missis-



Minister Charles Quinn Mohammad and family. "We have a moral obligation to stand, and to express to the society that what is happening in America, is something that we can stop, if we lend our hearts and our minds to do so," Minister Quinn told the audience.

issippi jails, *hung*, black men, white men, black females, white females.

We found out that this is a new form of lynching, that has been revisited to Mississippi. As you know, with the recent profiling of young, black men throughout this country, the story that we're expressing here today, is a story that many of you may have. So, it is only right for us to be a part of this Commission. Later this evening, we would like to share, in detail, some of the aspects of our case that will include many of the characteristics that we are hearing in some of the other issues around the New Violence that is occurring in America.

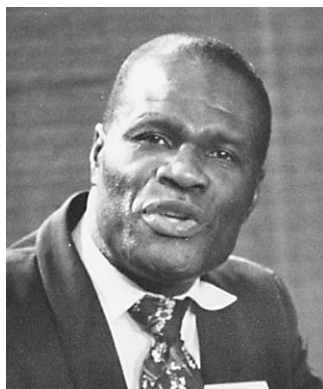
We recognize that if we don't make a stand, that it will continue to happen. And I say that, because, on Feb. 2, a young man by the name of Michael Chambers, in Desoto, Mississippi, was arrested because of "domestic disturbance." Within less than 24 hours, he was found hung with a bedsheet. So, this has not stopped. And as we travel throughout America, and share our story with the community, a mother stands up in the audience, someone stands up and says, "This Happened to my son, but I couldn't do anything about it—I didn't know what to do; I was just overwhelmed with the pain of losing my child." From Detroit, Michigan to Los Angeles,

California, we receive calls from mothers who had lost their child the same way. So, we looked at this, and we said that this is a *new form of lynching* in America.

So, this is why we're here. My wife is here, my daughter is here, and we're here as a family, because we are the results of the effects of what happens, when you lose a son, or lose a child, in a way that is not right, very unfair, and our son deserves justice as well as the 48 others, and the un-nameless others throughout this country. So, we would like to say again, thank you, Mr. LaRouche, thank you, Schiller Institute, for asking us to be a part of this very important commission.

Dr. Kildare Clarke: Let Us Join Forces to Stop the Violence

Speed: We're now going to go to Dr. Kildare Clarke. Dr. Clarke is a notorious figure in New York City, for some work he did in exposing atrocious conditions at the Kings County Hospital, particularly in the Emergency Room in Brooklyn. And he's become very well-known in the area, for taking a stand, particularly in terms of the problems involved with managed health care, and he now takes a stand with us on the question of violence. Dr. Clarke.



Dr. Kildare Clarke

Dr. Clarke: Again, let me thank Mr. LaRouche, a man with temerity, guts, gusto, and credibility, and who understands that there's a major problem among us, when it comes to violence. And, who is willing to take this head-on, not like some of our clumsier leaders, who are willing to sell their soul to Mephisto, so as to be elected.

Let me look at two quick issues, because I know I just have five minutes, when it comes to violence.

Let's look at raising your children. The government would rather tell you that you cannot raise your child the way you think is fair and fit, because it's "child abuse." To me, when someone takes their child, and puts their hand in a bucket of boiling water, yes, that's child abuse. "I threw him down a flight of stairs"—that's child abuse.

But whether you're a single parent or both parents at home—because, believe me, it doesn't make that much difference—the discipline is what makes the difference. And you take your child and say, "I'm the parent, you're the child, and when I tell you to study, when I tell you it's bedtime, when I tell you to respect your elders or all those around you, because

they're a community which helped to raise you." And then the government tells you, you cannot do that, because "We're going to tell you how to raise the child"; and then, later on, when the child gets into problems, because you could not raise your child, the government is willing to take the child away, put it in jail, and create that industry which I'm talking about, the prison-military-industrial complex—it's a crime. . . .

You want the child to carry on certain functions which are important to you. Because a lot of us, as parents, live our lives through our children also, because they're part of us and it carries on. However, you tell the child, "Don't do this." You said to the child, "When you go to school, I want you to respect the teacher." However, our laws tell us the teacher cannot discipline your child. How schizophrenic that can be!

The teacher is a substitute parent, at different times. The preacher is a substitute parent. The person at the corner store is a substitute parent. They want your child to grow up as a normal child, just like their children. Yet, the government is telling you, "No, don't do that. You can't do that." But, the policeman can be "the substitute parent": He can beat him over the head, he can shoot him when he's unarmed. He can lock him up in jail, because he is the jailer: those people who are called the street-level bureaucrats.

My fellow brothers and sisters: The pain of watching economic violence is real. You think about the hungry child, how can he learn? Think about the child who is wondering whether someone is going to come through the window to steal just the little television set he has. Those are the types of violence which are perpetrated against our people. And when I say "our people," I am not separating out black and white, because the color doesn't make a difference. When I'm transfusing somebody with blood, I didn't see it marked "black blood," "white blood," "red blood." When you are dying, I don't take out my stethoscope and say, "Well, he's white, let him go; he's black, he's from Mississippi, let him go; he is yellow, he's from China, okay let me save him."

No, I take an oath to save you. It doesn't matter how much money you have or what you have or who you are, or what ethnic background you belong to. My fellow men and women: Violence is real, it's painful, it affects each and every one. The economics of it, the sociological standpoint, the psychological standpoint, the physical standpoint—whether it affects you directly or indirectly—it is dangerous, it is a precedent-setting problem. We must come together, join together, and solve it. If we do not solve it, nobody's going to do it. . . .

No longer do we want to *think*. You ask someone to add two and two, they run to the computer. Where is our brain? It is there to be used. I want us to use it to help our fellow mankind, because every time we help our fellow mankind, we're helping ourself. It might not seem this way to you, but today, when you are walking, and you pass the next man in the street, and you disregard him, the moment you fall with that heart attack, or whatever, it's that same person you just

passed, who you want to come and help you. So, let's not wait until it's too late to do it. Let's begin now.

Let us get government off our backs! There is absolutely no reason for government to be functional, if they cannot carry out these functions which we elect them to do, which is to make sure we are safe, to make sure we are protected, we have food to eat; to make sure we have good health care; to make sure we have good shelter; and to make sure we are educated. And, as I said, a degree does not mean education. There are many other things which go into education.

The extended family: If you go to Africa or some of the Caribbean countries, where the stranger on the street can stop your child and say, "You're doing something which is wrong," and can cane your child, and can send him home with a note to the parent, that, "I have just disciplined your child." And the parent turns around and re-disciplines the child. That's the right discipline. Let us continue that once more.

I have to move on, so I should move on to tell you, let us join in a collective force to stop the violence. Thank you.

Jeffrey Steinberg: A Satanic Conspiracy

Speed: Thank you, Dr. Clarke. So I want to now have Jeff Steinberg come and speak to you a bit. He is one of the editors of *EIR*, a co-author of one of the most controversial books of the latter half of the twentieth century, *Dope, Inc.*

Steinberg: Thank you. It's a pleasure to be here today. A pleasure to be participating in this nationwide discussion with Lyndon LaRouche on the subject of the New Violence and what we're going to be doing about it.

There are two points that I want to emphasize briefly, and hopefully they'll become the subject of further discussion as the evening proceeds.

Number one: The people who are the authors of this New Violence phenomenon, whether or not they are aware of all of the consequences of what they've unleashed, let us be absolutely clear in the fact that they knew what they were doing. That they set out consciously, intentionally, to destroy the culture of this country, to destroy particularly the moral fabric of our society, the family structure, through which those values were conveyed, and to instead create a new cultural paradigm, based on *Eros*. Based on the idea that the popula-



Jeffrey Steinberg

tion can be destroyed, that the individual human soul can be ripped apart, through a combination of drugs, brainwashing, and continuous exposure to the kind of violence that we see in the mass entertainment industry today, and which has now been taken to a new extreme, with the advent of the violent point-and-shoot video-game industry, which was created intentionally to desensitize people in the military and in the police, to the idea of being able to kill another human being.

It's a matter of debate whether there was any merit whatsoever in using these kinds of techniques of mass psychology to train police or soldiers, with the presumption that they would also be given adequate education and a chain-of-command, rules of engagement, and things like that. But there is *no debate whatsoever*, it is a no-brainer, that to take these technologies, that were created simply as killing simulators, and to turn them into an \$11 billion-a-year industry, in which the clientele are our children—there is no doubt whatsoever that this is an evil that can only be described as Satanic.

And this is very much to the heart of the issue of the New Violence. The average child, by the time he reaches five or six years of age, has been an eyewitness to tens of thousands of murders. For the adult, it may very well be that you're capable of distinguishing between a murder that occurs in a theatrical setting on a television screen or in a movie theater, and what happens in real life. But, in the formative brain of a young child, there is no clear distinction between reality and fiction. So, children are being exposed every day, *desensitized*, to this kind of violence. In fact, they are being told that participating as an observer, and then with these video games, participating as an actual killer, is a form of entertainment to be rewarded. *It's fun. It's pleasurable.*

You go to the movie theater. You see 300 or 400 murders in one of these slash-and-burn videos, and what do you do? You have a good time with your friends. You eat popcorn and hotdogs. And you're conditioned to believe that somehow or other, this is all socially acceptable, and this is the idea of how to spend your leisure time.

The second point I want to make is that there is no human being that I know of, who is more qualified to lead this fight against the New Violence than Lyndon LaRouche. I know a bit about his personal history. He may be too modest to discuss all these things on this nationwide webcast.

But, the first time that I heard Mr. LaRouche speak, on the campus of Columbia University, was in 1973, when he gave a series of lectures on a very critical paper that he had just recently published, called "Beyond Psychoanalysis." In that presentation, and in that paper, he directly took on some of the people whom we will be naming as the authors of the New Violence: the Frankfurt School. Some of the people involved in what was known at the time as the Cybernetics Group. The people who have scared the pants off at least one senior figure in the computer industry, who says, the people who are running this industry now are *monsters*, who want to turn this technology into a form of mass brainwashing and

social control.

On the basis of my own years of collaboration with Mr. LaRouche, knowing that his initial involvement in the political fight came as the result of seeing that there were people putting forward the hypothesis that human beings are *merely* animals, who can be trained and programmed, but that there is nothing distinctly human and unique about human beings, that man is not in the living image of God—this is the fight, ultimately, to restore the soul to humanity, and to end the tyranny of this new violence.

So, I'm very proud and honored to be here tonight, as we begin the process of launching this initiative. Not surprisingly, Mr. LaRouche, as always, comes in with a new challenge, even beyond what I expected. This idea of figuring out, what are the consequences.

We know that the people in charge of this, who launched this back 40, 50 years ago, knew that they were attempting to launch a new Dionysian cult, using the technologies of the mass media, to combine pornography and violence, and destroy that which is human in all of us. But have they unleashed something that's even gone beyond their control?

I'll leave it at that and look forward to the discussion of the evening.

Dialogue with the Audience

Speed: We have several cities on the line. So, let me ask if, in Los Angeles, there's anyone there who would either have a question, or who would have any comment at this time. And, after I go to Los Angeles, I'll go to D.C., and then I'll go to Detroit.

Linda Guevara: I am a Councilwoman here in the City of Huntington Park. My son was also arrested, in August 1998, and you probably saw it on TV because, as a Councilwoman, they like to videotape our children when they're being beaten by the Police Department. My son was beaten so bad I couldn't even recognize his face, and unfortunately, in the city that I am in charge of, we do have a problem with a white supremacy group that has formed in our Police Department. I am standing alone, and fighting the fight, against this New Violence.

I am very much interested in this Commission, that you want to form, and I would like to know, how are you going to start implementing it? And what can I do to help get this commission going, so that we can put an end to all this nonsense that's *killing* our society today?

LaRouche: Well, the first thing is, to address our government, including people around the President, and some people in the Congress, and some other concerned people. I would hope, for example, the formerly active candidate, Bill Bradley, would become involved, as a person of concern. I don't know what his views are on the matter, but I know that he's shown himself to be a person of some compassion, and

would therefore be concerned with this sort of thing. That's first.

We must try to address the conscience of some people on this question, we must also stir up a fight of sorts, within the teaching profession. Because it's the complicity of large parts of the teaching profession which allows this to go on, and which promotes this. We must address those who are responsible for giving out Prozac, and Ritalin, to children, and all sorts of things. They don't know *what they are doing*. They're just *doing it*.

We must also deal with this as an international phenomenon. For example, the case which my wife spoke about with me today, reported in the German press—in *Bildzeitung*—of a boy in Spain who decapitated his parents, as a consequence of their *resistance* to his purchasing a Samurai sword, so he could practice to become a Samurai-like warrior: We have the same thing in Germany. The same thing in France. You have the same thing going on in a different form, in other parts of the Americas. So that people internationally are concerned. This is a *global concern*—of a new kind of culture, spreading around the world, which is a culture of violence, of *New Violence*.

Now, in the process, of course, of addressing Presidents, addressing Congresses, and leaders in various parts of the world, the teaching profession, the medical profession, and so forth, and concerned institutions, we also have to get down to the street level. We have to look at this thing as it erupts at every community level in the country.

We heard the report on the violence in Mississippi, this New Violence. This is a phenomenon which has to be investigated in every part of the world. Every part of the United States, on the state level, and so forth.

We have to, in a sense, *make this issue an issue*—which is more important than most of the issues as they were discussed by the leading candidates in the national Presidential campaign so far.

What they're talking about, in terms of their health care, is simple: Go back to Hill-Burton. You don't need all this gobbledygook, provided we understand how to do it, from the standpoint of the lessons in this country of the Civil War, the lessons of World War I, the lessons of what we studied of what the French did in France in World War I, the lessons of World War II. We applied those lessons in the post-war period, and we came up with the Hill-Burton Act, which, as a method, was effective. Why don't they just do that? Stop this debating about how to fund this, how to fund that. *Fund it!* We knew how to fund it before, we didn't need this gobbledygook.

Why don't we talk about the problems, the real problems, which are hitting hard at families? Why don't we talk about the real housing problem? Let's go into the areas of the poor: Look at the growth of the homeless; look at the quasi-homeless; look at the effect of rising rental costs, and availability of housing, as compared with income, as you go down the ladder in the lower 80% of income brackets.

These are real problems. The violence, the New Violence phenomenon—consider these problems as the *tinder*. Consider the spread of New Violence by Nintendo-type methods and other methods, as *the spark*. Somebody's putting a spark in the tinder. We're getting a nucleation of New Violence as a result of combining the tinder of social decay, social disruption, with the spark—the inflammation, of this infection—with the New Violence by way of television and so forth, the Nintendo games.

These are creating a whole new host of problems. If we do not *restore* the connection between parents and children, as a viable connection, *we do not have a next generation for this nation*. A nation which does not defend the family as an institution, which does not maintain the relationship between parent and child, is a nation which has *lost* the moral fitness to survive. We have many things to do in this country, and internationally, to save this civilization, but all the other things we are going to do, *will not work*, unless we protect the family as an institution from this kind of problem. It is the New Violence, especially as seen by the violence of children against their parents, as a result of these kinds of conditioning.

The violence by new kinds of police forces, which are no longer the cop on the corner, part of the community, no longer the professional policemen who knows how to prevent violence. For example, let's take the case in New York City, in Brooklyn, in the famous so-called Brooklyn riots, when Abe Beam was mayor. And some of us had some contact with Mayor Beam's office, and the people involved. In that period, when some people were pressuring the mayor to bring in the National Guard, the mayor stood his ground, and didn't do it. And in that day, we had a kind of police force, which knew how to intervene, to prevent the violence that was spreading in these riots, from igniting the whole city, and creating a race riot throughout the city. They stopped it. With all their shortcomings, whatever they were, these were competent policemen. We are *not* recruiting and training competent policemen, in a competent way.

We don't have the cop on the beat any more. That was removed, years ago. We don't have the police department which is integrated with the community, which is watching what's going on, which steps in when something new is changing that threatens the community, and *helps*. It doesn't *shoot*, it works with the community to bring the situation under control.

They are really *peace officers*, not *kill officers*. Peace officers who are armed when they need to be, but they are essentially *peace officers*. And we've taken away the peace officer, and we put the random, Rambo killer, loose on the streets. We brainwash them when we call them "police." Let's get's back the old police officer; let's get governments, not the Mussolini of Manhattan kind of government, of this fellow, Giuliani, which unleashes this kind of thing on us. Not only in New York City, but other parts of the world.

And therefore, this whole problem is key to life on this planet, to many things we must do to save the civilization on

this planet now. The worst crisis we've known in centuries is hitting us. But all the other things we do, won't amount to the proverbial hill of beans, unless we intervene to protect the local community, and the parent-child relationship. Thank you.

Rep. Harold James: We Need a Movement for Justice for All

Speed: We have just been joined by another one of our panelists. I'd like him to come to the microphone at this time, and greet you. This is Rep. Harold James, of the Pennsylvania State Legislature, former chairman of the state Legislative Black Caucus, Executive Committee of the National Caucus of Black State Legislators, former chairman of the National Black Police Association, and a policeman in the City of Philadelphia for over 20 years.

James: First of all, give honor to God; and I'd like to say hello to Lyn. Keep on running for President.

I'm honored to participate in founding the National Commission Against the New Violence. At the same time, all of us have a great responsibility, because the very survival of the United States as a nation may be at stake.

We have only to look at the recent situations in the Balkans, or the Great Lakes region of Africa, or see how quickly a civilized society can collapse into barbarity.

We should not be so arrogant as to think that we in America are exempt from this threat. Just consider the poison of racism that exists in our society. And, a society that would act as if African-Americans, or other minorities, are less than human, or have less rights as citizens, is already a very, very sick society.

Just in the past year, I have had to deal with multiple problems as relates to racism in Pennsylvania, as a state legislator. I participated in hearings of the Pennsylvania House Democratic Policy Committee to deal with the problem of racial profiling, also known as DWB—Driving While Black or Brown. Traffic stops by police based on racial profiling have resulted in excessive violence and deaths of innocent people. It is evident throughout the country. We're only about 13% of the population, but yet, we are 70% of the traffic stops.

In March of this year, I called for public hearings to investigate racial disparities in prison sentences, after a study showed that African-Americans routinely receive longer



Rep. Harold James

prison sentences than whites, and that African-Americans account for 56% of Pennsylvania's prison population, while we only represent 9% of the population.

I am also supporting a movement to suspend the death penalty in Pennsylvania. Although I lost a sister, and a daughter, to violent death, I still think that the death penalty is biased, and we need to *stop* it until it can be studied. A recent study showed that the odds of receiving the death penalty in Philadelphia are four times higher, if the defendant is black.

Also, on March 17, State Representatives LeAnna Washington, who heads our Black Elected Officials in Philadelphia, and James Roebuck (who is the new chairman of the Pennsylvania Black Caucus), and myself, along with other civic leaders, have met with the U.S. Attorney in Philadelphia, where we requested that he investigate, civil rights violations and discriminatory practices by the Philadelphia Police Department, in particular their internal affairs unit. We presented evidence that police may have ignored evidence and fabricated reports, in order to gain convictions of innocent people.

And a society that would tolerate this kind of systematic discrimination and dehumanization, is just a few steps from barbarism and genocide. Because it degrades the respect we must have for the sacredness of human life. Atrocities like the Amidou Diallo and Patrick Dorismond killings by police in New York, send a message that it's "open season" on young black men, unless we organize ourselves effectively, and make the National Commission into a powerful national movement for justice for all people.

I was particularly shocked to learn, that Mayor—what's his name? Giuliani? Mussolini?—that he tried to justify the Dorismond killing, by releasing Mr. Dorismond's juvenile arrest record to the press. Based on this standard, I am *personally* included on the Mayor's target list, because I also had a juvenile arrest record.

I have a juvenile arrest record, I was adjudged a juvenile delinquent, and then I became a police officer, retired after 22 years. So, I was a *law-breaker*, a law enforcement officer, and now I'm a *law-maker*.

In fact, when I became a Philadelphia police officer in 1965, as I was going to the Academy, they called me out; called me into the bathroom. This was an older guy. He asked me what part of the city I lived in. I told him that I lived in South Philly, and he said, "We want you to work undercover." I said, "What do you mean?" He said, "You know, you look like a juvenile delinquent, and so, uh, we would like you to work undercover."

So, I said, "So, what do I have to do?" He said, "You'll still get paid and all of that, and don't have to worry about nothing. And you just come, and we want you to hang in one location and watch somebody. And, if you don't like it, you can come back through the Academy." So, I said, "Well, okay. No problem." So, I did that for five years.

But I am proud of the fact that, under the leadership of the legendary Alfonso Deal, who was also a police officer, who founded a black police officers organization, called the

Guardian Civic League, he fought racism and injustice in the Philadelphia Police Department, and he was my mentor. And later, we were part of a group that organized, in 1972, the National Black Police Association, which elected me National Chairman in 1976.

And during all of these struggles, I continued my education at Temple University, earning a certificate in police science, an associate degree in criminal justice, and a bachelor's degree in sociology. I retired from the Philadelphia Police Department in 1987, and was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1988. And on April 4, I won the Democratic primary and hope to be elected to my seventh term this November.

Now, did Patrick Dorismond deserve the same chance in life as Harold James? *Yes, of course he did.* What kind of mentality dares suggest that a juvenile arrest record makes a person into a life unworthy to live?

So, I look forward to working with all of you, to make the National Commission Against the New Violence into a movement that can help save the soul of this nation, as well as the soul of us. Thank you.

Matthew Fogg: 'Zero Tolerance Has to Start Behind the Badge'

Speed: I would like to introduce to you Matthew Fogg, chief inspector, deputy U.S. Marshal, founder of Congress against Racism and Corruption in Law Enforcement. Mr. Fogg won, I believe, one of the largest settlements in the history of the U.S. Marshals Service, on racial discrimination.

Fogg: Thank you very much. I give honor to God, and I just want to say:

"Lord, may the words in my mouth, and may the meditation in my heart, be accepted in Thy sight. You are my strength and my redeemer." Amen.

I give honor to Mr. Lyndon LaRouche, for having the mind to put this type of conference together, for allowing us to come together to face this real problem of violence in America—the "New Violence," we call it. And I want to say to this whole panel, and the staff of this whole project here, it is a very good thing, because you see, as we see here in New York, the problem is out of hand.

But I want to say it's been out of hand for a long time. It's just that it's now beginning to come to the surface. There are a lot of people right now languishing in jails, because, it



Matthew Fogg

wasn't a crime what they did, it was just the fact of who they were.

One of reasons why I set up the Congress against Racism and Corruption in Law Enforcement, was to address the racism that we call, behind the blue wall of silence. And, you see a lot of us behind that blue wall, we understand and see what the real problem is. But for some odd reason, once it gets out to the American public, it's always, "Well, is it really like that?" And the only way you can really know is, you have to be on the inside, and those on the inside, the ones who are responsible to serve and protect, are the ones who are supposed to uphold the law of the land. But, you see in my case, and the case of so many law enforcement officers who have called me from all across America, they're saying, "Fogg, something is wrong, man. And we've got to do something about it. Because I cannot stand up for the injustice any more that I'm seeing taking place here."

When we came out of the Academy, I went to the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, in Glenco, Georgia. And one of the things I noticed, was that all of the training that we had—and we learned how to shoot, when to shoot, no shoot, what type of investigations, and everything you could want to learn in law enforcement, we were trained. And one of things that I noticed as soon as we came out of the Academy, and we reported to our duty stations, the first thing they tell you is, "Okay, you forget about that there, this is how we do it here."

And, the problem is this: If you take a stand, and you say, "Okay, this is how you do it here, but this is wrong, what you're doing." Now, you become a whistleblower, you become an outcast.

Someone wrote me on the Internet. There's this big controversy about the Baltimore City Police Department, and their new commissioner. And the problem is this: The Commissioner—and it doesn't matter whether he's black or white, it doesn't matter to me at this point, but the fact is, he's coming from New York. You understand what I'm saying to you? And we've already proven, this culture in New York, the NYPD, has already been proven to be a hostile environment, especially for people of color. It's already been proven. Any time you can bring—and any law enforcement officer will verify this—any time the police will take a man, and bring him inside a police station, inside among the rank and file, and rape him and brutalize him, there is an inherent problem from the top down. I don't care how you look at this.

I've got a report here, it's from the FBI, U.S. Department of Justice, "Misconduct to Corruption: Avoiding the Impending Crisis." And this talks about all the issues in law enforcement, and the impending crisis that's coming. And, believe it or not, this report basically says it like it really is, to a great degree, about the problems of this "us against them" mentality in police departments. "Us," meaning us; "them," meaning the public. And what happens is, when most officers come out of the Academies, and come into the law enforcement environment, that's what they tell you: "Don't worry about

all of that stuff, it's us against them now. If you see your partner doing something wrong, you back him up, no matter what. If you see him whuppin' on a citizen unnecessarily, you back him up."

And this is the culture. So, what I've done, and I've told officers—and I've been one myself—to stand up first. You see, you can't get out here and make noise if you're not willing to stand up.

Dennis mentioned something here about a case that I was involved in. Yes, it's *Matthew Fogg v. the U.S. Department of Justice, Janet Reno*. And when I started to take on this case, there were those who told me, "Fogg, just go along to get along. Don't fight the system, it will change in time. Black employees must work hard to prove themselves as managers. Just turn your head when you see injustice against citizens. You can't police everything. It's a 'good ole boy' network, and minorities don't fit in the network." And these were told to me. Now, you hear me, it says, "If you testify against the U.S. Marshals on Capitol Hill, they will destroy your career for sure. The U.S. Justice Department is too big, with too many resources. You can't win. Four hundred years of racial oppression is not going to change overnight with your EEO [Equal Employment Opportunity] complaints. Being called a 'coon' or 'nigger' by white employers is not all that bad. Just continue to arrest those who we direct you to arrest, and don't worry about racial profiling. I love you brother, but if you go forward"—and this is the one that really gets me—"then I can't be seen with you. I've got a family I've got to feed; I've got a livelihood, and I can't take that having them take that away from me. Take their settlement offers, and take care of yourself, because the black Marshals that you are standing up for in the gap are afraid, and care only about themselves."

And I'm not going to go on and tell you the rest. But the point is this: When you decide to stand up inside, behind that blue wall of silence—Seripcor will tell you about it, and many, many others. My main partner, Steven Zanowic, right from here: You should see the large, black rubber rat they gave this man. It's on my website. The man is holding it up on Capitol Hill, before Congress, he was saying, he's a whistleblower; and when I decided to blow the whistle on what I saw them doing, the injustices they were committing against citizens behind the blue wall, he said, "They gave me this," and he pulled that rat out. And the Congress was so incensed about it. They said, "How can something like this take place?"

And let me tell you what they did to the officer that gave him the rat: They promoted him to be in charge of our nationwide internal affairs division.

The problem—they say there is a zero-tolerance level. And this is the issue that is coming up in Baltimore, and you have to keep your eyes on Baltimore right now, because there's a big problem there about this police commissioner, Mr. Edward T. Norris. He came out of New York and he's now going to Baltimore. And one of the things I've found in my studies—and I'm an expert on this, now, I've trained

and studied this problem to the “t,” and it’s not about race particularly. There’s a whole lot of things involved. Race is one of the issues. This guy is trying to come to Baltimore, and he already has a record from what we’ve seen in New York, and when the Baltimore citizens stood up against it, now you’ve got this divide in Baltimore saying, we want this man.

You’ve got an organization here called PERF, Police Executive Research Forum. And what we’re finding is, a lot of these Chiefs of Police and these managers of these police departments, simply leave one location and go to the next. Howard Safir is a perfect example of that, he came from the U.S. Marshals Service.

Now, we’ve got a legacy — this is a \$4 million lawsuit that I’ve won, against the Justice Department. Judge [Thomas Penfield] Jackson, an ultra-conservative judge, said that due to the endemic atmosphere of racial disharmony and mistrust within the U.S. Marshals Service, the jury obviously inferred that the endemic atmosphere, of racial disharmony and mistrust of the Marshals Service, was suspect. That all explanations were suspect, and that racism was more likely the reason than any other for my misadventures in the Marshals Service’s hierarchy. That’s coming from a Federal judge, about a Justice Department law enforcement organization.

The Justice Department is the head. They’re the ones who set the pace and the example. If it’s rampant within the Justice Department, if it’s rampant within the Secret Service, if it’s rampant within the FBI, if it’s rampant within U.S. Customs, if it’s rampant in the Drug Enforcement Administration, all of these organizations, can you imagine what the state and locals are saying? “We’re on the right side. We can do it too.”

It’s time to say, enough is enough. And you, the citizens, have got to come to the plate, for us, who are standing up for real justice. For us, who are really putting it on the line. And as they call it, in the line of duty: We are the ones who are behind that blue wall, are saying, “I’m not taking it any more.” But they’re turning their guns on us.

I was explaining about an arrest that I made in Baltimore City. And they came up with these rules saying, “We thought it was a gun” — you know how they’re saying that, you’ve heard that before — “We thought it was a knife.” And you remember a couple of years ago, the U.S. Marshals shot a youth in the back of the leg, and the youth had a candy bar in his hand? The officer said he thought it was a gun, and it was a Milky Way candy bar. Where do we draw the line here? But, it’s up to the citizens to come forward and say, “We’re going to back people like Matthew Fogg, and Harold James, and other officers around the country who want to stand up.”

And this forum is just the thing that we need. You see, we need for us to come together on a national basis, and really look at this issue, and we say to these police chiefs, “We don’t want you there.” We told Baltimore’s police chief, Mr. Thomas C. Frazier, “Your time is up, you have to go, we don’t want you here any more.” Now they want to install another guy who is coming from another department in the same manner.

Albert Einstein, the father of weapons of mass destruction, said, the world is a very dangerous place to live. Not because of the evil people that are in it, but because of those who don’t do anything about it. This is the problem. And we cannot allow this to take place.

I had a lady who wrote to me on the Internet, who was incensed about an article that I wrote in the *Baltimore Sun-Times* bulletin board on the Internet. First, she blasted me. But then I responded to her with love and peace, I didn’t come back with the words that she came at me with. But you know, it’s amazing how God can turn you around when you’re on the right track.

And I wrote back to her, and I said, listen, I’m not here to argue with you and fight with you. Let me give you some facts. And when I got done, she wrote me back, and she said, “Mr. Fogg, I went to your website, and I looked at your credentials and what you’ve been through, and I’m sorry.” And she apologized, and I was surprised, because when you first looked at her language it looked like we were diametrically opposed to each other, and this was hate, and you see a lot of viciousness in this line of work — in law enforcement. But, I told her, if you’re talking about a zero-tolerance level, the zero-tolerance has to start behind the badge.

Right now, crime is down. Crime is down on American streets, and that’s because the economy is doing better. But it’s up behind the badge. We’ve got to say to crime behind the badge: zero-tolerance level. And that’s what this organization is about, that’s what I’m about: zero tolerance behind the badge.

When officers are found guilty, what happens to them? I’ve known a lot of officers who were wrong and guilty. Nothing happens to us. Not if you’re guilty, and you’re in there and you’re playing the game. Now, if you step outside that game, and you say, “Wait a second here, I put on this badge to serve and protect. Not to be part of a conspiracy because people want to promote their own buddies, and people want to draw a culture or connection here that is designed to weed out certain people.” Nothing is more horrible than that, to work in a law enforcement agency and that happens to you.

I was assigned to track fugitives. We cornered these fugitives in Baltimore. These were real fugitives; these were not some “three strikes and you’re out” because you had some marijuana on you. These were serious felons, criminals who had murdered, and had escaped out of prison, like in a James Cagney movie. And we cornered these guys on the streets of Baltimore. And when we took them on, my team — now, we had every right to fill them so full of holes, honestly, it could have been a scream. But the bottom line was this, as I told my team, I said, “We don’t kill unless it’s absolutely necessary, we all know what that means. We don’t shoot unless it’s absolutely necessary.” When you put that bulletproof vest on, and you put that badge on, you are trained that you’re supposed to put your life on the line.

That’s what it’s about when you take the oath. You’re putting your life on the line. So, you have to know whether

it's a gun. You can't tell me, I think it was a gun — you know how many people I could have put a hole in, by thinking they had pulled a gun? I had a lady, she was sitting in a closet, and she turned around with a shoe in her hand. She was trying to make us kill her, and none of us fired. She had a black shoe; it looked like a gun.

But I had to look and determine first whether it was a gun. This is not an excuse. You're fighting someone and you say, "I thought it was a gun," and he's got a wallet in his hand — I'm sorry, that is from the top down.

And this is for Mr. Howard Safir; you used to be my old boss: You left a legacy of discrimination in my department, and you brought it up here to New York City. It's like a disease. I say racism and corruption is a disease. And if you don't go in and cut it out, it will come back to haunt you later. So that's how we have to look at this thing. Mr. Safir, you came here and you infected this department. Well, I want to say something to you now, and I think the people realize who you are: "Your time is up. Your time and everybody's around you."

We have to cut this cancer out of this department, out of Baltimore, out of New York, out of Los Angeles — which is rampant. We've got to stop looking at the people, and saying zero-tolerance level is against the people. No, zero-tolerance level is against the law enforcement departments. Because if you take it and make that zero, I guarantee you, the people

will fall in line. Oh, we're going to enforce the law. We're going to do what we have to do to enforce the law; but we enforce it, with the idea that all men were created equal. And that's what we have to do.

And that's why, when we look at our prisons today, it's 70-80% people of color. If I look at that, I would say, that means people of color are basically criminally minded people. Now how many people here believe that? So, what's the problem? There's something going on. There's something wrong. And I'm saying here, it's time for us to take hold of this.

These guys in Baltimore: We did not fire one shot. This one guy was armed, he had a gun in his pocket. We didn't fire one shot. His partner had a Mach-10 machine-gun on him: We didn't fire one shot. We jumped out, and took these guys off. We could have loaded them up.

But you see, it's not just about killing them. It's about that little boy I might hit down the street, or that little girl I might hit down the street. We've got to understand, that when we serve and protect, it's about the community. It's not about us. It's about protecting the community, and that's what we have to do.

So, I'm saying to you today, if we the people who are called to be here — "We the People," as they said in the Constitution — it is our job to stand up for justice. And if we see that our officials are in the wrong, we have to be willing to make the sacrifice. You know why? Because too many have paid

Video-Game Violence Turns Children Into Killers

A 14-year-old boy who had never shot a gun before, shot eight classmates with eight bullets. Police were stunned. How could he do it?

The boy was *trained*, by his addiction to video-game violence. From "Pokémon" to "Doom," America's children are being turned into monsters, who kill "for the fun of it."

Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche, in this 1 hour and 40 minute video, **The Mark of the Beast**, exposes the evil which is hitting everybody's hometown — and to which most parents remain oblivious. She traces the decline of American culture since World War II, and links the insane strategic and economic policies of the financier oligarchy and its war-planners, to the mass brainwashing of youth by video and TV violence.

Speech to Schiller Institute conference, Feb. 20, 2000.

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the ultimate sacrifice for us to be where we are today. Too many have paid it. And I don't care what race you are, if you get in my way when we're going for justice, you've got to go too. The bottom line is, it's about justice, it's about true justice. And my best friends are white, black, red, yellow, and brown. It's not about that. It's about, if you can't treat us all fair, leave the shop, we don't have any room for you.

And what I'm saying is, let's prosecute these people. Let's not let them just walk away and go to another department, put a felony charge on them, and three strikes, you're out.

God bless you.

Video-Game Companies 'Are Making a Killing'

by Anton Chaitkin

Death can strike anyone.

For the Right Price.

You never know when death will come—unless you make a few special arrangements. Because once the Hitman takes your assignment, someone takes a bullet. It's not a righteous way of life, but we all have to make a living. Even if it means making a killing.

— Ad for the role-playing video game "HITMAN: Codename 47," in the May, 2000 issue of *Computer Gaming World*

The advertiser, the British firm Eidos, promises the American child who buys their game: "Unsurpassed 3D graphics, weapons modeling and character [killer and victim] movement"; "Full access to black market weapons, supplies and personnel"; and "AI [artificial intelligence] that defines the genre of the thinking shooter."

The child customer gets realistic training as a mercenary assassin, after the bloody content is morally neutralized and made exciting.

In this report, *EIR* visits some of the leading corporations that make and sell violent video games in the United States.

It is a very lucrative business for its perpetrators, who seldom appear before the public; yet the revenue from this sordid enterprise, between \$9 and \$11 billion per year, is now surpassing movie theater ticket sales. The identity and background of those responsible for this mayhem, if widely known, might cause them considerable trouble.

Midway Home Entertainment

A case in point is Midway Home Entertainment.

In December 1999—more than seven months after the massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado by video-game addicts Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold—the

Chicago City Council voted to grant \$2 million to Midway, to keep its corporate headquarters in the city.

Two aspects of this deal were not well publicized: what Midway sells, and the firm's corporate affiliations.

News stories about the protests provoked by the Chicago grant, mentioned that the company publishes "Mortal Kombat," a game in which a character may tear out the vital organs of his opponent. But media accounts did not discuss Midway's retailing of "Doom" and "Quake," the advanced point-and-shoot "death match" games which have trained the Columbine and other young shooters to kill mindlessly.

The website of Midway Games carries this advertisement for "Quake":

Gun 'em down. . . . Blow 'em to pieces . . . or DIE! . . .

- Incorporates the ferocity of the single player game with the supreme bloodlust of the two player Deathmatch. . . .

- Realistic explosions echo and reverberate, transporting the player to a hellish, dungeon-like environment. . . .

The game is "rated M" for "Mature," an in-joke of the game purveyors, meaning that such games are "suitable for persons ages 17 and older"; but millions of child customers are living in this hellish fantasy world.

What kind of people would deliberately turn children into gangsters? The answer may not be all that surprising.

It turns out that the corporate entity known as Midway Games is a legal fiction. Corporate spokesman Patrick Fitzgerald admitted to *EIR* on April 12 that Midway is located in the same office (at 3401 North California, Chicago 60618) as its parent company WMS Industries, and has "contractual obligations" with WMS, but claimed that Midway has been a separate company since WMS "spun it off" in 1998.

In fact, the same group controls the parent company, WMS, and Midway, its video-games front.

WMS, also known as Williams Industries, is one of the largest manufacturers of slot machines for American gambling casinos. Fitzgerald said that around the same time as WMS/Williams certified Midway as "separate," the company sold off its own holdings of racetracks and Caribbean gambling casinos.

The slot machine business survives the old Chicago pinball machine manufacturing operations of Williams Industries. Back in the Al Capone era, pinball machines were an integral component of the mob-controlled distribution rackets in urban taverns.

Midway Games, Inc. reported to the Securities and Exchange Commission (form 14A, filed Dec. 14, 1999) that Sumner M. Redstone owns 25.3% of the company's common stock, and that Neil D. Nicastro owns 5.7%. Nicastro is chairman and chief executive of Midway; his father, Louis J. Nicastro, is also a Midway director.

On the same day, WMS Industries filed the same SEC

form, revealing that Sumner M. Redstone owns 23.4% of WMS common stock; that WMS chairman and president Louis J. Nicasastro owns 24.9% of WMS; and his son Neil D. Nicasastro, the boss of Midway, owns 23.4% of WMS.

Redstone's personal fortune of \$6.4 billion jumped him from 37th to 15th place among the super-rich, *USA Today* reported on Jan. 26, 1999. Besides producing slot machines and killer-trainer games, Redstone owned MTV, Paramount Pictures, and Blockbuster Video.

Also on the Midway board is Chicago executive William C. Bartholomay, a partner of media magnate Ted Turner and the chairman of the Atlanta Braves baseball team.

Hasbro

Players seize new territories, crush enemies, and betray allies in a fast-paced, ruthless quest for world domination.

Does this promotional for a video game sound like propaganda for the British Empire, or Henry Kissinger?

The game, "Risk II," published by Hasbro, was developed for Hasbro by its former employees in a British firm, Deep Red Games Ltd.

Hasbro is also the official U.S. distributor of Pokémon, on behalf of the Japanese manufacturer Nintendo. Hasbro decides how American elementary school children will use the Pokémon monsters and battle figures for fantasy maiming and killing, hour after hour, day after day.

Among the board members of Hasbro are Alan Batkin, vice chairman of Kissinger Associates, Inc.; Paul Wolfowitz, former Undersecretary of Defense and now a power behind George W. Bush's foreign policy team; Marie Josee Kravis, director of the British Empire media cartel Hollinger International and wife of Henry Kravis, the corporate raider and moneybags for President Bush's rise to power.

Hasbro owns Avalon Hill, one of the original recreational war-game companies. Thus, Hasbro is close to the center of a tight little world of game designers and the kook-faction of the military and intelligence community.

The infamous Gary Gygax was a designer with the Avalon Hill company, before he set up his own firm, TSR, to make

Top Ten in Killer Games

In a Feb. 1 press release, Midway Games reported the leading U.S. video-game software companies, as ranked according to unit sales by the "NPD Group's TRSTS" in 1999. EIR has supplied the addresses, phone numbers, and sample corporate products:

1. Nintendo of America, Inc.

P.O. Box 957, Redmond, Wash. 98073. Telephone: (425) 882-2040.

Pokémon (manufacturer); game-boys; equipment for satanic video-games.

2. Electronic Arts, Inc.

209 Redwood Shores Parkway, Redwood City, Calif. 94065. Telephone: (650) 628-1500.

Road Rash (hit and run, criminal assault on police).

3. Sony Computer Entertainment

Sony Corporation of America c/o CDNow, Inc.
1005 Virginia Drive, Fort Washington, Pa. 19034.
Telephone: (215) 619-9000.

Equipment for satanic video games.

4. Midway Home Entertainment

Midway Games Inc.
3401 North California Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60618. Telephone: (773) 961-2222.

Mortal Kombat, Doom, Quake.

5. THQ, Inc.

27001 Agoura Road, Suite 325, Calabasas Hills, Calif. 91301. Mail: 5016 North Parkway, Suite 100, Calabasas, Calif. 91302. Telephone: (818) 871-5000.

Summoners (evil sorcerers, satanic monsters).

6. Acclaim Entertainment

One Acclaim Plaza, Glen Cove, N.Y. 11542. Telephone: (516) 656-5000.

Hard Core Wrestling (nails in head, strangulation).

7. 989 Studios (Sony)

Sony Corporation of America c/o CDNow, Inc.
1005 Virginia Drive, Fort Washington, Pa. 19034.
Telephone: (215) 619-9000.

Everquest (followers of the god Cazic-Thule inflict "pain, misery, violence, torture, living sacrifice").

8. Activision, Inc.

3100 Ocean Park Blvd., Suite 1000, Santa Monica, Calif. 90405. Mail: 11601 Wilshire Blvd., 3rd Floor, Suite 1000, Los Angeles, Calif. 90025. Telephone: (310) 255-2000.

Soldier of Fortune (assassination, race-war).

9. Namco Ltd.

Yaguchi, Ota-ku, Tokyo 146-8655, Japan.

Soul Calibur ("the Evil Seed is loose, threatens to swallow souls in its chilling wake"; Boss character is "Inferno").

10. Hasbro Interactive

Hasbro, Inc., 1027 Newport Ave., P.O. Box 1059, Pawtucket, R.I. 02861. Telephone (401) 431-8697.

Pokémon, Dungeons and Dragons.

the satanic medieval role-playing game, “Dungeons and Dragons.”

In 1989, Eric Dott, then chairman of Avalon Hill, told *EIR* that his company designed military simulation exercises for “colonels and up” in the Defense Department. Dott refused to be specific about the nature of these exercises, or to say whether they were of a classified nature.

Sources close to Gygax told *EIR* that “the government was suspicious of Avalon Hill—they saw them as knowing things they weren’t supposed to know.” Dott said, “The FBI and the Secret Service have come around asking questions several times.”

Counterintelligence inquiries about Avalon Hill were quite logical. Their games, played at popular weekend gaming conventions, involved large numbers of U.S. military personnel, both officers and enlisted men. What were they being recruited to do? Asked about the political-military outlook of Avalon Hill, Dott said, “We’re pretty much all conscientious objectors here.” Here, the “peacenik” who brings young people into fantasy race-wars and every-man-for-himself bloodbaths, gave conflict-simulation exercises to the Defense Department.

In September 1999, Hasbro acquired TSR—the company which created “Dungeons and Dragons”—further closing the game world’s little satanic circle.

Eidos

Englishman Ian Livingstone, founder and boss of Eidos, makes “Tomb Raider,” a killer game featuring the animated Lara Croft with gigantic breasts; the above-mentioned “Hitman”; and “Thief II: The Metal Age,” in which American youngsters are instructed:

You own the night. Everything else you have to steal.

All you have is your stealth, your cunning and the time between dusk and dawn. Luckily that is all you need because everything else is up for grabs—as long as you avoid wandering guards. Use the shadows as your cover. Treasure the silence of your footsteps. And enjoy a nice quiet evening in someone else’s home.

- Advanced Dark Engine allows for a more engaging stealth experience
- Advanced AI [artificial intelligence] system creates a variety of human opponents to outwit
- Sophisticated new tools to improve your success as a master thief

The filthy rich Eidos boss Livingstone made his first millions as the European distributor for “Dungeons and Dragons” in the 1970s. Over the years, Livingstone has been an intimate companion of Clive Robert and Kevin Buckner, employees of Hasbro and founders of Deep Red Games Ltd., where they made Risk II.

Death, for the Right Price

Moving on through the video-game business, one finds an unrelieved horror show.

In 1999, Acclaim Entertainment, Inc. paid its co-chairmen, Gregory E. Fischbach and James R. Scoroposki, \$2 million and \$1.6 million, respectively, and its president, Rodney Cousens, \$3.75 million. For this blood money, they sell “Hard Core Revolution.” Children logging on to their website find ads for this video game, about “hard-core wrestling,” or “Real F’n Wrestling.”

These ads on the website were banned from magazines as too violent. One shows a wrestler *deploying a staple gun into the head of his writhing opponent*; another shows a woman strangling her opponent.

Activision sells the game “Soldier of Fortune,” in which children learn to be paid killers for spymasters and race-murderers in Africa or Asia:

You’re the world’s deadliest soldier of fortune and your mission is clear: survive. Track your prey across the globe in a series of secret missions to take down a fanatical terrorist organization—before it takes you down. Maintain your cover as a covert warrior . . . underhanded sabotage . . . stealthy assassinations . . . full frontal assaults where skill marks the difference between the hunter and the hunted. Welcome to the secret world of the mercenary.

Activision’s point-and-shoot game is developed from Robert K. Brown’s *Soldier of Fortune* magazine. Brown helped whip up Cuban exiles against President Kennedy, prior to Kennedy’s murder. His magazine was founded with money from British special forces trying to hire American mercenaries to fight in Africa, and later worked to lure separatists and private militia companies into provocations against the Clinton administration.

To protect video-game companies from the inevitable lawsuits, lawyers are often their directors, as Harold A. Brown (no known relation to Robert K. Brown) is for Activision. A partner of Gang, Tyre, Ramer & Brown, lawyer Brown is also executive director of the Entertainment Law Institute at the University of Southern California (USC), a nest of “New Economy” mind-destroyers. Last year the U.S. Army announced that it was giving \$45 million to USC to set up a virtual reality institute, where private sector designers could work with the military to create more powerful commercial video games and soldier-training materials. The project was hushed up until the Secretary of the Army’s Aug. 18, 1999 press conference at USC was leaked to *EIR* and exposed in our July 2, 1999 issue; the exposé appeared along with Lyndon LaRouche’s article, “Star Wars and Littleton.”

Electronic Arts has paid its chairman, Lawrence F. Probst II, and president, John Riccitiello, many millions in salaries, bonuses, and stock options over the past few years. These

men sell children a video game called "Road Rash," in which the player assumes the role of a criminal biker to commit "aggravated assault," "hit and run driving," and "assault against a police officer." The Electronic Arts child customer seeks to help his alter-ego, on the motorcycle, smashing with a club at a policeman who is riding next to him. The child then plots to break the arrested character, named "Spaz," out of jail.

This game is actually certified "T" for "Teen."

On the Edge

Speculators who previously drove up share prices for producers of satanic video games have recently been dumping them, placing these enterprises into a potentially vulnerable position.

The stock of Midway Games has lost more than two-thirds

of its market value in the last four months. In December 1999, when the Chicago City Council gave the company a \$2 million bribe, Midway's stock traded at about \$24 a share. At the close of trading on April 24, the price was \$6.19. Acclaim dropped from around \$8 a share last October, to \$2.66 as of April 24. Activision fell from about \$17 a share in February, to \$6.56. Electronic Arts is down from about \$120 a share in December, to about \$53. Hasbro reached over \$36 a share a year ago, but had slid to \$15.75 by April 24.

In the coming days of turmoil and the withdrawal of their financial base, the weaker among these organizations will be close to collapse. They claim, "It's not a righteous way of life, but we all have to make a living. Even if it means making a killing." Now that their living is threatened, this is a particularly fine time for coordinated citizen action to close them down.

From Cybernetics to Littleton: Techniques of Mind Control

by Jeffrey Steinberg

The \$9 billion a year video-game industry in America, which contributed mightily to the carnage at Littleton, Paducah, and Jonesboro, is far more than the mere commercial exploitation of techniques and technologies developed as "legitimate" training instruments for the military and law enforcement agencies. To understand the roots of this new form of "Manchurian Candidate" programmed terrorism, it is necessary to go back to World War II and the immediate postwar period, when there was a concerted effort launched, by the Frankfurt School and the London Tavistock Institute, to use the Marxist/Freudian perversion of psychology and other social sciences, as instruments for mass social control and brainwashing. The two pillars of the assault on the American intellectual tradition were cybernetics and the drug counterculture.

At that time, a number of prominent social scientists openly spelled out their goal, of using the wartime-tested techniques of mass psychological manipulation, to pervert and control the American people. And in most instances, their emphasis was on children, and the need to destroy the fabric of family life.

Lord Bertrand Russell, who joined with the Frankfurt School in this effort at mass social engineering, spilled the beans, in his 1951 book, *The Impact of Science on Society*. He wrote:

"Physiology and psychology afford fields for scientific technique which still await development. Two great men, Pavlov and Freud, have laid the foundation. I do not accept the view that they are in any essential conflict, but what structure will be built on their foundations is still in doubt. I think the subject which will be of most importance politically is mass psychology. . . . Its importance has been enormously increased by the growth of modern methods of propaganda. Of these the most influential is what is called 'education.' Religion plays a part, though a diminishing one; the press, the cinema, and the radio play an increasing part. . . . It may be hoped that in time anybody will be able to persuade anybody of anything if he can catch the patient young and is provided by the State with money and equipment."

Russell continued, "The subject will make great strides when it is taken up by scientists under a scientific dictatorship. . . . The social psychologists of the future will have a number of classes of school children on whom they will try different methods of producing an unshakable conviction that snow is black. Various results will soon be arrived at. First, that the influence of home is obstructive. Second, that not much can be done unless indoctrination begins before the age of ten. Third, that verses set to music and repeatedly intoned are very effective. Fourth, that the opinion that snow is white must be

held to show a morbid taste for eccentricity. But I anticipate. It is for future scientists to make these maxims precise and discover exactly how much it costs per head to make children believe that snow is black, and how much less it would cost to make them believe it is dark gray.”

Russell concluded with a warning: “Although this science will be diligently studied, it will be rigidly confined to the governing class. The populace will not be allowed to know how its convictions were generated. When the technique has been perfected, every government that has been in charge of education for a generation will be able to control its subjects securely without the need of armies or policemen.”

Russell and the ‘Lethal Chamber’

Russell had been working on the concept of the scientific dictatorship for decades. In his 1931 book, *The Scientific Outlook*, he had devoted a chapter to “Education in a Scientific Society.” Here, he was equally blunt about his oligarchical totalitarian vision. Drawing the parallel to the two levels of education provided by the Jesuits, Russell asserted: “In like manner, the scientific rulers will provide one kind of education for ordinary men and women, and another for those who are to become holders of scientific power. Ordinary men and women will be expected to be docile, industrious, punctual, thoughtless, and contented. Of these qualities probably contentment will be considered the most important. In order to produce it, all the researches of psycho-analysis, behaviourism, and biochemistry will be brought into play. . . . All the boys and girls will learn from an early age to be what is called ‘co-operative,’ i.e., to do exactly what everybody is doing. Initiative will be discouraged in these children, and insubordination, without being punished, will be scientifically trained out of them.”

For the children chosen to be among the scientific ruling class, education was to be quite different. “Except for the one matter of loyalty to the world State and to their own order,” Russell explained, “members of the governing class will be encouraged to be adventurous and full of initiative. It will be recognized that it is their business to improve scientific technique, and to keep the manual workers contented by means of continual new amusements.”

Russell, however, added one very strong caveat. “On those rare occasions,” he warned, “when a boy or girl who has passed the age at which it is usual to determine social status shows such marked ability as to seem the intellectual equal of the rulers, a difficult situation will arise, requiring serious consideration. If the youth is content to abandon his previous associates and to throw in his lot whole-heartedly with the rulers, he may, after suitable tests, be promoted, but if he shows any regrettable solidarity with his previous associates, the rulers will reluctantly conclude that there is nothing to be done with him except to send him to the lethal chamber before his ill-disciplined intelligence has had time

to spread revolt. This will be a painful duty to the rulers, but I think they will not shrink from performing it.”

Huxley’s ‘Concentration Camp of the Mind’

Russell’s blunt description of a “scientific dictatorship” was matched by the account of Aldous Huxley, author of the utopian tract *Brave New World*, in a speech on the U.S. State Department’s Voice of America, in 1961, of a world of pharmacologically manipulated slaves, living in a “concentration camp of the mind,” enhanced by propaganda and psychotropic drugs, learning to “love their servitude,” and abandoning all will to resist. “This,” Huxley concluded, “is the final revolution.”

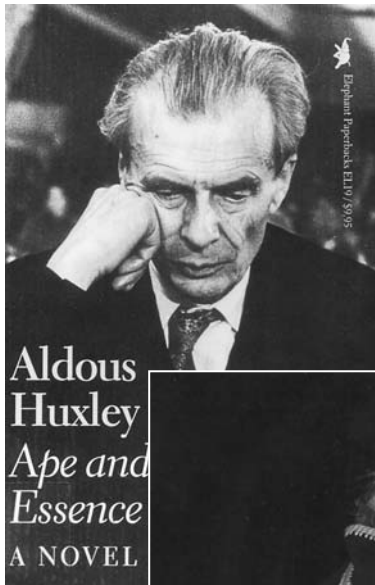
Speaking at the California Medical School in San Francisco, Huxley announced: “There will be in the next generation or so a pharmacological method of making people love their servitude and producing dictatorship without tears, so to speak. Producing a kind of painless concentration camp for entire societies so that people will in fact have their liberties taken away from them but will rather enjoy it, because they will be distracted from any desire to rebel by propaganda, or brainwashing, or brainwashing enhanced by pharmacological methods. And this seems to be the final revolution.”

Huxley’s cohort in the 1950s experimentation with psychotropic drugs, Dr. Timothy Leary, of Harvard University’s Psychology Department, provided another glimpse into the perverted minds of the Russell/Huxley/Frankfurt School crowd, in his autobiographical account of the Harvard University Psychedelic Drug Project, *Flashback*. Leary quoted Huxley: “These brain drugs, mass produced in the laboratories, will bring about vast changes in society. This will happen with or without you or me. All we can do is spread the word. The obstacle to this evolution, Timothy, is the Bible.” Leary then added: “We had run up against the Judeo-Christian commitment to one God, one religion, one reality, that has cursed Europe for centuries and America since our founding days. Drugs that open the mind to multiple realities inevitably lead to a polytheistic view of the universe. We sensed that the time for a new humanist religion based on intelligence, good-natured pluralism and scientific paganism had arrived.”

As these monstrous notions of mass social engineering were being presented as the “humanistic” alternative to world war in the age of the atomic and hydrogen bomb, two crucial projects were being launched, that would shape the implementation of this Brave New World, and bring us, today, to the world of Littleton, Paducah, Jonesboro, Doom, Quake, and Duke Nukem.

The Authoritarian Personality

The first of the two projects was launched in January 1943, by a team of three social psychologists at the University of California at Berkeley, Else Frenkel-Brunswik (a founding member of the Frankfurt Institute for Social Research, known



Among the creators of the techniques of mind control that led to the current explosion of programmed violence (clockwise from left): Margaret Mead, Aldous Huxley, John von Neumann, Bertrand Russell.

as the “Frankfurt School”), Daniel J. Levinson, and R. Nevitt Sanford. What started out as a modest \$500 grant to study the roots of anti-Semitism, would soon mushroom into the biggest mass social-profiling project ever undertaken in America, up until that time.

In May 1944, the American Jewish Committee established a Department of Scientific Research, which was headed by Frankfurt School director Max Horkheimer. Horkheimer established a project, called Studies in Prejudice, with generous funding from the AJC and other agencies, including the Rockefeller foundations. The Studies in Prejudice offered employment to a number of Frankfurt School members who, for various reasons, were not coopted directly into the war effort (for example, Herbert Marcuse and Franz Neumann were brought into the Research and Analysis Section of the Office of Strategic Services, or OSS, the forerunner to today’s Central Intelligence Agency). Hedda Massing, Marie Jahoda, Morris Janowitz, and Theodor W. Adorno all worked on the Studies, and, under Horkheimer’s direction, they all formally reconstituted the International Institute of Social Research, the transplanted incarnation of the original Frankfurt School of Weimar Germany.

The most significant of the five Studies in Prejudice, produced for the AJC during 1944-50, was *The Authoritarian*

Personality (New York: Harper, 1950). Authors Adorno, Frenkel-Brunswick, Levinson, and Sanford assembled a large research team from the Berkeley Public Opinion Study and the International Institute of Social Research, to conduct thousands of interviews of Americans, to profile their allegedly deep-seated tendencies toward authoritarianism, prejudice, and anti-Semitism. Dr. William Morrow, the leading protégé of Dr. Kurt Lewin, who was one key, bridge figure between the Frankfurt School and the Tavistock Institute, was a research director for the Authoritarian Personality project.

The study was an exercise in self-fulfilling prophecy and Marxist/Freudian self-delusion. Long before the first survey questionnaire was drafted, Horkheimer and Adorno had written exhaustively about the “authoritarian” character of the American nuclear family, about the “problem” of the American people’s belief in a transcendent monotheistic God, and about the underlying fascist character of all forms of American patriotism. They “cooked” the survey data, in advance, by devising a series of scales, purporting to measure the American population’s tendency toward anti-Semitism, ethnocentricity, anti-democratic ideology, and, ultimately, fascism. Not surprisingly, the research team found the American public “guilty as charged,” and produced dire warnings that, unless a dramatic overhaul of the American ideology and

mass culture were carried out, America would soon emerge as a Fourth Reich, repeating the horrors of Hitler on an even grander scale.

The authors of *The Authoritarian Personality* let it all hang out in the concluding chapter of the book, in which they summarized their findings and spelled out their recipe for social transformation:

“It seems obvious, that the modification of the potentially fascist structure cannot be achieved by psychological means alone. The task is comparable to that of eliminating neurosis, or delinquency, or nationalism from the world. These are products of the total organization of society and are to be changed only as that society is changed. It is not for the psychologist to say how such changes are to be brought about. The problem is one which requires the efforts of all social scientists. All that we would insist upon is that in the councils or round tables where the problem is considered and action planned the psychologist should have a voice. We believe that the scientific understanding of society must include an understanding of what it does to people, and that it is possible to have social reforms, even broad and sweeping ones, which though desirable in their own right would not necessarily change the structure of the prejudiced personality. For the fascist potential to change, or even to be held in check, there must be an increase in people’s capacity to see themselves and to be themselves. This cannot be achieved by the manipulation of people, however well grounded in modern psychology the devices of manipulation might be. . . . It is here that psychology may play its most important role. Techniques for overcoming resistance, developed mainly in the field of individual psychotherapy, can be improved and adapted for use with groups and even for use on a mass scale.”

The authors conclude with this most revealing proposition: “We need not suppose that appeal to emotion belongs to those who strive in the direction of fascism, while democratic propaganda must limit itself to reason and restraint. If fear and destructiveness are the major emotional sources of fascism, *eros* belongs mainly to democracy.”

Eros was precisely the weapon that the Frankfurt School and their fellow-travellers employed, over the next 50 years, to create a cultural paradigm shift away from the so-called “authoritarian” matrix of man in the living image of God (*imago viva Dei*), the sanctity of the nuclear family, and the superiority of the republican form of nation-state over all other forms of political organization. They transformed American culture toward an erotic, perverse matrix, associated with the present “politically correct” tyranny of tolerance for dehumanizing drug abuse, sexual perversion, and the glorification of violence. For the Marxist/Freudian revolutionaries of the Frankfurt School, the ultimate antidote to the hated Western Judeo-Christian civilization was to tear that civilization down, from the inside, by turning out generations of necrophiliacs.

If this statement seems harsh, consider the following. In

his 1948 work on *The Philosophy of Modern Music*, Frankfurt School leader Theodor Adorno argued that the purpose of modern music is to literally drive the listener insane. He justified this by asserting that modern society was a hotbed of evil, authoritarianism, and potential fascism, and that, only by first destroying civilization, through the spread of all forms of cultural pessimism and perversity, could liberation occur. On the role of modern music, he wrote, “It is not that schizophrenia is directly expressed therein; but the music imprints upon itself an attitude similar to that of the mentally ill. The individual brings about his own disintegration. . . . He imagines the fulfillment of the promise through magic, but nonetheless within the realm of immediate actuality. . . . Its concern is to dominate schizophrenic traits through the aesthetic consciousness. In so doing, it would hope to vindicate insanity as true health.” Necrophilia, he added, is the ultimate expression of “true health” in this sick society.

Erich Fromm, another leading Frankfurt School figure, who was instrumental as early as the 1930s in devising the scales used in the Authoritarian Personality study, devoted much of his seminal 1972 work, *The Anatomy of Human Destructiveness*, to the analysis of necrophilia, which he pronounced to be the dominant trend in modern society. Fromm defined necrophilia as all forms of obsession with death and destruction, particularly those with intense sexual overtones. Ironically, his ostensible “cure” for this mass social perversion was the drug, rock, sex counterculture of the late 1960s. “Simultaneously with the increasing necrophilous development,” Fromm wrote in his chapter on “Malignant Aggression: Necrophilia,” “the opposite trend, that of love of life, is also developing. It manifests itself in many forms: in the protest against the deadening of life, a protest by people among all social strata and age groups, but particularly by the young. There is hope in the rising protest against pollution and war. . . . This protest is also to be understood in the attraction to drugs among the young.”

Liberation through Drug Abuse

It is noteworthy that one of the four directors of the Authoritarian Personality project, R. Nevitt Sanford, played a pivotal role in the 1950s and ’60s experimentation and eventual mass usage of psychedelic drugs. In 1965, Sanford wrote the forward to *Utopiates: The Use and Users of LSD 25*, which was published by Tavistock Publications, the publishing arm of Great Britain’s pre-eminent psychological warfare agency, the Tavistock Institute. Tavistock directed the Psychiatric Division of the British Army during World War II, and dispatched many of its top brainwashers to the United States in the immediate postwar period, to work on the secret mind-control projects of the CIA and the Pentagon, including the MK-Ultra project, devoted to the study of LSD and other psychedelics.

In his foreword to *Utopiates*, Sanford, who headed up the Stanford University Institute for the Study of Human Prob-

lems, a major outpost for MK-Ultra secret LSD experimentation, spelled out the argument for drug legalization that is, to this day, at the heart of the pro-drug movement's propaganda. "The nation," Sanford wrote, "seems to be fascinated by our 40,000 or so drug addicts who are seen as alarmingly wayward people who must be curbed at all costs by expensive police activity. Only an uneasy Puritanism could support the practice of focusing on the drug addicts (rather than our 5 million alcoholics) and treating them as a police problem instead of a medical one, while suppressing harmless drugs such as marijuana and peyote along with the dangerous ones." The leading propagandists of the drug lobby today—George Soros, Ethan Nadelman, et al.—base their argument for legalization on the exact same scientific quackery that Dr. Sanford spelled out in *Utopiates* 36 years ago.

The Cybernetics Group

One of the "Big Lies" permeating Fromm's *Anatomy* was the idea that the erotic drug-rock-sex counterculture was the antidote to the cybernetic, technetronic "necrophilous" society. In reality, the Frankfurt School and their closest allies among the Russell/Wells/Huxley British oligarchy, were the architects of both the cybernetics project and the counterculture project of the 1960s. In fact, the Cybernetics Group, sponsored by the Josiah Macy Foundation, was the umbrella, under which the CIA and British intelligence conducted their mass experimentation with mind-altering psychedelic drugs, including LSD-25, which experiment was, eventually, spilled out onto the streets of San Francisco, New York's Greenwich Village, and every American college campus, giving us the counterculture "paradigm shift" of 1966-72.

The Cybernetics Group, known among its members as the "Man-Machine Project," was unofficially launched in May 1942 at a New York City conference called the Cerebral Inhibition Meeting, sponsored by the medical director of the Josiah Macy Foundation, Frank Fremont-Smith. Among the participants were Warren McCulloch, Arturo Rosenblueth, Gregory Bateson, Margaret Mead, and Lawrence K. Frank. Rosenblueth, a protégé of Norbert Wiener, set out the broad parameters of the proposed effort. Speaking on behalf of Wiener and John von Neumann, he proposed to draw together a group of engineers, biologists, neurologists, anthropologists, and psychologists, to devise experiments in social control, based on the quack claim that the human brain was nothing more than a complex input/output machine, and that human behavior could, in effect, be programmed, on both an individual and societal scale.¹

World War II prevented the project from getting off the ground for four years. But shortly after the Japanese surrendered, McCulloch asked Fremont-Smith to convene a second gathering under the formal sponsorship of the Macy Founda-

tion. The first of what would be a series of ten major conferences and year-long research efforts, between 1946 and 1953, took place in New York City on March 8-9, 1946, under the title, "The Feedback Mechanisms and Circular Causal Systems in Biology and the Social Sciences Meeting."

What came out of that first meeting was not only a demonic drive to create the ultimate engineered society, based on the fusion of man and machine. A core group of 20 people constituted themselves as a task force to carry out this mission, and would spawn a series of permanent institutions, where the work would continue, to the present day. A year after the founding session of the Macy project, Wiener would coin the term "cybernetics" to describe their effort.

Who were the "Dr. Jekylls" gathered around the table for the first of the Macy conferences?

Warren McCulloch was the titular chairman of all ten of the conferences. At the time of the first meeting, he was a professor of psychiatry and physiology at the University of Illinois, but he would soon move to the Research Laboratory of Electronics at MIT.

Walter Pitts, McCulloch's protégé, first at Illinois, and later at MIT.

Gregory Bateson, the anthropologist and then-spouse of Margaret Mead, who would soon become the director of research at the Veterans Hospital in Palo Alto, California, where he was a pivotal player in MK-Ultra and other secret government experiments with mind-altering drugs.

Margaret Mead, then the assistant curator of ethnology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, who would function as the "earth goddess" of the Cybernetics Group, and would help launch the modern feminist movement, through her patronage of Betty Friedan, a student-protégé of Kurt Lewin.

Kurt Lewin, founder of the Research Center for Group Dynamics at MIT, a leading Frankfurt School fellow-traveler, whose work with Frankfurt School founder Karl Korsch on linguistics would form a foundation of the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Lewin's National Training Laboratory would later become part of the National Education Association, and would facilitate the transformation of public education in America into an approximation of Bertrand Russell's nightmarish scheme for teaching children that "snow is black."

Paul Lazarsfeld, the director of the Bureau of Applied Social Research at Columbia University, who had been the wartime head of the Radio Research Laboratory at Princeton University, and had been the patron there of the Frankfurt School's Theodor Adorno.

John Von Neumann.

Norbert Wiener.

An incredible collection of guests attended the Cybernetics Group sessions during their seven years of existence. Among them were **Max Horkheimer**, the head of the Frankfurt School, who collaborated with the Cybernetics Group,

1. See Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., "Information Society: A Doomed Empire of Evil," *EIR*, April 28, 2000.

while directing the Studies in Prejudice.

Dr. Harold Abramson, one of the CIA's top scientists engaged in the secret LSD experimentation, not only attended the Sixth Cybernetics Group conference, but worked with **Dr. Frank Fremont-Smith**, the research director of the Macy Foundation, on a series of spinoff conferences, where all of the top personnel of MK-Ultra were able to convene under Macy Foundation cover and finances, to plot out their mass drugging of America.

In return, Abramson dutifully provided Fremont-Smith with ample personal supplies of LSD-25.

The Macy Foundation also provided financing and publicity for the British social engineer **Dr. William Sargant**, whose 1957 book, *Battle for the Mind*, provided a "how-to-do-it" manual for mass brainwashing. Sargant spent 20 years in the United States, working on the MK-Ultra project and other secret mind-control efforts of the U.S. and British governments.

Among the nastiest of the projects launched by the Cybernetics Group was the World Federation of Mental Health (WFMH), whose first president, **Brig. Gen. John Rawlings Rees**, was the director of the Tavistock Institute, Britain's premier psychological warfare center.

Rees, Mead, Lawrence K. Frank, Fremont-Smith and Horkheimer were all in Paris together, in the summer of 1948, to launch the WFMH. Although he had died the previous year, Kurt Lewin had been involved in the preparations for launching the Federation, through his involvement, under Frank, in the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, and the London-centered International Committee for Mental Hygiene, with a half-dozen Cybernetics Group members on its board. Both bodies oversaw a network of over 4,000 "psychiatric shock troops," in Rees's words, who would be at the heart of a worldwide social-engineering apparatus, penetrated into every community.

Margaret Mead and Lawrence K. Frank, two pillars of the Cybernetics Group, authored the founding statement of Rees's World Federation of Mental Health (both Mead and Frank would later succeed Rees as president), which they titled, "Manifesto of the First International." Mead and Frank bluntly wrote: "The goal of mental health has been enlarged from the concern for the development of healthy personalities to the larger tasks of creating a healthy society. . . . The concept of mental health is co-extensive with world order and world community." Frank even proposed to create a new religion of mental health.

Computers and Artificial Intelligence

For John von Neumann and Norbert Wiener, the core of the Cybernetics Group project was the development of computers, and the prospect of combining high-speed computers with so-called Artificial Intelligence, to literally "program" the human race. Underlying all of these efforts was the unshakable, albeit postposterous conviction, most avidly

presented by von Neumann, that there was nothing sacred about the human mind, and that the human brain was a machine, whose functioning could be replicated, and eventually surpassed, by computers.

Dr. Jerome Wiesner, the president of MIT, which became the closest thing to the home of the Cybernetics Group, participated in several of the Macy Foundation sessions. He clearly stated this Luciferian view of man, in an interview with counterculture propagandist Stewart Brand, which appeared in Brand's 1987 book, *The Media Lab: Inventing the Future at M.I.T.*:

"I'm not arrogant enough to think that we're going to develop real thinking machines in a short time. But nerve signals travel at 300 meters a second. Electrical signals travel at . . . 300 million meters a second. Also the components we make are much more reliable than neurons. . . . The higher degree of reliability of the components and the very much higher degree of speed of the impulses means to me you ought to be able to make machines that are just a hell of a lot better than the brain, if you knew how to do it."

Brand asked Wiesner, "You expect that?"

Wiesner: "Yeah, not necessarily in my lifetime. No one has given a reason why it can't be done. They make all kinds of crazy arguments — 'A computer doesn't have a soul.' How do we know that it won't have the same soul that we do? After all, humans will program it. I don't think questions about identity are very interesting."

Dr. Wiesner not only participated in the Cybernetics Group efforts of the Macy Foundation. In 1952, he took over the directorship of the Research Laboratory of Electronics at MIT, where Wiener, McCulloch, and Pitts had all taken up residence. Soon, the RLE had spun off the Artificial Intelligence Lab, with Dr. Seymour Papert and Marvin Minsky taking up the task of programming human behavior and interaction.

By the 1980s, MIT had spawned the Media Lab, another direct outgrowth of the 1940s and 50s Cybernetics Group. Here, the social engineers worked hand in glove with the engineers and machine designers who were developing high-speed computers, computer graphics, holographics, and the first generation of computer simulators. Much of the work at MIT, and at the Artificial Intelligence labs at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, was funded through the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

Steve Joshua Heims, the author of the semi-official history of the Macy conferences on cybernetics, *The Cybernetics Group*, reported that, by the 1980s, the cybernetics crowd had even spawned their own religion—an overtly pagan belief-system remarkably in keeping with Timothy Leary's call for a "scientific paganism." "James Lovelock and Lynn Margulis," Heims wrote, "have examined how life—plants, animals, microorganisms—has influenced the chemistry of the atmosphere and the climate, and how life and climate have coe-

volved. Lovelock's Gaia hypothesis, which relies on a detailed cybernetic analysis, contends that all life on earth acts in concert with the atmosphere to make one self-regulating system that keeps the earth a liveable habitat." Heims did admit, "The validity of the Gaia hypothesis is currently the subject of scientific controversy."

Heims was far less guarded in his embrace of the work of the Media Lab, and the fact that the Media Lab was a direct outgrowth of the Macy Cybernetics project.

"McCulloch's and Pitts' 1943 approach to understanding mind and brain has had enthusiastic successors in the 1980s," he wrote. "Consider next the new, transdisciplinary Media Lab instituted at MIT in the 1980s. Onetime Macy participant Jerome Wiesner (who was close to McCulloch, Pitts and Wiener), Seymour Papert and Marvin Minsky (important figures in the history of the artificial intelligence approach to mind and brain), are lab associates. . . . According to the initial proposal the lab was to provide for 'the intellectual mix of two rapidly evolving and very different fields; information technologies and the human sciences'. . . . It deals with improvements in high-definition TV, satellite communications, fiber-optic cable TV, three-dimensional imaging, and data-compression to permit inexpensive transfers of full-length color film to a compact disk."

LSD Freaks Meet Cyber-Hackers

In 1974, Stewart Brand, chief propagandist for both the psychotropic drug revolution and the personal computer revolution, published a collection of his previously published essays under the title, *II Cybernetic Frontiers*. Two of the essays consisted of interviews he had conducted with Gregory Bateson, one of the architects of the psychedelic revolution in America, through his posting at the Palo Alto Veterans Hospital, where much MK-Ultra experimentation took place. Bateson was one of the four or five most influential members of the Cybernetics Group. The other, longer essay in the book, "Fanatic Life and Symbolic Death Among the Computer Bums," was first published in the December 1972 issue of the leading counterculture publication, *Rolling Stone*.

Brand began the *Rolling Stone* piece with the startling boast: "Ready or not, computers are coming to the people. That's good news, maybe the best since psychedelics." He continued, "It's way off the track of the 'Computers—Threat or Menace?' school of liberal criticism but surprisingly in line with the romantic fantasies of the fore-fathers of the science, such as Norbert Wiener, Warren McCulloch, J.C.R. Licklider, John von Neumann, and Vannevar Bush. The trend owes its health to an odd array of influences: the youthful fervor and firm dis-Establishmentarianism of the freaks who design computer science; an astonishingly enlightened research program from the very top of the Defense Department; an unexpected market-flanking movement by the manufacturers of small calculating machines; and an irrepressible mid-night phenomenon known as Spacewar."

Brand provided a detailed explanation of Spacewar, perhaps the very first computer war game to be designed. "Ah, Spacewar. Reliably, at any night-time moment (i.e., non-business hours) in North America, hundreds of computer technicians are effectively out of their bodies, computer-projected onto cathode ray tube display screens, locked in life-or-death space combat for hours at a time, ruining their eyes, numbing their fingers in frenzied mashing of control buttons, joyously slaying their friends and wasting their employers' valuable computer time."

If this sounds like a mild version of the latter-day souped-up sex and violence video games of today—it is!

Beginning in 1963, when the U.S. space program was moved out of the military and housed under NASA, J.C.R. Licklider convinced his boss at ARPA (what would later be called DARPA) to devote a fraction of the agency's budget to computer research. At the time, the Department of Defense was the world's largest consumer of computers. Licklider became the director of an ARPA unit called IPTO (Information Processing Techniques Office), and, over the next years, disbursed millions of dollars to a wide range of computer and Artificial Intelligence research centers.

Until 1969, when the Mansfield Amendment placed restrictions on how the Pentagon could spend its research and development money, there were no boundary conditions on the kinds of projects that IPTO could bankroll. Billions of dollars went into the early development of computer networking, computer graphics, "virtual reality," simulation, and other key facets of what, today, is a \$9-11 billion-a-year commercial industry of point-and-shoot video games. The Media Lab at MIT and the Stanford Artificial Intelligence Lab were two of the magnets for this money and the research work which fueled both the Pentagon training-simulation programs and the evolving video-game industry.

In his book *On Killing*, Lt. Col. David Grossman recounts how the advent of high-speed computers allowed the social engineers, responsible for training soldiers to overcome their aversion to killing, provided an unsurpassed technology for stimulus-response behavior modification. The increasingly realistic video graphics, the advanced work on neurological processes—all hallmarks of the cybernetic "man-machine" project—transformed the U.S. military into a force of programmed killers, and ultimately became the social engineers' "weapon of choice" for twisting the minds of millions of America's youth.

The social engineers seeking to fulfill Adorno, Horkheimer, Russell, and Huxley's visions of a perfectly engineered society, led by a "scientific dictatorship," were never far removed from the computer and AI labs where the technologies were being developed and tested. It was only a matter of time that, like the LSD experiments of the 1960s, the secret military experimental phase ended, and the American population became the targets, this time, of the sex and violence self-programming of Doom, Quake, and the rest.

How Iran Will Solve Its Internal Political Crisis

by Muriel Mirak-Weissbach

A crisis which has been simmering for the past three years in the Islamic Republic of Iran, is coming to a head in the immediate days and weeks. Its outcome will contribute to determining not only the political direction of this strategically located nation, but the shape of international relations, in the Persian Gulf, and more broadly, Eurasia. It is in the vital interest of Iran, its neighbors, and the cause of world peace, that external interventions into the crisis be prevented at all costs, and that the internal dynamic of the highly sensitive, complex political process, be allowed to play itself out.

The crisis erupted, ostensibly, on April 7-9, when a group of Iranian political figures and intellectuals representing the reform current of President Mohammad Seyyed Khatami, participated in a conference at the Heinrich Böll Foundation, in Berlin, on the theme, "Iran After the Elections." The foundation, a front group of the German Green party, said that it had not invited the diverse groups of exile Iranians, on grounds that they were so factionalized, that they would only create chaos. Predictably, the opposition groups, ranging from pro-Shah activists to pro-terrorists, planned to protest. As the spokesman of the Böll Foundation, Michael Alvarez, stated on April 6, before the event started, "We are expecting protests from various sides." He said that the foundation wanted to "keep the conference open, even for the demonstrators," according to an account in *Tagesspiegel* on April 6.

As foreseen, demonstrators stormed the event, in a protest against the Iranian guests, whom they accused of having "sold out" to the "regime," etc. Among the disturbances staged, was lascivious dancing, to flaunt the Islamic norms governing dress and manners in Iran. This effectively sabotaged the conference.

By virtue of their being present, the 17 Iranian guests at the event, were immediately targetted by conservative press

organs inside Iran, who denounced them for having been a party to such anti-Islamic activities. One hundred and forty members of the Majlis (Parliament) accused those participating in the Berlin conference, of advocating "U.S.-style reforms," and called on the judiciary to bring them to justice. Following their return to Iran, the protests became more boisterous, and, when the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) showed a film of portions of the conference, including scenes of dancing girls, the protests exploded. The implication of the film, was that the reformers intended to introduce such loose cultural norms into the country.

Political Polarization

The political polarization inside Iran appeared in the form of statements for or against the film and IRIB. On April 19, the representative of the executive branch to the supervisory council of the IRIB, Mohsen Aminzadeh, called the broadcasting of the film an "insult to Islamic sanctities as it depicted promiscuous behavior." Interior Minister Mousavi Lari, on April 22, raised the question, why IRIB should show such a film during the mourning month of Moharram, in which the martyrdom of the third Imam was being commemorated. He added, that if IRIB wanted to show the film, it should have broadcast parts showing participants from Iran, defending the Islamic system. "Another question," he said, is "why those who raise hue and cry if a woman's hair is shown a bit from under her scarf, dare broadcast such a film with scenes of dance?" Lari's argument was that forces inside the country have been deliberately breeding a sense of insecurity in the country, in order to discredit President Khatami and his policies. Others, on the conservative side of the spectrum, justified showing the film, on the basis that it "informed" the public as to what the reformers were really up to.



The central square of Isfahan, Iran. It is essential that foreign interventions into Iran's domestic affairs be prevented, if the nation's leaders are to find positive solutions to the political crisis.

At the same time, rumors of a coup were circulating, and being prominently reported in certain international press. The London *Financial Times* on April 20, for example, carried a fiery statement which, it says, had been issued on Iranian national television on April 16, by the Revolutionary Guards. The statement read, "When the time comes, small and big enemies will feel the revolutionary hammer on their skulls." In response, a pro-Khatami organization, the Organization of Islamic Revolution Mojahedin (OIRM), accused hard-liners of plotting a coup, to prevent the newly elected, pro-reform Parliament from being convened in May.

The Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) issued a statement saying that it "will never stage a military coup." Gen. Mohammad Hejazi, one of the IRGC commanders, went on to say, "Of course the IRGC will not remain indifferent whenever values of Islam and the revolution are jeopardized and will take strong action within the framework of the law against those undermining national security and achievements of the Islamic revolution." According to the *Tehran Times* account, the OIRM had sent an open letter to the IRGC, expressing concern over the IRGC's statement, and warning against the possibility that the IRGC could "reduce itself to the status of surrogate Third World army personnel who seek their power in crushing the authors and newspapers."

On the same day that the *Financial Times* story appeared, the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, who had rejected "U.S.-style reforms," delivered a speech to a group of youth, in which he denounced certain press. "A number of the existing newspapers in the country," he said, "have turned into bases of the enemies and are doing the same thing as the British, the U.S., and the Zionist broadcasting agencies are doing." He specified, "Ten to fifteen papers are seemingly being guided by

one center as they select similar headlines on different incidents and endeavor to magnify insignificant incidents."

Newspapers Are Shut Down

Just days later, on April 23, the Justice Department of Tehran Province issued an order to close down eight dailies, three weeklies, and one monthly publication, on grounds that the papers had not followed the courts' earlier orders, not to publish material that was disparaging to Islam and to the religious elements of the Islamic revolution. On April 24, another daily was also suspended. Printing such material, the ministry statement said, according to the Iranian News Agency (IRNA), "was part of the cultural assault of the foreign enemies of Iran which . . . they had undertaken with the aid of their agents who had infiltrated into the ranks of Iranian journalists." The Justice Department said that the material published had been against the Iranian constitution and press law, and had undermined national security and unity.

All the papers were aligned with the pro-Khatami reform current.

Not coincidentally, on the same night of the closure of the 12 publications, three journalists were detained: Mashaalah Shamsolvaezin, Akbar Ganji, and Latif Safari. Ganji had been at the Berlin conference.

On April 24, theologians in Tehran, Mashhad, Kashan, and other cities, staged demonstrations, to condemn the Berlin conference. At the demonstration, Prosecutor General Ayatollah Mohammad Moqtadaei gave a speech, and said that the participants in the Berlin conference would be brought to justice. On April 25, an arrest warrant was issued by the special clergy court, for Hojatoleslam Hassan Yousef Eshkenari, also because of the Berlin conference. And, the conservative Assembly of Experts called for judicial action against those

in the press responsible for “desecration of Islamic sanctities and sabotage against revolutionary figures.” The 86-member body pointed to Ayatollah Khamenei’s speech, saying that he had identified a U.S.-led conspiracy behind “anarchist newspapers,” and they asserted that the Berlin conference had been part of the conspiracy “hatched by the foreign enemies and their lackeys inside Iran.”

In a parallel move, the head of the Islamic Propagation Organization, Hojatolislam Mahmoud Mohammadi Araqi, termed the participation of Iranians in the Berlin conference as “humiliating,” and the conference itself “disgraceful.”

In protest against the closures of the publications, and the arrests of pro-reform figures, students staged peaceful demonstrations in several cities, while conservatives mobilized their forces, also for the streets.

The Transition of Power

Obviously, it was not the appearance of some Iranian intellectuals and political reformers at a Berlin conference which *caused* the tumultuous events in Iran, although there can be no doubt, that the outrages staged by the group of pro-terrorist exile Iranians, were indeed deliberately orchestrated to trigger the desired effect.

More deeply, the cause of the escalating tensions, must be located in the extraordinary political process of change which has been unfolding inside Iran, especially since President Khatami’s landslide electoral victory in May 1997. Khatami — who, ironically, had been ousted from his post as Cultural Minister years earlier, by conservatives opposed to his liberal press policy at the time — was swept into power by a 69% majority, mainly women and youth, desirous of orderly change in society, closer contacts with the rest of the world, including the West, and greater cultural freedom domestically.

As the new President made explicit, the kind of change he had promised, could not come about overnight. In public speeches, during his campaign as well as following his victory, he stressed the need for progressing toward a more open society, and better relations with the West, through a gradual process, within the parameters of the constitution. Each time the President made any bold moves toward implementing these changes — for example, when he appeared in a televised interview in the United States — he was immediately attacked by the conservative wing.

Khatami has nonetheless continued his course, even in spite of acts of violence perpetrated by his political enemies, acts which have included serial killings of reformers, and the March 12 attempted assassination of newspaper editor Saeed Hajjarian, close to the President. The only way in which Khatami’s reform program could be realized, he insisted, was by bringing the force of his popular mandate to bear on change, effected through the institutions. After having won the Presidency, the reform current had to secure a majority in the Majlis.

When parliamentary elections took place this year on Feb. 18, Khatami’s political supporters scored a major victory. Voter participation was again at record levels, as it had been in the Presidential election. For the first time in 20 years — since the Islamic revolution — the conservatives were in a minority, and the moderates controlled two-thirds of the seats. The groups elected included the Islamic Iran Participation Party (IIPP), Islamic Iran Solidarity Party, and the Executives of Construction Party, which make up the 2nd of the Khordad Front (the umbrella group containing all reformist factions). The IIPP, led by the brother of the President, Mohammad-Reza Khatami, won a great majority of the 30 Parliament seats in the capital, Tehran, in the first round. The Iranian election system has two rounds; candidates can win in the first round, if they garner more than 25% of the votes in their electoral districts.

It is important to underline, that the candidates themselves are vetted, and those who do not embrace the Islamic system in Iran, *Velayat-e Faqih* (guardianship of supreme jurisprudence), are not allowed to run. Furthermore, the election results must be confirmed by the Guardians Council, which also sets the date for the second round.

Given the overwhelming majority, evident already in the first round, for the pro-Khatami moderates and reformers, it has become clear, that the whole structure of power relations has shifted in the country. The conservatives have been thrust into a minority position by the people. Yet, at the same time, they continue to wield significant power in institutions like the Guardians Council, the Assembly of Experts, and the intelligence and security apparatus. These are positions of power which they are not eager to relinquish.

At the same time, the majority of the population, which has demonstrated its political clout in the polls, is eager to see the desired reforms implemented. Some among the leading reformers, believe that the popular mandate is a license to push through radical change, regardless of the opposition. They, therefore, exert pressure on the Presidency to move more quickly in that direction.

President Khatami on a Tightrope

President Khatami has succeeded, in every crisis to date, in walking the tightrope, assuring his political supporters of his commitment to reform, while signalling to the conservative establishment, that he will not engage in adventurous actions against them.

Thus, in the current crisis, President Khatami was even-handed. On April 22, in his first public response to the televised broadcast of the film from Berlin, Khatami said, “I am totally opposed to the way the IRIB raised the issue which provoked the feelings and caused great concern among the committed sections of the society and those who seek the country’s dignity and honor.” But he also criticized the conference as “not acceptable.” He referred to numerous conferences organized on Iran since the revolution, which “aim to

distort and undermine” its achievements, and said that “some inappropriate statements” had been made at the Berlin conference, as well as “rational words.” He added, that the film had had some positive effect, in that it showed youth “the real nature of those who seek to overthrow the Islamic system . . . many of the people, particularly the young generation did not know . . . how rude, how irrational, how violent, and how impudent they are.” He also said, “This is the procedure adopted by the same current whose logic is the bullet and created a wave of terror and assassination in Iran.”

Khatami stressed the need for the political debate inside the country to proceed, peacefully: “Iran needs tranquillity. Debate and criticism are signs of vibrancy.” However, debate should not mean chaos. He said that the press should “avert media fighting,” and emphasized that “no action should be taken which may worry the Leader [of the Revolution], the nation, the faithful, and the youth” about national security, according to IRNA.

The implicit message which Khatami has repeatedly issued since his 1997 election, is that the reform process will be slow and arduous, and that one should take care not to provide the conservative opposition with pretexts for conflict and violence. Referencing the fact that Iran had been under tyrannical rule in its history, which wasted the country’s resources, Khatami said that “factional discord pushes the country into chaos and the government toward more centralization and use of force which in turn make the people pessimistic about the government.”

Khatami elaborated the same points in an April 24 address to a joint session of the cabinet ministries and governors general. Here, Khatami referred explicitly to the concerns expressed by Ayatollah Khamenei about the press. He said that the Leader of the Revolution is “a supporter of peace and an advocate of freedom, diversity, and pluralism,” and is the one who “elucidates general policies and orientations of the system.” Therefore, “all those abiding by the law should coordinate their behavior and responsibility in line with the same policies and orientations.” The President emphasized the need for “calm and dignity” for the government and institutions, and underlined, “peace of mind for the Leader is important for all, as the calm and stability of the entire system originates from the Leader’s peace of mind.”

Khamenei Responds

On April 26, Ayatollah Khamenei responded, calling on “groups loyal to the revolution and the Islamic system to help the government overcome the problems of the people while maintaining principles and fundamentals,” according to an IRNA dispatch. He said, “All of you believe in Islam, revolution, and Imam, but inside the country there are some who, like the U.S., are against such principles; and it is important to take a clear and transparent position against such oppositions and enmities. However, the stance of some friends and political groups on the issues are so intangible that anyone

who believes in them would feel that he can even be attached to the counter-revolutionaries.” In other words, one should observe the fine distinction between expressing critical views, and playing into the hands of the enemies of the nation. Despite his reiterated attacks on the press, the Leader was uttering a clear statement of support for the Khatami government, which was crucial: “The President is himself defender of the system and the revolution; moreover, I strongly support the President based on principles and foundations.”

Significantly, Ayatollah Khamenei also addressed what had occurred at the notorious Berlin conference, displaying some understanding of what had gone on. Calling the conference an “ugly” move, he noted that “foundations organizing such conferences are usually supported by enemies’ security, political, and intelligence organs,” IRNA reported. He said, “The organizers of the conference had, through such planning and by inviting all the groups abroad opposed to the system had, in fact, tried to turn the conference into a session to put the revolution and the Islamic system on trial. They also wanted to publicize on behalf of the counter-revolutionaries that fundamental reforms are possible only through elimination of Islam and *Velayat-e Faqih* from the constitution or by changing the constitutional law.” “But,” he added, “God thwarted the conspiracy and the disgrace of the Berlin conference remained on German statesmen.”

The Road Ahead

Once it appeared, through the intervention of Khamenei in support of Khatami, that the confrontation between the reformers and the conservatives had been put on ice, at least temporarily, the question arose: Where to go from here?

The next step will be the convening of the Parliament, scheduled for May 28. Obstacles have been placed in the way of its opening, by the Guardians Council, which has yet to set a date for run-off elections. Thirty-two seats remain to be ratified by the body, and 65 are still undecided, until the second round. A recount of the votes is going on in the Tehran constituency, which, according to the Guardians Council, could lead to different results than those announced. The same body has invalidated some results, for example, in Jiroft of Khorasan province.

This has fuelled speculation, that the conservative establishment seeks to prevent the convening of the Parliament completely, as had been mooted by the pro-Khatami OIRM, in its exchange with the Revolutionary Guards. On the day the news was released, of Khamenei’s declared support for Khatami, the London *Guardian* came out with the story that, indeed, a plot was afoot to organize a coup against Khatami, in which blocking the Parliament would be one crucial element. The *Guardian* wrote, without further explanation, that it had come into possession of transcriptions of a taped meeting of three Revolutionary Guards officials, who planned to set up a “crisis committee,” to carry out a three-stage coup. The meeting they referred to, was reportedly two weeks earlier.

The first stage in the coup plot, was to shut down 18 newspapers. The second, was to tap phones of reformers, disrupt the seminars and bazaar in the capital, to “incite senior clerics,” and deploy forces to the countryside, to intimidate reform supporters. The final move, according to the tape, says the *Guardian*, would be to stage a coup, “on the grounds that some [reformers] could be foreign agents or spies.”

That there may be those on Iran’s conservative right wing, who would contemplate such an adventure, is not to be excluded. However, the prospect of actually staging a coup, and succeeding, are dim, given the obvious fact that the overwhelming majority of the population stands behind the elected President and Parliament. Any open confrontation in the streets would lead to civil war, of uncertain outcome. What is more likely to happen in Iran, is that the forces of the Khatami reform camp, and the conservative faction, which looks to Khamenei for backing, will find an agreement, for some sort of power-sharing arrangement, albeit informally. The reality of the political process in Iran, is that the conservatives, though numerically in a political minority, still wield power in the non-elected institutions of the judiciary, intelligence, and security, power which they will not give up.

The question facing President Khatami, is how to shape this *modus vivendi*, without halting the momentum toward reform. The fact that the maximum authority of the nation, Khamenei, spoke out in explicit support of President Khatami on April 26, indicates that some form of agreement may be in the works.

The International Context

It is to be hoped, that foreign forces will stay out of the fray. Any intervention from, for example, the U.S. State Department, like the one made by spokesman Jamie Rubin, who expressed his concern over “a threat to the freedom of the press in Iran,” will not be helpful. Considering the fact that the U.S. press is controlled top-down by Wall Street interests, such sanctimonious concern for press freedom is hypocritical, to say the least. And it will backfire in Iran, feeding into the conservatives’ argument, that the liberal press are merely the “mouthpiece” of the United States, etc. A *Tehran Times* article on April 22 warned of this. Those in Washington desiring improved relations with Khatami’s Iran, according to reform forces inside Iran, would contribute more by refraining from comment.

The Iranian government, in the meantime, has not allowed the internal debate to deter it from several important international initiatives. First, it is continuing with dogged determination, to move Pakistan toward enabling a political solution to the Afghan crisis. At the same time, Iran has been further developing its ties for economic cooperation, with the Central Asian republics, and took part in the Eurasia 2000 conference held in Kazakstan, in late April.

LaRouche Discusses in Russian-Language

On April 12, the New York-based Russian-language Express Weekly dedicated its issue to Israel, interviewing experts and activists from Russia, Israel, and the United States, including Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

Express Weekly is the largest Russian-language newspaper in the United States and Canada, and is also published inside Russia and Israel.

Editor Dimitri Klimentov published a full-page interview with LaRouche in the last issue in 1999. Both his questions and LaRouche’s responses were submitted in English, which we reprint here.

Q: On the current situation in Israel: Who’s to blame and what should be done?

LaRouche: What is urgently wanted is an open-ended Middle East peace and cooperation agreement, modelled upon the lessons of the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia. On the positive side of negotiations for such a goal, there are two chief impediments to success of such an effort. First, without a large-scale desalination program, there will not be sufficient water available among all of the relevant nations to ensure a durable and stable peace. Second, integral to that agreement on large-scale desalination and water-management cooperation, there must be a wide-ranging policy of increase of the physical productive powers of labor through a region broadly defined as “Israel and the Arab World.” On the negative side, there are powerful forces opposed to such a peace, forces which exploit the Middle East as a cockpit of conflict, according to the desires of parties from outside that region.

Q: What grounds are there for pessimism?

LaRouche: On the matter of reasons for pessimism: I am optimistic about the choice of the current Prime Minister of Israel, Ehud Barak. I am doing what little I can, from my corner, to foster his success in this endeavor. However, I also recognize how difficult his situation is, how many enemies, operating from inside and outside Israel, are working to prevent his success. I also recognize, that while President Clinton has made a serious commitment to bringing about Middle East peace, he is either unable, or unwilling, so far, to undertake certain measures, such as supporting large-scale desalination programs, which are indispensable for success of ongo-

Prospects for Israel Magazine

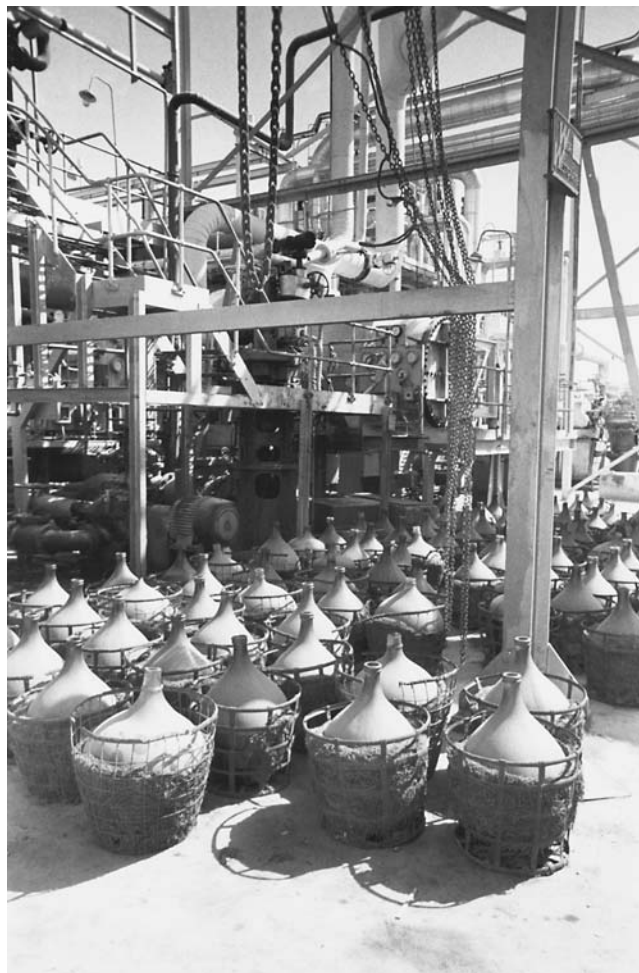
ing negotiations. It is extremely difficult for President Clinton to promote a successful approach to Middle East peace-negotiations while also supporting a Presidential pre-candidate, Vice President Al Gore, who is rather fanatically opposed to some of the measures, including large-scale desalination, which durable peace requires, a Vice President who is a fanatical advocate of those forms of globalization which would render a successful Middle East peace agreement impossible. The breakdown of negotiations with Syria's President Assad, over access to the shores of the Sea of Galilee, typifies that contradiction.

Q: What grounds are there for optimism?

LaRouche: The most important new factor in the search for Middle East peace, is the fact that Prime Minister Barak represents the legacy of that great Moses Mendelssohn, whose rigorously reasoned ecumenical policies are a perfect model for a Jewish approach to the kind of comprehensive Middle East peace which matches the lessons of the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia. As we see, he has support from all the key figures who, to my knowledge, have a record of commitment to such efforts during the past, circles with which I have been more or less actively allied to this purpose since the middle of the 1970s. In addition, every sane and literate Israeli leading figure, especially those in the military, have understood, that Israel no longer has the possibility of dealing with the Middle East situation by force, as it has done often in the past decades. The roles of Arafat and the recent intervention for ecumenicism by Pope John Paul II, are also factors of the relatively greatest importance in supplying the opportunity for peace and security at this time.

Q: What influence does the U.S. have on the current events in Israel: positive, negative, or none? Please, explain.

LaRouche: At the moment, apart from the positive efforts by President Clinton in a number of areas, including the Middle East, the U.S.A. has become, increasingly, a self-crippled political power, now gripped by the onrush of an unavoidable, world-wide financial debacle. Since the period of the 1996 U.S. general election, the U.S. has suffered an increasing loss of the combined will and capacity to exert a positive influence in developments outside the U.S. itself. U.S. policies toward Southeast Europe, since the commit-



A desalination facility in Kuwait. Without a large-scale desalination program for the Mideast, writes LaRouche, there will not be sufficient water available among all of the relevant nations to ensure a durable and stable peace.

ment to war against Yugoslavia, by Britain's Blair government and the U.S. State Department, beginning late 1998, for example, are only typical of the increasing hostility toward U.S. policy-making from around the world, including inside continental Europe itself. So far, a President Clinton greatly weakened, since Summer 1996, by attacks from outside his administration, and subversion from within, often lacks either the ability or the inclination to take actions which would be needed if he were to assume a more effective role in world affairs.

Q: Is there a chance the Russian Jewish community in the U.S. can have a certain impact on the course of events in Israel?

LaRouche: As you know, the Russian Jewish community in Israel is of increasing relative importance there. I would therefore think that the Russian Jewish community inside the

U.S. today, if it is well informed, is a factor of more than a little significance in this situation. In the practical measures which Israel must adopt for improvement of its economy and the related promotion of the economic foundations of Middle East peace generally, I estimate that the Russian Jewish community inside the U.S. would be able, if adequately informed, to lend the kind of encouragement which would be most helpful in influencing both U.S. policy-shaping and the Middle East situation.

Q: Aren't you under the impression that the key world leaders as well as major shadow power figures, "puppeteers" of the world, so to speak—including people of Jewish origin—are turning a blind eye to what is happening in Israel, having left it in the hands of fate and circumstances?

LaRouche: As we see in the U.S. population itself, there has been a decades-long increase of combined political and general relative illiteracy, and shrinking of the moral faculties of the relatively more influential strata of the population of most nations: a deep cultural pessimism. As in tracing the roots of the rise of fascism in Germany, from the early 1920s, we see a parallel, perhaps even more ominous process unfolding in the U.S.A. and elsewhere, especially among the relatively most influential upper 20% of the family-income brackets in the U.S.A. itself. Here, the lower 80% of family-income brackets has become more and more pessimistic in its own ways, withdrawn, resentful, sensing its own political impotence, fleeing into small-mindedness about local, selected issues, fleeing from an intolerable reality, into the escapism of entertainment, a situation which should remind historians of the bread-and-circuses trends in behavior among the Roman population during the rule of Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero, et al. Only a shock, comparable in effect to that caused by the bombing of Pearl Harbor in Dec. 7, 1941, is likely to shake the present U.S. population out of its present, predominantly pessimistic behavioral tendencies.

Q: What are, in your opinion, the ways left to save the existence of the Jewish state?

LaRouche: In my view, the answer to this question is to be reduced to a single central theme: the possibility of a comprehensive, Treaty-of-Westphalia-like, establishment, of a system of sovereign nation-state partners among a region inclusive of Israel and the Arab World. Only with the affirmation of the unique role of the power of a sovereign nation-state to create economic-protectionist forms of long-term credit and trade agreements, can a durable peace be established; to make such benefits possible for each among such parties, there must be economic cooperation for increase of the physical productive powers of labor as measured per capita, and per square kilometer of land-area. Only with the large-scale development of basic economic infrastructure among the nations of this area, is a durable common-interest agreement possible

among those who have been bitter adversaries for much too long. This means, first of all, massive programs of desalination coupled with water-management systems. It means a massive infusion of power, especially in very high energy-flux density modes. It means the development of efficient systems of mass-transit of goods and passengers, utilizing the natural characteristics of the entire region for this purpose. It means the development of entire new urban-rural, industrial-agricultural complexes, from Morocco eastward, and southward to locations such as Sudan and across the Sahara to Sub-Sahara Africa, where the world's greatest under-realized potential for increments to the world's food production lies. It means long-range such economic cooperation, premised upon long-term, low-cost state-to-state trade credit, and trade agreements of up to thirty years maturity. In such a setting, the future of the state of Israel is secured by the self-interest of its partners.

Q: What is your opinion on the historic fate of Jewish statehood and people?

LaRouche: The state of Israel was created, in effect, by what the Nazis did, both inside Germany, and in eastern Europe. Although the axiomatic commitment of the Nazis was to eradicate Christianity, as Nietzsche would have desired, once Hitler had won the war, the first target of this campaign was the legacy of Moses Mendelssohn, both among German-speakers, and in the related development of the Yiddish Renaissance in Poland, Russia, and the Ukraine. It is relevant, that as part of our researches into the virtual holocaust of silence against the leading figures of victims from among German and Eastern European Jewry, one of our investigators notes that in the former Jewish cemetery associated with the great Berlin synagogue, only the name of one, Moses Mendelssohn himself, is celebrated in stone. Not that he was not great, but there were many families associated with his own, which made some among the greatest cultural contributions to the Eighteenth, Nineteenth, and early Twentieth Centuries in Germany. The same is to be said of similar contributions in Eastern Europe. For me, the mass killings stun the conscience; but, the world's holocaust of silence against the living memories of the Jewish contribution to modern European civilization, as typified by Moses Mendelssohn, is the most hideous. What was done to the bodies, is dwarfed in enormity by the indifference shown to those souls. It was this brutish indifference which drove so many into search for a place of Jewish national refuge. Now, the Jewish state so established, the question is, what does it do with itself in the history of the world? Its continued survival depends upon the answer to that latter question.

Q: Do you have any friends or relatives in Israel?

LaRouche: I have numerous, valued acquaintances, and a few who are to be considered in the strictest sense, as long-standing friends.

The West Is Responsible for Ethiopia's Tragedy

by Uwe Friesecke

On Good Friday, the U.S. vessel *Fairbanks* finally arrived in Djibouti, to unload 85,000 tons of relief goods, the bulk of which was wheat, to be distributed by a number of non-government relief organizations and the United Nations World Food Program. The U.S. government has scheduled to ship almost 500,000 tons of food aid to Ethiopia over the next four months. Of these, 90,000 tons are repayment to the Ethiopian government to replenish its Food Security Reserve. Since April 12, the International Committee of the Red Cross has been operating an airlift with relief goods into Gode, an airport in the middle of Ethiopia's Ogaden region, where about 500,000 people are most dramatically affected by the drought. A number of other countries, including Canada, Israel, Norway, and European Union (EU) nations, have also begun to bring food into the area. And on April 19, a team of specialists from the German Technische Hilfswerk (Technical Aid) flew from their recently opened base in Nairobi, Kenya, into Gode with water purification equipment, including a laboratory mounted on a truck to replenish a desperately needed water supply. On April 20, the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission of the Ethiopian government updated its estimates to about 8 million people who, in the next six months, will need approximately 1 million tons of food aid and \$45 million worth of water supply, health care, veterinary services, and logistics to back up the relief effort.

On the surface, it looks like the international relief effort has, even though slowly, gained steam, to prevent an all-out disaster of the magnitude Ethiopia experienced in 1984, when more than 1 million starved to death, or Somalia, where in 1991-92, hundreds of thousands died. But, more fundamentally, the crisis is far from being under control. Because, what will happen, if the three-year drought continues? And, what is the perspective for the other countries, including Somalia, Djibouti, and Eritrea, and parts of Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda, which are currently not as much in the headlines as Ethiopia? In these countries, another 8-10 million people are threatened by a severe food crisis. Are all of the countries in the Horn of Africa going to disintegrate into thousands of feeding stations for the desperately hungry, depending on the so-called generosity of Western humanitarian aid, delivered through ever new non-governmental organizations (NGOs)?

The aid that is flowing right now into the Horn of Africa

should not deceive anybody, that the long-term policy of Western governments vis-à-vis Africa is the reason for the humanitarian catastrophe. And, it cannot excuse the late hour at which help was delivered, which has probably cost hundreds, if not thousands of lives already. It cannot justify the self-righteous blame that some governments and a large part of the Western press are putting on the Ethiopian government, for having not done enough to avert the crisis.

Ethiopia: Still One of the Poorest Countries

For Ethiopians, there may be many reasons to criticize their government. But the fundamental problem lies elsewhere. The chances that Ethiopia would see a real "peace dividend," in the form of rapid economic development, after the end of the Cold War in 1990, was missed, as in so many other regions of the world. The governments of the Group of Seven steered the world economy toward globalization, and the resulting worldwide increase in poverty and economic disintegration, rather than into development and eradication of poverty. In these strategic decisions during 1989-94, no African government, let alone the Ethiopian government, had any influence over. This was, and still is, entirely the responsibility of the G-7 governments and their fanatical clinging to the so-called free-market-reform model.

For the last eight years, since 1992, Ethiopia has followed such a reform policy of structural adjustment. The policy measures included the complete liberalization of prices, the devaluation of the birr, the national currency, privatization of state enterprises, liberalization of the foreign exchange and interest rate system, deregulation of the labor market, and tight fiscal and monetary policies. By the end of 1996, Ethiopia was declared the model student of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in Africa, replacing Ghana in that role. In December 1996, the Consultative Group for Ethiopia, led by the World Bank, granted the country \$2.5 billion in new loans for 1996-99; Ethiopian Finance Minister Sufian Ahmed had only requested \$2 billion.

However, the unstinting praise for the Ethiopian government lasted only until October 1997, when the IMF suspended its adjustment facility because the liberalization of the trade and banking sector had not gone far enough. According to World Bank figures, the Ethiopian economy, measured in Gross Domestic Product, had grown at rates of 7-10% yearly.

But, this statistical growth was not reflected in the physical economy. While there has been improvement compared to the war years, major social indicators show, Ethiopia still remains one of the poorest countries in the world.

According to the UN Children's Fund (Unicef) State of the World's Children Report 2000, in 1998 Ethiopia had a mortality rate for children under 5 of 173 per 1,000 live births. Together with the Central African Republic, it ranks 18th from the bottom of 190 nations; Sierra Leone is the worst, with 319. Some 60 million Ethiopians have an average life expectancy at birth of 43 years. According to World

Zenawi: For Dignity and Economic Development

From the Keynote Address of Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, to a Symposium in honor of the late Dr. Eshetu Chole, on April 26, 2000:

The experience we have had also shows how vulnerable the progress we make in the economic area is to outside factors and to decisions made by our partners in development cooperation. Here, the choices we face, as has been clear to us over the past few years, are very stark. It is a choice, no matter the merit of one's case and no

matter how one fulfills one's obligation, between one's dignity as a sovereign nation and the cooperation of one's partners.

We have made a choice over the last two years, and these have had their consequences for our economy, and for even greater progress we could have made over the last eight years.

This is, of course, a dilemma faced by countries such as Ethiopia. Is it possible for countries such as Ethiopia to make socio-economic progress while maintaining their dignity as nations, and maintaining their independence as sovereign countries?

Some might argue that countries in similar circumstances as Ethiopia should be pragmatic. But the point, however, is where does pragmatism end and absolute surrender of one's dignity as a nation commence?

Bank Development Indicators for 1998, only 55% of Ethiopians have access to health care. There are only four doctors per 100,000 people. Some 90% of the population has no access to sanitation, and only 27% has access to safe water. In education, only 31% attend primary school. Children especially are prone to diseases. Only half of Ethiopia's children are immunized against measles. Diarrhea, HIV, and tuberculosis are endemic. According to a recent Oxfam report, the malnutrition rate among children, because the level of poverty in the countryside is so dramatic, is approximately 60%.

The government of President Meles Zenawi, which came to power in Addis Ababa in the summer of 1991, did begin to channel significant resources into the rehabilitation of infrastructure and agricultural development to rebuild the shattered economy, which the war years had left behind. Because 86% of the population depends on agriculture, the government launched an Agricultural Development-Led Industrialization strategy, and an agricultural extension program. According to Vice Minister for Agriculture Belay Ejigu, this policy yielded significant results. It increased annual food grain production by about 25%. In 1996, Ethiopia had a record harvest. But the current crisis shows, that the policy was unable to catapult the country's food production to levels needed for long-term food security. The question is, what is the problem, that Ethiopia seemingly cannot break out from the level of poverty and out of the cycle of life-threatening crises caused by recurring droughts?

When the group around Zenawi came to power, the United States and Britain created a framework, through the Bretton Woods institutions, in which these former Marxists had no choice but to make a drastic turnaround toward so-called free-market economic reforms. They were pointed to Yoweri Mu-

seveni's policy in Uganda, as an alleged success story, and promised that privatization and liberalization of the economy would attract international investors to make the economy bloom.

Tragically, the Ethiopian government proudly designed its own structural adjustment policy. But over the years, it painfully realized, that these Western promises were not to be fulfilled, and the country remains vulnerable to periods of drought.

For example, the promised investors never came. Of 3,500 government projects approved during 1992-97, valued at 27 billion birr, only 700 projects worth 5 billion birr were built. To increase the productivity of agriculture decisively, and to shift away from subsistence farming in order to achieve long-term food security, the economy needs a completely different scope of large-scale investments than any private enterprise can deliver. To have enough water, means functioning infrastructure, especially in transportation and energy, and enough inputs, such as fertilizers, seeds, pesticides, and machinery. The water scarcity and general lack of infrastructure in rural areas can only be solved through large-scale infrastructure projects, which go beyond the financing capability of the national government.

The World Bank and the IMF will simply not allow such projects. To at least triple or quadruple fertilizer input, from 7-8 kilograms of nutrients per hectare today (the world average is 97 kilograms), would mean a significant increase in imports and the buildup of a modern fertilizer industry. Under structural adjustment, this has been impossible. While the government implemented structural adjustment policy prescriptions, Western governments, led by the EU, cut long-term development assistance to Ethiopia from \$1 billion in 1991, to about \$600 million in 1997. The EU even cut its

assistance by two-thirds, from 73.5 million European Currency Units in 1993 to only ECU 24.7 million in 1997.

‘The Debt Must Be Paid’

Not only did Western governments prevent real development in Ethiopia over the last eight years, but they also insisted mercilessly on the repayment of the debt. According to the World Bank African Development Indicators 2000, Ethiopia has been paying approximately \$150 million annually throughout the 1990s, and still the total foreign external debt increased from \$9.1 billion in 1991 to \$10.1 billion in 1998. Instead of financing needed infrastructure, Western banks collected more than \$1 billion from the budget of one of the poorest countries of the world, stealing it from expenditures for health and education.

Such scandalous practice typifies Western policies toward Africa, which are dominated by London and Wall Street interests, and has Paris, Brussels, and Berlin as culpable partners. A year ago, at a conference of African finance and planning ministers, President Zenawi attacked Western policy, saying that the debt reduction initiatives were “far from adequate,” and were being used “as the whip to enforce unquestioning acceptance of the economic orthodoxy, the so-called ‘Washington Consensus,’ ” i.e., IMF austerity.

Government Efforts to Cope with the Food Crisis

Drawing lessons from earlier droughts, the Ethiopian government established a Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC), a famine early warning system, and an Emergency Food Security Reserve (EFSR). Since 1994-95, the EFSR had grown to 315,500 tons. Thanks to the early warning system, the government realized already in 1998 that the drought would soon seriously affect portions of the population. Therefore, the first international appeals for food aid were launched by the DPPC in December 1998 and January 1999.

The lack of February-May rains in 1999 led to a deteriorating situation in the northeastern highlands. Livestock died by the thousands, and families began to flee. It was further complicated by the effects of the Eritrean-Ethiopian war, which had started with an Eritrean invasion near Badme in May 1998 that produced thousands of refugees. When the September-November 1999 rains failed for the southern regions, the DPPC in October started sending food from Ethiopia’s reserves to the affected areas, and launched a “bridging appeal” to cover the expected additional needs for the first three months of 2000. Following that, the Ethiopian government, together with donor organizations, NGOs, and UN agencies, made a joint assessment of the fall harvest and concluded that for the year 2000, approximately 8 million Ethiopians would need food relief. By the time the DPPC made its appeal to the international community in January 2000, the

UN and the Western governments were fully aware of the looming crisis, because they themselves were involved in analyzing it. According to Ethiopian government spokesmen, between January and March 2000, the DPPC transported 101,000 tons of food to the affected areas to be distributed to the people in need. An additional 102,400 tons, of which 20,000 tons are earmarked for the Somali region, are being distributed now. But, the response of the international community was abysmal.

Not only did the Western governments and the UN fail to pledge sufficient food aid for the future, but they also stalled on replenishing the food they had borrowed from the Ethiopian Food Security Reserve, which by the end of 1999 was drawn down to less than 25,000 tons. While the Western governments miss no occasion to demand respect for human rights, they simply ignored a life-threatening crisis for 8 million people in Ethiopia and up to 18 million in the region.

One can only agree with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Seyoum Measfin, who complained during the EU-African summit in Cairo on April 4, that Europe only reacts, when skeletons appear on TV. It took UN Secretary General Kofi Annan until April 11 to send Catherine Bertini, the executive director of the World Food Program, as his personal envoy to the region to assess the seriousness of the crisis.

The same can be said of German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, a self-appointed champion of human rights, who sent the government’s Africa envoy, Ambassador von Strachwitz, to Ethiopia only during the second week of April. Whereas she called for immediate and unconditional aid, after she had been shocked by what she saw in the Ogaden, and after she met the Ethiopian President, Fischer insists on virtually blackmailing Ethiopia over the conflict with Eritrea. His initiative, that the UN Security Council should decide on an arms embargo against Ethiopia and Eritrea, which is apparently supported by Annan, amounts to a double punishment of Ethiopia, by the threat of famine and by the denial of its right to defend itself.

Such hypocritical attitudes on the part of Western political leaders, such as Fischer, or Britain’s Foreign Secretary Robin Cook, have unfortunately become commonplace, and it is the clearest indication of how deep the morality in Western governments has sunk, when it comes to the fate of Africa.

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Italy's D'Alema Dumped by Euro Fanatics, Britannia Boys

by Claudio Celani

On April 17, Italian Premier Massimo D'Alema resigned in the aftermath of regional elections in which the government center-left coalition had a very poor showing. The coalition succeeded in preserving its strongholds in central Italy and some southern regions, but it lost the highly significant Lazio region around Rome, to the conservative bloc. Also, the conservatives, by taking the northern Italy's Liguria region away from the center-left, now controls the entire north, the productive belt of the country.

However, D'Alema did not resign because his coalition lost—the elections were only administrative and had no effect on the Parliament, on which the government is based. Rather, the government fell because of a conspiracy, one which stemmed from within the government's own ranks, and which had been plotted since the end of the Kosovo war. The main conflict in Italian politics, as elsewhere in the world, is not between left and right (a pretense imposed by the oligarchy), but between national forces and mercenaries, intersecting both the conservative and the progressive camps. The peculiar form this has taken in Italy, is a fight between supporters of a "partyless system," as the best system to fit a globalized economy, and defenders of the traditional, even if weakened, party system, as the irreplaceable model of citizens' representation. D'Alema, the first leader of the former Italian Communist Party to ever become Premier, had reestablished the balance in favor of the latter faction, after a long series of "partyless," mercenary technocratic governments which had ruled the country during 1992-98 (with the exception of the short-lived, improvised government of Silvio Berlusconi).

D'Alema had survived the first attempt by his government allies to torpedo him, at the end of last year, a move which he neutralized by anticipating his adversaries and resigning, only to get another mandate from President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi. Now, the defeat, allegedly foreshadowing a similar defeat in the general elections to take place in 11 months, was used as the pretext by D'Alema's adversaries to dump him, and to ostensibly look for a candidate better suited to defeat opposition leader Berlusconi.

Economic Policy Shift Needed

In reality, to swing popular support in favor of the government, the latter would need a radical shift in economic

policy, to produce immediate tangible results. Ironically, the man chosen to replace D'Alema is, if anything, going to worsen the center-left chances. The man who has been assigned for the job, is technocrat Giuliano Amato. "Cool Amato," as the London *Financial Times* labels him, or "Julian the Apostate," as his former friends call him. It was Amato who inaugurated the partyless technocrats who opened the Italian economy up to foreign looting, through financial liberalization and privatization. Under Amato's first government, in 1992, such a policy was massively undertaken as a result of decisions taken on board the British royal yacht *Britannia* on June 2, 1992, among other places, and under conditions of a well-orchestrated attack against the Italian currency, the lira, led by George Soros. That year, Amato implemented the harshest austerity program since the Roman Empire, consisting of over 90 trillion liras in budget cuts and tax and price increases.

Amato's career was launched by Socialist Party General Secretary, the late Bettino Craxi. When Craxi was targeted, and eventually eliminated, by the "Clean Hands" investigation, Amato jumped to the other side. Before dying, Craxi characterized Amato as "a professional on a contract," i.e., a mercenary. Another victim of the Clean Hands operation, former Milan Mayor Paolo Pillitteri, who had been close to Amato, said: "He is Julian the Apostate, the man . . . who can neither weep or laugh. I have long wondered whether he has a soul. I am sure that he has no heart. . . . He is like a computer. He works according to the software with which he is programmed."

Amato, after receiving the mandate from President Ciampi, declared that he will put together a "left-right" program. Leaks to the press indicate that he will work on a project to privatize the labor market. By the time you read this article, Amato will have presented his cabinet to Parliament and it will have been voted on. If it is not approved, Ciampi will probably dissolve Parliament and call for early elections, as desired by the opposition.

The Conspiracy

One reason why Ciampi, who headed the Central Bank under Amato's first government, would do anything to avoid early elections, is the psychodrama around the euro, the Euro-

pean single currency, which Italy has been a member of since it began in January 1999. The euro binds its members to promote “stability,” through strict fiscal and monetary discipline, in an environment of total liberalization of capital and labor markets. A prolonged period of political uncertainty is considered a threat to such stability. Already, the supranational “Euroland” government, Brussels’ European Commission (EC) and the European Central Bank, are extremely nervous because of the ostensible failure of the euro, which has depreciated 20% since its launch. Incapable of addressing the real causes for the crisis, i.e., the project itself, they are blaming countries which were not energetic enough with reforms, a typical case being Italy.

The D’Alema government was accused of not being rigorous enough in cutting the budget. Amato himself, before the regional elections, criticized the government (in which he was Finance Minister!) for “spending too much.” Moreover, D’Alema had attempted to get concessions from the EC, in order to finance some investments out of the state budget, especially in the chronically depressed Mezzogiorno region in southern Italy.

This was enough for the pro-euro oligarchy to signal that the time to dump D’Alema had come. At the same time, the opposition is considered a wild card. Although swearing allegiance to free-market and globalization policies, the “Polo della Libertà” includes strong “euro-skeptical” components, who could get their policies through, especially in the context of an unfolding international financial collapse.

Hence, another technocrat was deemed necessary.

The Anti-Free-Market Vote

The regional vote has indeed strengthened healthy factions inside the conservative bloc. For instance, the governorship of the Lazio region was won by Francesco Storace, from Alleanza Nazionale, who represents the current called the “Social Right,” out of which came the initiative in favor of a New Bretton Woods conference, both in the Italian and the European Parliaments (see *EIR*, March 7, 2000, p. 7). After being elected, Storace said that his number-one priority will be fighting unemployment, which in the Lazio region is officially 300,000. He also said that he will use all his powers to prevent a planned “Gay Pride Day,” from taking place in Rome, which is planned as a direct provocation against the Jubilee Year of the Catholic Church.

Also, incumbent governor of the Lombardy region, Roberto Formigoni (Forza Italia), was confirmed with more than the double votes of his opponent, decadent post-Christian Democrat Mino Martinazzoli. Lombardy is the most industrialized region, and Formigoni has publicly endorsed Lyndon LaRouche’s policies.

These examples are typical of forces which are now in a stronger position, and could carry forward the fight against free-market policies, using the opportunities offered by the collapsing international financial system.

The conservative bloc, however, has an intrinsic weakness: the conflicting interests inside the coalition. Besides the largest party, Forza Italia (representing middle-class voters and largely composed of former conservative Christian Democrats and Socialists), and the right-wing Alleanza Nazionale, the decisive swing factor in the recent vote was the (formerly) separatist Lega Nord (Northern League), which was invited to join the coalition after many years of marginalization from political life. Although the coalition leader, Berlusconi, a media magnate who entered politics in 1993, is avowing that the Lega has dumped its separatist demands, the common program includes promises of “devolution” reforms, to weaken the power of the central government. At the same time, the program calls for ambitious infrastructure projects, including in southern Italy, and for “executive” sort of legislative procedures in order to overcome environmentalist and other opposition to the projects. It is difficult to understand what is propaganda and what is not, especially because Berlusconi portrays himself as an “Italian Thatcher.” But, even admitting a strong component of Machiavellianism and hidden agendas, to lead such a conflicting coalition requires the capabilities of an Alexander the Great, which Berlusconi has not yet shown to have developed.

The Austria Treatment

However, the very possibility that Italy would be run by the conservative coalition next year has set off alarm bells in Euroland. In a clumsy move, a few weeks before the recent vote in Italy, German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder said, in an interview with the newspaper *Die Welt*, that the European Union should apply diplomatic sanctions against Italy if the conservative bloc comes to power. Schröder used the term “neo-fascists” to characterize coalition member Alleanza Nazionale, and compared it to the Freedom Party of Austria, led by populist Jörg Haider. Schröder was supported by EC President Prodi and by former NATO General Secretary Javier Solana, currently the EU “foreign minister.”

Now, after the regional election results, a wave of media hysteria has been unleashed in some European countries against the “Italian Haiders,” Berlusconi, Alleanza Nazionale leader Gianfranco Fini, and Lega Nord leader Umberto Bossi.

One might ask the real reason for such hysteria. Sanctions, like those against Austria, have proven to be counterproductive. They strengthen, rather than weaken, national support for those forces which are the targets of the sanctions. Given that European leaders are well aware of this, one might suspect that some of them are trying to find a way out of the euro catastrophe by fabricating issues which could jettison the whole project, while at the same time avoiding having to confess: “We made a mistake from the beginning.”

As in the case of Austria, a confrontation with Italy would force the issue of national sovereignty to be addressed publicly, with unpredictable consequences for all of Europe.

Mexico's Vicente Fox: Another Trilateral Commission President?

by Carlos Cota Meza

Who really is Mexican Presidential candidate Vicente Fox? The answer can ultimately be found among the Trilateral Commission circles that installed Jimmy Carter in the White House in 1977.

Running for the Presidency on the tickets of both the National Action Party (PAN) and the Green Ecologist Party of Mexico (PVEM), which are joined in the so-called Alliance for Change, Fox has revealed the profile of a brainwashed babbling and fervent believer in New Age ideology, ever since entering politics, and especially since becoming the governor of the state of Guanajuato (1995-99). As a typical New Age conservative, Fox believes in Alvin Toffler's silly notion, that "the 'Second Wave'—industrial society with its representative government—has died." According to this theory, the government of the Third Wave (or "post-industrial society") must emerge from the destruction of the foundations of the federal, constitutional government.

Fox is not a person, but a project. Manufactured and promoted every step of his career, both in business and in politics, Fox is a project of the international financial oligarchy which seeks the disintegration of Mexico. The architects of this project can be found in the Atlanta, Georgia headquarters of Coca Cola and of David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission.

Bottled by Coke

Fox is "proud" of having worked for 15 years for Coca Cola. Having just left the School of Business Administration of Iberoamerica University in business administration, and before obtaining his degree, he joined Coca Cola as a retail distributor. He went on to spend a year as head of operations, rose to marketing manager, and finally the presidency of the Mexican subsidiary, from 1974-79. In 1971, he returned from Harvard University, "where I was sent to study senior management."

Fox has remained hooked on Coke to this day. In an interview with an American journalist, Rafael Hernández, head of Coca Cola's Latin American division, acknowledged that several of his former executives are now Fox's campaign executives.

The fog begins to clear when one realizes that the least of

what Coca Cola does is sell soft drinks. And does it sell! The multinational is a key component of what has become known as the "Atlanta mafia," which has its world headquarters in the Georgia capital. It is a powerful conglomerate of companies (junk food, sports, entertainment, communications media), which for years has been intertwined with David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission.

The first political "success" of the Atlanta mafia and of the Trilateral Commission was the promotion of Jimmy Carter, whom they made Governor of Georgia. Later, as President of the United States (1977-81), Carter functioned as "the Trilateral Commission President." It was during his administration that the project which its proponents called "controlled disintegration" of the world economy, was launched by then-U.S. Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker.

Their second "success" was Newt Gingrich, who, after several failed attempts, was made a Congressman from Georgia, and then raised to the leadership of the neo-conservative political action committee, GOPAC. Gingrich achieved world notoriety when, as the Republican Speaker of the House of Representatives, he shut down the Federal government just after New Year's in 1996, over budget disputes with President Clinton. His fame grew when he tried to destroy the U.S. Presidency with the Monica Lewinsky sex scandal. When this failed, Gingrich was forced to resign ignominiously.

The "Friends of Fox" movement, through which Fox imposed his Presidential candidacy on the National Action Party, bears a striking similarity to Gingrich's GOPAC. Both movements are characterized by promoting "non-political" candidates, and their organizational structure is similar to that of the Mary Kay Cosmetics and Amway companies, the door-to-door sale of products through "human chains" or "pyramids."

GOPAC indoctrinated its "non-political" candidates on the necessity of using simple language, "repetition of concepts," certain themes repeated over and over again until they become part of "everyday speech." In the case of the United States, these were that "Congress is corrupt," "We need to balance the budget," "We need to defeat bureaucracy," and "We represent the society of opportunities." The targets of



Presidential candidate Vicente Fox is shown here in a promotional photo for his election campaign, like Jimmy Carter and Al Gore, a fervent believer in New Age ideology.

its propaganda were the 18- to 40-year-old voters who were disenchanted with politics. With virtually no variation, we discover the same empty phrases appearing as a litany in Fox's speeches, while the financing of the "Friends of Fox" movement remains a mystery.

The Atlanta Trilateraloids created both Gingrich and Fox as battering rams against the institutions of the nation.

Wall Street's Boy

A review of Fox's current "international relations" reveals that the Atlanta project is still in full force. The Guanajuato "rancher"—which is the political persona that Fox maintains in front of the voters—would clearly never have been able to finance such activity alone, nor cultivate the political networks that have brought him to this point.

Speaking before the Americas Society in New York, in 1996, Fox proposed the privatization of the Mexican state-owned oil company Pemex. The Americas Society is composed of 194 multinational companies and cartels which are the private owners of the North American Free Trade Agreement on both sides of the border. Since 1998, Fox has maintained a website called "The Road to Los Piños," to which only the membership of the Americas Society—also known as David Rockefeller's Council of the Americas—has had access.

Another key international group in the Fox Project is the Gorbachov Foundation. This foundation, created by George Bush and Margaret Thatcher in the mid-nineties, has as its purpose the identification and sponsorship of political figures from various nations, all committed to globalization.

"The foundation has a network of some 5,000 members

from around the world, who make recommendations about people we don't know, but who are at the level of Mr. Gorbachov, whom we do know, and with whom we have had a relationship for some time through Foundation president Mr. Garrison," explained journalist Carmen Meléndez, director of development for the foundation.

Meléndez confirmed that Fox was a participant in the State of the World Forum of the Gorbachov Foundation, in 1995, 1996, and 1998. In 1997, he was scheduled to be one of the main speakers, but was unable to attend "for personal reasons." However, he has been invited to the "Millennium" forum, which the Foundation plans to hold in New York, in September 2000, where he will share the podium with Mikhail Gorbachov.

Fox is "someone whom we truly value and esteem. Whether he becomes President or not, he has done a significant amount of work," declared Meléndez.

The coordination of Fox's activities with the Gorbachov Foundation is very close. Meléndez says that the Foundation put Fox together with Mohamed Yunas, founder of the Grameen Bank of Bangladesh, who at the time was co-president of the Foundation's World Forum. From that meeting stemmed Fox's passion for the so-called "Bangladesh model." Santa Fé Bank, which Fox founded while Governor of Guanajuato, is a replica of the Bangladesh bank, and is supervised by the Gorbachov Foundation.

Another of Fox's international promoters is Washington's Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

Armand Peschard, director of the Mexico Project at CSIS, recently told a journalist that he had spent some time with Fox, and "I know he has been receptive to privatization. . . . I

know that he said that he would try to privatize.” Peschard also confirmed Fox’s friendship with President George Bush’s sons, particularly Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, whose wife is from Guanajuato.

But Peschard’s most telling praise for Fox centered around the latter’s recent provocation, when he tried to revive the sharp religious and political fractures produced by the Cristero War, and which drove the country to the verge of civil war during the 1920s and 1930s. In the middle of a September 1999 political rally to accept the PAN’s Presidential nomination, Fox posed with a banner of the Virgin of Guadalupe, and threatened to adopt the Cristeros slogan “*Viva Cristo Rey*” (“Long Live Christ the King”) as his electoral slogan.

To revive such a slogan today, as part of a Presidential campaign, is the best way to split Mexicans between “Masons” and “Cristeros,” and to plunge the country into civil war.

Peschard doesn’t see it that way. “The fact that Vicente Fox had his picture taken, you know, on a stage with the Virgin, was, very much, I personally think it was a very wise electoral strategy,” he said. “Fox is going against 70 years of PRI [Revolutionary Institutional Party] rule, and so in order to try to get himself elected; he’s to some extent going against political culture that is accustomed to having the PRI in power.”

Fox and Salinas

In late 1999, Fox presented his book *To Los Piños* (Los Piños is the Presidential mansion), which he described as his “autobiographical and political memoirs.” In a sort of prologue, it says, “This is the history of Vicente Fox, but not the superficial part,” rather, “his most intimate part.”

Intimately, Fox confesses, “to be frank — and I may perhaps have to pay a high price for admitting this — but I personally have changed my mind a bit since entering politics. The state cannot be entirely dismantled as long as it is dealing with a weak society.”

In other words, Fox had been convinced of the “necessity” of dismantling the state, and his recognition of possible problems that his new assertion would bring has to do with the fact that the Friends of Fox movement is made up of fire-eating radicals on the subject. Fox’s change of opinion, however, is “just a bit,” and not very credible, at that, for throughout his “intimate” book, he claims to refute his critics, only to state that he would like to do some of what his critics are saying.

For example, with respect to his proposal for the privatization of Pemex, which he presented in May 1996 before the Americas Society in New York, he now says: “Speaking before a considerable group of investors, I expressed my conviction that businessmen are much more capable of making the state company profitable, but we should never shed ourselves of the oil, of the natural resource.”

He adds that if the privatization of Pemex “were the best option for the citizens, it would be a transparent procedure.” But, “From my standpoint, what is appropriate and most convenient for Mexico’s interests, is the opening up to the private sector.”

He did the same thing with his proposal for privatizing the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE). “Unfortunately,” says Fox, President Ernesto Zedillo’s “proposal to modify the Constitution and to permit private participation in the electricity industry, lacks rules to avoid fixes and shady dealings.” In contrast, according to Fox, his proposal — which is the same — is brilliant and transparent: “My proposal is for two phases: first, the opening to private investment, so that two years later, the CFE would no longer be a state-owned public company, but a privately owned public company.”

Fox opposes neither former President Carlos Salinas de Gortari nor Ernesto Zedillo for the de-nationalization policies they carried out; he opposes them, rather, because it was not Fox, personally, who ordered these policies. Where does this messianic self-conception come from?

With regard to Salinas de Gortari, he says: “I share the idea that the economic opening is beneficial, but the one ‘Baldy’ launched was unplanned. . . . During the six years of Salinas’s administration, an historic opportunity to make public administration more efficient and to pull Mexico out of the hole it has been in for decades, was lost.”

Fox proclaims his “difference” with the free-trade PRI rulers, and explains his training as a manager-ruler:

“I am accused of wanting to run the country as if it were Coca Cola. It’s not a matter of that, but of resorting to principles and philosophies that work well. Having worked with a multinational and having had contact with the Americans,” boasts Fox, “gives me the basis for assuring that professional and advantageous relations can be maintained. . . . The Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is yielding results, and it would be the moment to move to a second phase . . . a North American Common Market; I am a firm believer that in the year 2020 or 2030, there will only exist six or eight trading blocs, with their respective currencies.”

With these comments, Fox reveals his annexationist intentions, at the same time that he would dismember Mexico into regions that would “autonomously” insert themselves into the process of globalization. Similarly, he ratifies his intention of eliminating the peso and adopting the dollar as Mexico’s legal currency. The results of such a policy are visible in the pitiful Ecuador situation (see “Dollarizers Out to Impose Slavery on Nation-States,” *EIR*, April 21, 2000).

Fox owes a great deal to Salinas. Under the Salinas government, the Constitution was reformed to allow children of foreigners — Fox’s mother was American — to contend for the Mexican Presidency.

According to Fox himself, he has worked hard on his Presidential candidacy. “The first step was to modify Article 82 of the Constitution. . . . It prevented us from serving our

country by the simple fact that one of our parents had not been born in Mexico.”

Fox, the Jesuits, and the Theology of Liberation

In his biographical account, Fox writes, “The Jesuit priests were always present in our lives; the first priest who knew my mother in Mexico, and who later became her confessor and adviser, was a Jesuit.”

With Jesuit priest Xavier Scheifler, “I developed a deep friendship which left an indelible print on me,” writes Fox. Scheifler, of Basque origin, arrived in Mexico directly from the University of Louvain in Belgium, and became the director of the business administration school at Iberoamerica University. “At the beginning of the course,” Fox reminisced, “the Father described Marxism as a good theory, but by the end of the semester, he convinced us of the opposite, and turned us into anti-Marxists.”

Students from Iberoamerica University, from the generations after Fox, still remember Father Scheifler as one of the first to promote the Theology of Liberation in Mexico, from the Jesuit university.

Fox claims to have a “profound” commitment to the Jesuit philosophy, which is based “on understanding that personal realization is only achieved by serving others.” Fox considers himself part of the grouping formed by the Jesuits, “capable of transforming reality.” In a meeting in Havana with Fidel Castro, Fox stressed that both of them had been “educated by the Jesuits.”

With the Jesuits, Fox carried out extensive philanthropy. He worked, after Coca Cola, with groups that worked in the marginalized areas of Mexico City, and he sponsored the creation of rehabilitation centers for drug addicts, alcoholics, and battered and abandoned women. In Guanajuato, he directed the Loyola Foundation and founded the Amigo Daniel infant care center.

More recently, Iberoamerica University granted him the degree he had left unfinished. The rector of the university is Enrique González Torres, who is recognized as the “financial wizard” of the Society of Jesus. His brother, Jorge González Torres, has been head of the ecologist Green Party since its founding, and runs it like a family business. One wonders how much the González Torres brothers charged Fox for his degree, for the alliance with the Greenies, and for the backing of the Jesuits.

When Salinas de Gortari returned to Mexico from Harvard University, he went to the Batopilas cooperative in Coahuila, where, together with the Jesuits, he spawned a political group of which much has been spoken in the recent history of Mexico. It was called the Línea de Masas (“Line of the Masses”) group, and it migrated to Chiapas, where, together with Bishop Samuel Ruiz, it engendered the Zapatista National Liberation Front (EZLN), which carries out political assassinations and the like.

Another Jesuit priest, Hermann von Bertrand, went to the Technological Institute of Higher Studies in Monterrey, where his teachings became integrally tied up with the gestation of terrorist youth groups. Those youth, after being amnestied, went on to join Salinas de Gortari’s political-economic project. Von Bertrand worked for the Planning and Budget Ministry under Salinas, and ended up as an adviser to Joseph Marié Cordova Montoya, known as Salinas’s “Rasputin.”

What we see here are two sides of the same coin. Where Fox speaks about “philanthropy,” Salinas says “solidarity,” but both politicians are products of Harvard training in the manipulation and control of masses impoverished by neoliberal free-trade policies.

With regard to the Chiapas conflict and the leading role of Samuel Ruiz, Fox states that “I could not conceive of Bishop Samuel Ruiz as being a bad person.” With regard to the Chiapas problem, he offers “to resolve it in 15 minutes,” by ordering “the immediate redeployment of the troops the Army has in Chiapas,” and by subjecting the Armed Forces to “the redefinitions that must be concretized in the face of a globalized world, and the times in which the country lives.” That is, by applying to Mexico the same policy that has been applied in Colombia, and which has surrendered half the country to the narco-terrorist FARC.

The Separatist Fox

In his autobiography, Fox states, “Ever since assuming the governorship in 1995, I have proposed to run Guanajuato as a country, not as a part of the federal government.” And his intention is to rule Mexico as if it were a country of countries, splitting it into regions. This is a vision he shares with the Zapatistas’ “Sub-Commander Marcos.” Upon becoming President, Fox continues, “I will release a decree on decentralization that is already ready and waiting in my desk drawer. . . . My goal is to put an end to imperial Presidencies.”

Through a new government agency that he calls a Ministry of International Trade, according to Fox, “I will turn around economic development policy, where the priority will be globality, competitiveness, regional and local development.” Within this radical free-trade view, the North American Free Trade Agreement and other treaties that have been signed, do not represent the destruction of the national economy, but rather, “until now, NAFTA and the other world agreements have basically operated within the environment of central governments and large corporations, but have not paid attention to the development of trade between cities and states.”

Fox calls his strategy the “plentitude of federalism,” in which each municipality and each state could autonomously negotiate its entrance into globalism. To accomplish this, Fox’s recipe is “total opening,” “imitate strategies,” and “learn from abroad.”

In his demagogical ravings, Fox states that it “is very difficult, if not impossible, to grow and generate jobs that the country needs, through domestic resources. The internal

market is practically dead, there is no buying power and therefore no consumption; the only alternative we have is to work outwards”—that is, obliterating Mexico’s sovereignty by annexing it to the United States.

The Synarchist Fox

But what reveals the true aims of the Atlanta mafia’s Fox project, is the incident surrounding the banner of the Virgin of Guadalupe last September. Fox’s effort to present a profile as a kind of “New Age synarchist,” against the “Masons” of both the PRI and of Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas’s PRD, is a trial balloon. Last September, Fox’s game didn’t work, mainly because of the reaction of the Mexican Catholic Church, in the person of Archbishop Primate Cardinal Norberto Rivera, who denounced Fox for trying to politicize the image of the Virgin of Guadalupe. It is expected that Fox will attempt more provocations of this sort during his campaign.

According to this historically and philosophically false scenario, Mexico is irreconcilably split between an anti-Catholic “Masonic” state stemming from the Mexican Revolution of 1910-1917, and another “Catholic and Cristero” Mexico which opposes the state. Thus, Fox is constantly denouncing the Mexican Revolution and the governing institutions which were later forged, as “illegitimate.” Seeded throughout his political movement, in important positions of regional leadership, are individuals who preach theories of history and of religion taken from the radical faction of the Mexican and international synarchist movement. Some of them do not recognize as valid the emergence of the institution of the sovereign nation-state, as the most perfect form of government that humankind has created. Others have reached the extreme of declaring that Pope John Paul II is the “anti-Christ.”

Does Fox share these views? We are waiting to hear from him. It is worth noting that Fox accuses the Catholic Church hierarchy in Mexico of being allied to the PRI, and proposes that both be dismantled.

And what of Mexico’s synarchists? Curiously, one faction of that movement backs Fox, while another has allied with the PRD’s Cárdenas, who has also proposed the elimination of the Constitution, and the convocation of a Constituent Assembly, should he be elected President.

What is Fox’s concept of constitution and republic?

Fox’s autobiography says that when he became Governor of Guanajuato in June 1995, he held two conferences, one informal and one formally before the State Legislature. At the informal one, Fox pledged his loyalty to the first political constitution of the state, promulgated in 1826, which is no longer in force. Fox reproduces excerpts from the preamble to that constitution, stating that “I drew my strength and breath from them.”

He continues: “The sacred maxim of equality before the law, will henceforth be the foundation of our glory and our joy. . . . It will be in vain, yes, in vain, to have all those benefits,

if one cannot enjoy the peace of soul and the pleasure of tranquillity, which is the sweet fruit of security.”

Still citing the preamble, Fox continues: “Let us fulfill the duties imposed by the sacred pact that unites us. We are members of one big family, and we are obliged to ennoble it with our patriotism and our virtues.”

Besides the quietist mysticism exuded by this quotation, Fox’s preference for the 1826 Guanajuato constitution is very revealing with regard to his present intentions. He states: “If at some point in the more than 170 years since then, the philosophy and laws consecrated in that constitution had been applied, we would have been singing a different tune at the close of the 20th century.” Reiterating his opposition to the current Constitution of the United Mexican States, he writes: “This could have had more beneficial effects in our country; the political model adopted then would have put the brakes on the future Presidential authoritarianism, which for 70 years has been choking Mexicans.”

Thus, when Fox talks about doing away with the supposed “imperial Presidency,” achieving the “regionalization” of development and the “plentitude” of federalism, what he has in mind is that 19th-century map of autonomous provinces. Today, this means dismantling the current Federal Pact, no matter how bloody that proves to be.

‘Fox Populi’

In mid-1999, a book entitled *Fox Populi* was released, written by César Leal, one of the ideologues of Friends of Fox. According to *Fox Populi*, the movement awaits “its hero, the arrival, the rapture of a Messiah, perhaps.” It has to be someone “who opens his arms in a V.” That leader “is the governor of Guanajuato, and his name is Vicente Fox.” Leal adds, “Recognizing that God grants gifts to special men, at special moments in history, is not bossism.”

Fox’s most recent assault on the law was his push to impose a photo of him, brandishing the “V for victory” sign, as the logo of the Alliance for Change electoral movement.

Fox insists, “It is urgent to rescue the figure of leadership in the political arena, instead of criticizing and demonizing it. . . . Leadership is identified with a high-profile figure.”

Friends of Fox proclaims the advent of a new, unarmed revolution, “but its violence, with the same thunder, replaces whatever and whoever should no longer govern. . . . It replaces a different revolution. No man still trapped in the old spider web can participate in this [new] endeavor.”

Fox Populi explains the Mexican Revolution: “Ever since the victorious group of the revolution installed itself in power, two signs were drawn on its forehead: one that proclaims absolute control of power . . . and another which gives it the seal of an incorrigible mania to become rich at the expense of the people’s monies.” But, it says, the PRI’s most serious illness is that “it created a philosophical conception of Mexican society . . . at the acme of which was the state . . . based on the ownership and administration of all the wealth of the

soil, the subsoil, and the sea, and the promotion of its exploitation and development through state companies.”

For Fox, the most important of the myths that need to be done away with is, “without a doubt, that of our own revolution,” which he considers a social movement that was “inevitable, but it and its legitimate aims were finished off by the big generals.” If the Mexican Revolution was the first revolution of the 20th century, Fox is convoking “the first revolution of the 21st century.”

Considering the 20th century “a lost century,” Fox asks: “Is our Constitution still current?” His reply is that it has “gone too far,” touching upon areas that correspond “to secondary laws and statutes,” such as land ownership, the cooperative farm system of the *ejido*, and Pemex, laws which have only been in effect for 30-50 years. “I would not therefore propose a new Constitution, but a revision that would reduce the specter of interference and replace the old paradigms.”

As a wise constitutionalist has said, Mexico has not written much about protectionism, because that economic theory is incorporated in the Constitution of 1917. Fox objects to that aspect of the Constitution, and to its defense of sovereignty. Friends of Fox maintain that “the notion of sovereignty should cease to be linked to lines on the map, and should have more to do with the identification of the whole.” For Fox, “threats to sovereignty” are mere “labels” which only lead to “feelings

of inferiority” when Mexicans deal with the United States.

In today’s Mexico, the constitutional Mexico that Fox wants to destroy, defense of sovereignty and protectionism are values of a shared existence, which are not taken into account by the world of free trade. These values of living together are reflected in the constitutional concept of social justice, which every Mexican government not captured by free-trade mania has attempted to carry out in practice.

That is why “democracy” in Mexico cannot be defined, as the globalization mafia would have it, as a mere alternation of parties in power under conditions of liberal economics. True democracy is defined as a system of life founded on the constant economic, social, and cultural improvement of the people. Sovereign development must be without hostilities and exclusions, and should attend to understanding the nation’s problems, to the sane exploitation of its resources, to defense of its political independence, to assuring economic independence, and the continuing and qualitative improvement of its culture.

These are the values that the powerful forces of globalism despise. To the free-market oligarchs, the only way to impose their economic theory is to make the current Constitution disappear. That is why “Foxism” represents the final phase of “Salinasism,” and that is why both political movements should be extirpated from national life.

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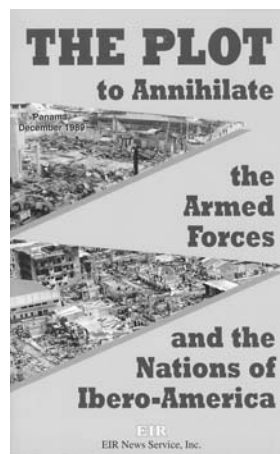
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—James Zackrisson, *Defense Force Quarterly*

International Intelligence

Hun Sen Scores UN over Khmer Rouge Trials

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen used the April 5 quarterly meeting of his nation's principal international donors, to impress upon them the importance of the UN's accepting Cambodia's terms for genocide trials of surviving Khmer Rouge leaders. In particular, he insisted that prosecutors, both the invited international prosecutors and their Cambodian counterparts, must agree on whom to indict and prosecute; the UN is insisting that the international prosecutors retain their "independence," effectively dictating terms to the Phnom Penh government.

Hun Sen warned: "We cannot agree to Cambodian and foreign prosecutors making separate charges; if they accuse people at will, it could drag in American leaders or those who used to support the Khmer Rouge," but have made peace with the government. Competing prosecution agendas "would not be a trial to find justice for the Cambodian people, but would instead lead to conflict within the United Nations Security Council itself."

The seven-member team of senior UN legal personnel departed early the week before, after failing to resolve issues during week-long meetings. The United States has proposed a "mixed tribunal," with international participation alongside Cambodian peers, in which a Cambodian majority would sit on each panel of judges, and share prosecutorial duties. Cambodia has accepted this proposal. But, the UN insists on its controlling role to ensure so-called "international standards."

Reveal British Dirty Tricks vs. Sukarno

Newly uncovered British Foreign Office documents disclose a 1960s "dirty tricks" campaign against Indonesia's charismatic first President, Sukarno, according to a report picked up in Singapore's *Straits Times* on April 17. The report, which appeared first in London's *Independent on Sunday* on April 16, could, after 35 years, help explain the events in Indonesia's famous *Gestapu*

affair of Sept. 30, 1965, when seven military commanders were murdered. The crime was blamed on the Indonesian Communist Party; in the bloodletting that followed, some 300,000 Indonesians died. Sukarno was "retired" in 1966, with President Suharto emerging as the new national leader.

The *Independent* said it had obtained a Foreign Office document, which demonstrates how London manipulated the world's journalists. A letter marked "secret and personal" from Foreign Office Information Research specialist Norman Reddaway to Britain's Ambassador Sir Andrew Gilchrist, bragged about the campaign to destabilize Sukarno. The letter suggested that Sukarno's rule would lead to a Communist takeover. One story, including an allegation that the Indonesian Communists were planning to slaughter the citizens of Jakarta, "went all over the world and back again," wrote Reddaway.

Further, Cabinet documents have been unearthed by Dr. David Easter, a historian at the London School of Economics. His research, which appeared in April in *Intelligence and National Security*, shows that the Cabinet's defense and overseas policy committee asked the head of MI6, Dick White, to draw up plans for covert operations against Indonesia in January 1964. According to Dr. Easter, these operations began that spring, and included supplying arms to separatists in the provinces of Aceh and Sulawesi.

Lord Denis Healey, then Defense Secretary, denied to the *Independent* any knowledge of a wider MI6 campaign to arm Sukarno's opponents. But, he added, "I would certainly have supported it."

New York Times: FARC Is Leading Drug Cartel

The *New York Times* on April 21 carries a front-page feature, which defines the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) "guerrillas" as the country's leading drug cartel—something that *EIR*'s readers have known for years. The defeat of the Medellín and Cali cocaine cartels, says author Larry Rohter, gave the FARC a golden opportunity to make its major move into the drug trade, which President Andrés Pastra-

na's "peace negotiations" with the FARC have facilitated.

Rohter dismisses the myth that the FARC only "protects" the drug cartels, but doesn't engage in production or trafficking: "In 1996, a U.S. intelligence summary concluded that while guerrilla units were selling protection, . . . only a few" were more directly involved in the trade. "But that has changed dramatically over the past 18 months, since the Colombian government gave a chunk of territory to the FARC," the so-called demilitarized zone, which has been converted into "a major cocaine production center." Rohter calls this move "a crucial miscalculation by President Pastrana." Within FARC territory, says Rohter, mayors, judges, and priests are being driven out, and peasants are being forced to grow coca. The coca is then sold to a FARC-controlled monopoly at half the price that coca growers were getting before the FARC moved in, and the processed cocaine is shipped out by way of hundreds of FARC-controlled airstrips. "And now the second largest left-wing guerrilla group, the ELN . . . wants its own demilitarized zone."

Southern African Leaders Back Zimbabwe's Mugabe

When Southern and Central African leaders met at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, on April 21-22, to deliberate on implementing the UN-brokered peace deal for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the British tried to turn it into a pressure campaign against Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, whom they are seeking to overthrow. Nonetheless, all the key leaders, who expressed their disgust with the lying press coverage typified by the London *Times* and BBC, endorsed Mugabe.

The April 22 *Times* had two contradictory reports: British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook told the *Times* in an interview, that he spoke with the Presidents Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, and Sam Nujoma of Namibia, who agreed to present the British position to Mugabe. But, the article on the conference reported that African leaders "gave a ringing endorsement" to Mugabe.

President Mbeki said that Britain should

VLADIMIR PUTIN was placed under a death sentence by the London-based "Islamist" terrorists Al Muhajiroun, following his visit to London in April. The *fatwa*-by-website proclaimed that "as for Muslims everywhere, including the 4 million in Britain, the Islamic Decree regarding the Russian invasion of Chechnya will continue to be *jihad* . . . that Putin, as head of the barbaric Russian regime remains a legitimate target, as do all Russian forces."

IRAQ'S DEFENSE Minister visited Moscow in late April, according to Russian Defense Minister Igor Sergeev. No details were given on the talks, but it is likely that they concerned Russian help in bolstering Iraqi air defense systems.

THE UN SECURITY Council is considering adding 3,500 peacekeepers to the current force of 4,500 inside Lebanon, to secure peace in the south of the country after Israel pulls out its military in July. Syria helped draft the Security Council resolution for the expansion of peacekeeping forces, which, the *Washington Post* suggested on April 21, may imply that Syria will cooperate to assure that the Hezbollah doesn't renew rocket attacks against Israel.

PAKISTAN, through a Christian minister, has approached Pope John Paul II, inviting him to help mediate the Kashmir conflict with India. Minister Derick Cyprian delivered the message to the Vatican from Pakistani Chief Executive Gen. Pervez Musharraf, asking the Pope to visit Pakistan, "to extend his initiative of peace, harmony, and inter-faith dialogue which the Holy Father had started during his recent visit to the Holy Land in Palestine."

GERMAN Ambassador to India Dr. Heinrich Deickmann told a Chambers of Commerce meeting on April 17, that "India demands a permanent seat in an enlarged UN Security Council. A claim for global leadership by India is not disputed by my country."

make good on its commitments to finance Zimbabwe's land reform. "Those commitments were made again [by Blair] to me personally and in 1998," Mbeki said. "Decisions were arrived at and pledges made. But the funds never came. The matter of inequality in land ownership had been recognized for decades, yet nothing has moved forward on an issue which is recognized as central to ensure the future of Zimbabwe."

Both Mozambique's Chissano and Namibia's Nujoma expressed hostility over the media lies, calling them "provocative."

With respect to the actual agenda, securing peace in the Congo, Zimbabwe Defense Minister Moven Mahachi said, "It was a good meeting. We dealt with confidence-building measures amongst ourselves as combatants in the Congo. We made tremendous progress, and I think that we are now closer to the total implementation of the peace accords signed last year in Zambia. The Presidents tackled issues ranging from troop pullout to deployment of the United Nations peacekeepers."

The meeting included Uganda and Rwanda, whose troops have invaded eastern Congo, and Zimbabwe and Namibia, which deployed troops into the Congo at the request of the government of Laurent Kabila. South Africa and Mozambique were also there, but have been neutral.

Livingstone Far Ahead in London Mayoral Race

The independent candidate in London's May 4 mayoral elections, Ken Livingstone, is running far ahead of Prime Minister Tony Blair's "New Labour" candidate, Frank Dobson. A recent poll by ICM Research showed Livingstone in the lead with 49%, followed by the Conservative Steve Norris at 16%, and Dobson at a sorry 15%.

Livingstone was thrown out of the Labour Party after he challenged, and was narrowly defeated by Dobson, in the city's first primary election earlier this year. Throughout his campaigns, Livingstone has attacked Blair's "Third Way" policies, which have thrown the poor off welfare, sold off the country's infrastructure to privatizers, who then wrecked it, and slashed social services.

On April 21, the *Wall Street Journal* profiled Livingstone: "The odd thing—even stranger than his collection of news or his popular appeal—is the terror Mr. Livingstone's expected electoral triumph strikes into the heart of Mr. Blair's Labour Government. . . . Running as an independent for Mayor of London, Mr. Livingstone has claimed that the international financial system kills more people annually than Hitler did during World War II."

The *Journal* points out, "A Mayor Livingstone could provide Labour's disenchanting with a formidable voice, forcing Mr. Blair to fight general elections expected next year on two fronts, against the pro-Livingstone wing of his own party as well as against the Conservatives."

Meanwhile, *EIR* has learned that the same well-organized ecologist/anarchist gangs which attacked the World Trade Organization conference in Seattle last December and tried to shut down the International Monetary Fund/World Bank conference in Washington, D.C. in April, were planning days of "mayhem and madness" in London, from April 28-May 1. The obvious effect would be to keep Londoners from coming out to vote, in their first mayoral election ever.

Tamil Tigers Rout Sri Lankan Troops

The narco-terrorist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, headquartered in London, won a decisive victory against the Sri Lankan Army, seizing the Elephant Pass, which connects the Jaffna peninsula in the north, where the majority population is ethnic Tamil, to the rest of the island. The website of the Tamil Tigers' London office has announced that their guerrillas killed 1,000 government soldiers. Loss of the Elephant Pass means that the Tamil Tigers will have complete control over the northernmost province of Jaffna, which they had lost to government troops in 1996.

The Tamil Tigers bring in arms and drugs from Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent in high-speed boats. Their re-taking of Jaffna gives them absolute control of coastal waters in the north and part of northeast Sri Lanka.

LaRouche Targets HMOs, as Financial Collapse Nears

by Nancy Spannaus

Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche took the occasion of a town-meeting with Washington, D.C. citizens on April 26, to launch a campaign which he called the “acid test” for shifting the political situation within these United States. Americans must act now, he said, to *ban* the intrinsically evil Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), and return to the Hill-Burton approach of guaranteeing quality health care to all citizens. At the same time, the voters must go to the polls in order to remove from office every single Congressman or Senator who supports this Hitler-style mode of medical practice.

LaRouche’s campaign team had prepared copies of draft legislation which LaRouche supports, and distributed them to the audience of about 100 (see p. 6). Called The Right to High-Quality Health Care Act, the bill affirms three simple points:

First, that “every person has a right to the highest quality health care available,” and “any practices by health insurers, that deny any person [that right] . . . are hereby prohibited.”

Second, that the 1973 legislation providing for Health Maintenance Organizations is repealed.

And third, that the provisions of the Hill-Burton Act of 1946 are reestablished as the “governing principles for U.S. health care policy.”

A Political Turning Point

In motivating citizen action on this bill, LaRouche argued that such a campaign exemplifies the issue, the state of mind, and the action we must take now to get our country back to what it was intended to be: a republic in which citizens are not beggars, but a repository of the highest authority in the United States, the “General Welfare” commitment of the U.S. Constitution.

The Democratic candidate, who is the only challenger to would-be Presidential appointee Al Gore in the late primaries, including Washington, D.C., began his speech by outlining the current state of U.S. political crisis. With the onset of the collapse of the Internet bubble, in which 75% of these speculative companies can be expected to collapse, Gore is clearly finished, he said. And, some Democratic Party figures in the back rooms are beginning to realize this, and to look for an alternative, who could be brought into the limelight at the August Democratic Party Convention in Los Angeles. These Democrats are not ready to rally behind him, LaRouche said, but they are looking at people like Nebraska’s Bob Kerrey, or other “dark horses,” as options.

Feeding into these Democrats’ alarm is the understanding that leaving the nomination to Vice President Gore, who has relied, as he had to, on an election “fix” in order to become the frontrunner, will lead to devastating defeat in the U.S. Congressional races as well. And, as LaRouche put it, we need a new Congress, “without DeLay”—a reference to House Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-Tex.), who has played a crucial role in leading the defense of HMO policies.

With the financial system coming down, the United States must have a President who thinks like Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and makes the necessary moves to work with Europe, Russia, China, and Ibero-America in forming a new monetary system. Restoring what was right about the Bretton Woods System, will be the first step in reversing the downward spiral of the last 30 years.

Hitler Would Love HMOs

In elaborating why the HMO issue is the most crucial at this time, LaRouche described its features in some depth, all of which added up to the fact that the system must be

eliminated, not “reformed.”

First of all, he said, you can't simply try to make this health system accountable through class-action suits and the like. It's like trying to negotiate with Hitler, and the U.S. Supreme Court majority, which agrees with such evil, is not going to provide justice.

Second, people have to realize that the HMO system was actually devised with the *purpose* of cutting health care. The system began in 1973, during the phase-shift of the world financial system from industrial growth to post-industrial Malthusianism, and at the same time that the Club of Rome and other institutions were promoting anti-people policies internationally. So, health care was targetted as a means of providing profit for the insurance companies and Wall Street—with the results that you currently see, including the obscene salaries and profits which are being made by HMO executives and companies which systematically deny care to medical patients.

Third, LaRouche stressed, you have to realize that the HMOs have developed policies which *deliberately* target certain groups for an increase in the death rate, such as African-Americans, senior citizens, and others. Such a policy explicitly follows the approach of Adolf Hitler, in calculating the way to eliminate those who were considered “useless eaters,” with “lives not worthy to be lived.”

Such a Hitler policy violates the U.S. Constitution, as well as the international human rights conventions that the United States has signed. In 1949, it was the U.S. government which initiated prosecution at Nuremberg for the crimes of the Nazi doctors—the very same kind of crimes which the HMOs are carrying out with impunity today.

Clean Out the Congress!

How can these crimes be stopped? There is *no* political leadership fighting to stop this policy at present, LaRouche then stressed. Much of the Congress, especially the Republican Conservative Revolutionaries, are getting huge payoffs from the HMOs and insurance companies, and won't do anything. And Gore and Texas Gov. George W. Bush, expected to be the Republican Party nominee for President, are both in the pocket of Wall Street. Gore doesn't want to stop the HMO murder; his program is the equivalent of sending toothbrushes to concentration camp victims in order to “help them out.” Bush's financial partners run predator HMOs (see Richard Freeman, “The Bush Mob Destroys America's Psychiatric Hospital System,” *EIR*, March 3, 2000; and Richard Freeman and Linda Everett, “How Wall Street ‘Shareholder Value’ Destroyed America's Hospital System,” *EIR*, April 7, 2000). And even well-meaning people such as former Sen. Bill Bradley (D-N.J.) refuse to go for the jugular by attacking the system itself.

But the biggest problem, LaRouche said, is that the citizen himself refuses to take action. He or she has become disillusioned with politics, and only participates, if he or she partici-

pates at all, by acting like a subject begging for favors from the “big guys.”

Mobilizing American citizens around this HMO issue, and cleaning the Congress out of those who are complicit in promoting this genocide, is one way to change this reality, LaRouche said. Health care is a life-or-death issue for every citizen, and by mobilizing to ban the HMOs, the citizen will get a very clear idea of the *standard* by which to judge Congressmen. Put your Congressman on the spot, to declare whether they are for or against the Hitler HMO system; if they're for it, they have to go!

Making the Change

Americans have to go into action now, LaRouche concluded. Health care is not the only issue affecting people's lives directly. In some respects, the education crisis, which is being fuelled by the spread of Nintendo games and violence, could become even worse. The spread of violence by Nintendo cops, such as those in Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's New York, and by youth as young as six years of age, programmed by Nintendo games to be killers, is also creating a social crisis.

Add to this, the fact that the health care system is a murder system, that the neighborhoods are terrible, that the prisons are filled to overflowing and being turned into slave-labor complexes, and that there is a lack of good jobs.

But what candidate can the citizen trust?

The first thing we have to do, LaRouche said, is to direct the citizens' minds away from simple community issues, to the national interest. Then they'll be able to move to bigger issues, and to mobilize their neighbors to vote, and take the country, and the Democratic Party, back.

Over the immediate months ahead, there will either be a total deflationary collapse of the financial system and the economy, or a hyperinflationary blowout like that of Germany in 1923, LaRouche went on to say. The third alternative, is to mobilize around LaRouche's candidacy, and build a movement around the policies that he has proposed, nationally and internationally. And this health care policy is the place to start.

We have to forget the “big people,” and get back to the good tradition on which this country was based. Our Constitution established a different kind of country, the United States of Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, which is based on the ideas of the Declaration of Independence and the Preamble to the Constitution's commitment to the concept of the “General Welfare.” Under our system, the authority of the government depends upon the authority of the citizenry in enforcing these principles.

As the financial crisis will make even clearer, there are no “big boys” to crawl to, in order to try to get things fixed, LaRouche said. It's the American citizenry who must take power back, and force adherence to the principle of the General Welfare, which is the only basis for legitimacy of our, and any, government.

Racism of Gore Campaign Exposed!

by Nancy Spannaus

The late-April filing of a document by the Gore 2000 campaign, in an attempt to prevent the certification of 23 “uncommitted” delegates and 11 “uncommitted” alternates duly elected in the Loudoun County, Virginia Democratic Presidential Caucus on April 15, finally provides hard-core proof of what the LaRouche Presidential campaign has asserted all along: The Gore campaign is behind the racist move by the Democratic National Committee to nullify the Voting Rights Act.

From August 1999 on, attorneys for the Democratic National Committee (DNC), led by its lawyer Jack Keeney, Jr., have sought to nullify the Voting Rights Act of 1965, in pursuit of their objective of keeping longtime Democratic Party Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche off the ballot. Just as Keeney hoped, the Stone Age majority on the U.S. Supreme Court on March 27, affirmed the Democratic Party’s right to act as a private club, and effectively nullify the Act.

Hiding behind the robes of the racist Supreme Court, and the DNC, the Virginia Democratic Party — among other state Democratic parties — proceeded to bar LaRouche from a position on the ballot in this year’s Presidential caucuses. As a result, LaRouche supporters filed “uncommitted” slates, under protest, and won over 60 delegates statewide.

Even this was too much for the Gore campaign, however. In Michigan, Gore’s supporters had used fascist thug tactics against LaRouche supporters in the caucuses. In Virginia Beach, the Gore campaign prevailed upon local leaders to literally *throw out* the “uncommitted” delegate submissions of more than 60 people, which the LaRouche campaign had submitted. In Loudoun County, where LaRouche lives, the local Democrats let the election go ahead, with the result that the LaRouche supporters won 36% of the vote.

So, the Gore campaign decided to directly copy the tactic of the Hitler plebiscite, such as the one held in Austria in 1938. Then, the Nazis, using terror, simply removed the opponents of Hitler from the voting rolls, so that he could win an overwhelming victory. Now, the Gore campaign has moved to “disqualify” the opposition — “uncommitted” — so that Gore can get a 100% victory in the caucuses. The Gore campaign has come out in the open in Loudoun County in support of the racist policy of nullification of the Voting Rights Act — on behalf of the national Gore campaign.

Of course, Al Gore is unelectable as President. His sweep

of the Democratic primaries and caucuses, especially in the face of the crashing financial markets, is a virtual guarantee of the election of George W. Bush.

Now that Gore’s racism is exposed, are Virginia Democrats going to continue to go along with his fascist thug tactics? Are they ready to commit political suicide once again? Do they really think that Wall Street’s Al Gore is going to defend them against the brunt of the financial collapse?

The Loudoun Caper

The exposure of the Gore campaign came with the filing of an appeal by the Loudoun County co-chairs of Democrats for Gore, David Whitmer and John Flannery, to the outcome of the April 15 local caucuses. The appeal seeks to replace all of the elected “uncommitted” delegates to the 10th Congressional District, and State, Conventions of the Democratic Party, on the excuse that they were “fraudulently” elected.

The appeal was clearly directed from the national Gore campaign, which had a leading official, Paul Sweet, on the scene during the vote in Loudoun. Sweet was visibly in shock about the number of LaRouche supporters who came out to vote, and was constantly repairing to his cell phone, and giving instructions to former Loudoun chair Whitmer, who proceeded to take pictures of LaRouche supporters organizing and observing the election process.

The brief puts no daylight between the position of the racist Supreme Court majority, and the Gore campaign’s position. From the start, it argues that “private associational rights” for the Democratic Party against membership by “undesirables,” outweigh Constitutional considerations. The Supreme Court’s decision to let stand the ruling of Stone Age Judge David Sentelle (which said that the Democratic National Committee, and state committees acting under its directions, need not comply with the pre-clearance procedures of the Voting Rights Act of 1965), is embraced approvingly as justification for the exclusionary practice.

Unlike many local Democrats, Whitmer and Flannery go whole hog in kissing the feet of the DNC racists, even including DNC chairman Joe Andrew’s preposterous, lying determination that LaRouche is “racist” and “anti-Semitic,” in their justification for exclusion. That they know this to be a lie, which is challenged by leading African-Americans, among others, is shown by their reference to the call for inclusion of LaRouche on the Virginia ballot, which was made by prominent African-American Virginia Delegate William P. Robinson.

Gore apparently cannot stand the thought of LaRouche’s supporters having even one delegate at a District Convention where resolutions are considered, and where the “Anybody But Gore” sentiment is likely to be increasingly dominant. Like a typical fascist thug, as he showed in his abusive behavior against Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad in November 1998, Gore doesn’t tolerate anyone in his way. Is this what the “Democrats” really want?

LaRouche Speaks for 'The Forgotten People'

Here are recent statements of support for Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.'s campaign for the Democratic Party Presidential nomination.

Ibero-America

Mexico—His Excellency Miguel Patino, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Apatzingan, Michoacán, Mexico, "To the People of the United States."

In the spirit of the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000, the proposals which Mr. Lyndon LaRouche has made and promoted for years, are in agreement with the Christian spirit, and with the insistent "wish" of His Holiness John Paul II that, in addition to cancelling the unjust and unpayable international debt, "guidelines" be sought which prevent such injustices from being repeated in the case of future loans and the implementation of the same efforts of looting. It is an answer to the Pope's call for experts of international standing in economics and monetary matters, to carry out a critical analysis of the world economic order, of its positive as well as its negative features, and for a system and mechanisms to be promoted, which are capable of promoting the integral and solidary development of people and nations.

The current pre-candidate for the Presidency of the United States—an economist who is internationally recognized for his proposal for a New Bretton Woods, and the economic policy contained in the "Eurasian Land-Bridge" project, which is being implemented and currently involves important nations of the world, as well as a good part of the world's population—is the economist Lyndon LaRouche, who is calling on the 80% of the "Forgotten People" of the United States to vote for him, and to promote his proposals.

This, therefore, is nothing other than a vote for humanity and a better world, without distinction of creed, skin color, geographic location, or nationality; one premised instead on the principle that all human beings are made "in the image and likeness of the Creator," and which, because of what the leadership of the most powerful nation on the planet today represents, opens the possibility for the co-existence of a community of nations under just principles not contrary to "Natural Law."

That is why I reiterate my call to all men of good will to support these principles and projects by voting for LYNDON H. LAROUCHE, JR.

Argentina—Héctor Claudio Salvi, former Governor

of the Argentine Province of Santa Fé.

My dear Mr. LaRouche:

For some time now, I have closely studied your analysis of the world situation, and have had confirmed for me both the accuracy of your forecasts, as well as the coherence of your proposals for the legitimate interests of our people.

In regards to your recent statements, I would like to say the following:

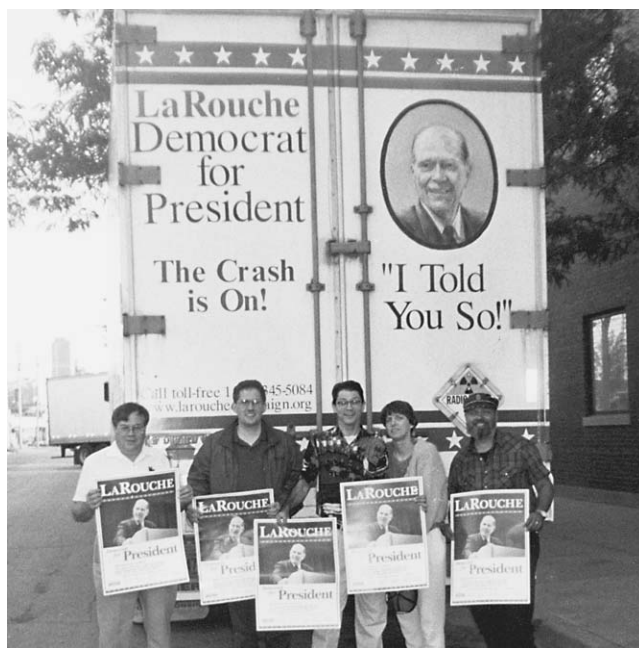
For at least the last three decades, our people have had to tolerate the deadly consequences of policies inspired in egotism, and tending to preserve the interests of speculators and usurers.

In effect, over these last few years, we have with alarm, witnessed the systematic looting of our national assets. Our state companies (services, energy, oil, minerals, land, etc.) have been sold off at bargain-basement prices. Our industry has disappeared, agricultural producers and businessmen are bankrupt, or in the process of going bankrupt. Credit is non-existent, and what is available is offered at usurious interest rates. State development banks have been destroyed. The current government has committed itself to destroying, or privatizing (which is the same thing), the Banco de la Nación Argentina, the only entity to survive the looting.

What is increasing at an accelerated rate is poverty—official statistics say 40% of the population is poor—crime, drug consumption, and corruption.

We desperately dream of change, while our leaders shamelessly submit to the immoral conditions imposed on us by the misnamed international credit agencies.

Insisting on policies which have produced these results, can only hasten the process of moral and material decadence



LaRouche campaign organizers with a cross-country 18-wheel truck, shown here in Chicago.

in which we live, and without doubt *shorten the timeframe in which the above-mentioned desperation becomes violent reaction.*

As you are fighting to eliminate the causes of this terrible situation, and propose concrete solutions to overcome them, based on love for our fellow man, let me express my gratitude and support. I trust that your compatriots will do the same, for the benefit of peace, development and the general welfare.

Europe

Scandinavia—representatives of farm organizations and farmers from Denmark and Sweden.

We, the following representatives of farm organizations and individual farmers from Denmark and Sweden, urge our colleagues in the United States, to support the candidacy of U.S. Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche. For years, he has campaigned to save the family farmer, under attack from the international cartels, “free” trade agreements, and disadvantageous economic conditions, and to create the conditions for an increase of food production, so necessary to feed all of the people of the world.

Mr. LaRouche, in his development of the theory of physical economy, has stressed that the measure of real economic growth is not how high the stock market rises, but the potential for an increase in the rate of growth of the population and its living standard. How is that possible without good conditions for food production? (We cannot replace bites of food with computer bytes.)

Mr. LaRouche has proposed the following program to save the family farmer and to increase food production:

1. Ensure parity (production) prices.
2. Stop all forced farm bankruptcies.
3. Create long-term, low-interest state credit for farmers.
4. Cancel the free trade agreements negotiated by such organizations as NAFTA and WTO, which, in the name of “free competition,” serve to force farmers to produce for less than the cost of production. Instead, negotiate protectionist agreements which would allow the best conditions for domestic food production in all nations.
5. Break up the international food cartels which are forcing family farmers out of business.
6. Increase the level of food production to meet the need for adequate food consumption levels for all the people of the world.

We hope that the American farmers, who have been pioneers in the development of modern, high-technology family farming, will actively support and campaign for Mr. LaRouche to become the next President of the United States.

Fritz Hermann, president, United Farmers Organization, Karup, Denmark

Erling Svendsen, president, Danish Seedgrowers Organization, Hvalsoe, Denmark

Rolf A. T. Andersson, farmer, Laholm, Sweden

Poul Erik Halkjaer, farmer, Haderup, Denmark

Kjeld Mogensen, farmer, Hoven, Denmark

Book Reviews

JFK . . . ‘That the Truth Be Served’

by Michele Steinberg

The Kennedy Assassination Cover-Up

by Donald Gibson

Commack, N.Y.: Kroshka Books, 2000

306 pages, hardbound, \$27.95

Prof. Donald Gibson has written a real history. Through this book, a small portion of the very best of America in the post-World War II era lives on.

America in the year 2000 is a divided nation. On the one hand, the wealthiest 1% command an affluence that is unprecedented in our nation’s history. On the other hand, 80% of the population earn less today than they did 30 years ago, and have less than does the top 20% of the population. Economists estimate that in the week of April 10-14, when the “blue chips” stock market and the Nasdaq “New Economy” markets plunged, more than \$2 trillion in assets were wiped out. American families, buying on margin in the markets, with money borrowed from credit cards and home equity lines, were fleeced. When the prices fell, “big money” came in and bought the stocks back up. Wall Street rules.

Gibson, who is also the author of *Battling Wall Street: The Kennedy Presidency* (New York: Sheridan Square Press, 1994), understands that that kind of division in America exists, and he tells us where the problem began—with the Kennedy assassination and the cover-up of that assassination.

Gibson says that President Kennedy was in the “tradition we have referred to with the names of Hamilton, Lincoln, and Roosevelt. *The suppression of this tradition, in policy terms, in political debate, and in the media, since Kennedy’s death has facilitated the current near dictatorship of the super-rich*” (emphasis added).

‘The Enforcer of Progress’

From the opening line of Chapter One, to the closing of an insightful last chapter that Gibson entitled “The Beginning,” this is the story of the battles of the chief elected officer

of a great Republic against the entrenched interests of this “super-rich” Establishment.

The book starts: “President Kennedy was what his most powerful critics claimed— ‘the enforcer of progress.’ In the interest of promoting the general welfare, President Kennedy proposed a multitude of changes. All of the changes were intended to increase the productive powers of the United States as a nation and of people around the world. He undertook this Promethean task aware that there would be opposition; he probably underestimated the depth and intensity of that opposition.”

Some 246 pages later, in which the reader comes to know, in-depth, the thinking of key figures of the Establishment, Gibson says: “The facts indicate that elements within and at the highest levels of the Establishment killed Kennedy because he was the popularly elected and increasingly successful enforcer of progress. . . . He spoke for the nation, they for the empires of private wealth and property. He looked forward to continued use of governmental institutions to advance the interests of the people from within and outside the United States. They looked to a world in which diminished state power would leave them to dominate a global corporate system free only in the sense of lacking interference from democratic authority. Kennedy sought peace through progress, the Establishment sought peace born of the submission of their opponents. . . . Kennedy was the Establishment’s nightmare. He was the ‘one,’ the President or Monarch whose first commitment was to the many, not the few. He was winning. . . . They killed him.”

This is a tough-minded book, a kind of sequel to *Battling Wall Street*, which tells, through many of Kennedy’s speeches and writings, of JFK’s battle with this Establishment: his commitment against neo-colonialism, against the International Monetary Fund, and most firmly, against the idea that there are some nations which should remain “second-class citizens.”

Gibson does not hesitate to contradict “popular” books by his contemporaries, such as Kai Bird, who wrote a 1994 biography of John J. McCloy. He also takes issue with Edward Jay Epstein’s book, *Inquest: The Warren Commission and the Establishment of Truth*, which was long touted as the authority on the Warren Commission.

But whether the reader is a novice in the study of history, or a so-called “expert” on the Kennedy assassination, this book is a valuable resource. Gibson knows John F. Kennedy through his ideas, and that element makes this book a towering improvement over hundreds of books, articles, and documentary films about his assassination. Many of these other works allege “conspiracy” and “cover-up.” They go into extreme detail about the “hows” and “how-nots” of the assassination. But these other works all have a common weakness: They say little or nothing about JFK’s policies. Even worse, as Gibson lays out in a chapter on Lord Bertrand Russell, some of the “conspiracy theories” are, in fact, part of “the cover-up.”

New Ground on the Warren Commission

Because he knows what he knows about Kennedy’s policies, Gibson is able to take apart the falsehoods spread about the assassination, from the hours immediately following the shootings on Nov. 22, 1963, to the present. This is where Gibson is breaking some totally new ground in the history of the Warren Commission, which he appropriately refers to as the McCloy-Dulles Commission, after the Establishment’s two top guns, John J. McCloy and Allen Dulles. Both were bitter enemies of JFK. McCloy hated Kennedy’s economic policies, and Dulles hated both his policies, and Kennedy personally, after he had been fired as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. Kennedy dumped Dulles after the Bay of Pigs caper, where Dulles and his Establishment friends had orchestrated an attack on Cuba by a ragtag team of Cuban exiles—the 1960s version of George Bush and Oliver North’s Nicaraguan “Contra” drug runners.

Gibson documents that the only purpose of the Commission, was to stop other investigations, especially inquiries that were planned by Congress. As Establishment boss McCloy put it bluntly, the Commission was to “lay the dust,” i.e., end forever, the discussion of the evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald was part of a conspiracy.

Gibson uses McCloy to illustrate the “Anglo-American Establishment’s” hatred of President Kennedy’s policies. He points out that McCloy hated the same policies in Kennedy’s predecessor, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and that McCloy had written a memo demanding that all his economic programs be shut down. Gibson hits on a crucial point in the discussion of McCloy; a point similarly discussed in a *Strategic Study* by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. and Stu Rosenblatt, in the Oct. 23, 1998 issue of *EIR*. In “How Our World Was Nearly Destroyed,” LaRouche says, “In a sense, McCloy was morally insane.” McCloy was involved in “a wildly utopian, one-worldist project, aimed at eliminating the sovereignty of all nation-states, including that of the U.S.A.” Part of McCloy’s evil project was the elimination of Kennedy and his ideas.

There’s an optimism in Gibson’s book, which he elaborated in an interview with *EIR* (see below). Summarizing Kennedy’s lifelong opposition to colonialism, Gibson turns to writings of Pope John Paul II, and Pope Paul VI, who became Pontiff “the year that Kennedy was assassinated.” He includes a quotation the major social encyclical that Paul VI wrote in 1967, *On the Development of Peoples (Populorum Progressio)*.

Gibson illustrates that these were Kennedy’s ideas, too. Not because these were the ideas of a leader of Kennedy’s professed religion, but because they are humanity’s ideas. Gibson suggests that it is “probably not possible” any longer to bring JFK’s murderers to justice, but he says that what is important, “is that the truth be served. In the process we will serve ourselves, and our descendants. John Kennedy embodied an idea of government, nation, and humanity that is necessary for the future.”

Gibson’s book serves the truth.

New Light Cast on JFK Assassination

*In early April, Prof. Donald Gibson, author of two books on President John F. Kennedy, *Battling Wall Street and The Kennedy Assassination Cover-up*, spoke with Michele Steinberg about his research into Kennedy's policies, and the assassination of President Kennedy by circles high up in the "Establishment" of the United States. Excerpts are published here:*

EIR: You know more about John F. Kennedy's policies, and his policy fights, than almost anyone else who has written about JFK, and the JFK assassination. In reading this book, it seemed clear to me that it grew out of your first book on the Kennedy Presidency, *Battling Wall Street*.

Gibson: It sure did.

EIR: What led you to this subject, and how did you know what questions to pose?

Gibson: Well, in the mid-1970s, when I was a graduate student, like a lot of people, I was starting to become aware of the fact that the American economy was in trouble. For example, during the first oil crisis, I became interested in the development of multinational corporations, which I ultimately wrote my dissertation on.

And in the late 1970s, I ran into some people from the LaRouche movement, and became exposed to those ideas. By the early 1980s, I began to do some work on the emergence of the euthanasia debate, and the hospice movement, and linking that to developments in the economy. By that time, we had seen the second oil crisis, the Volcker high interest rates. . . . As I continued to work on looking at the roots of that, I kept moving back into the 1970s, and finally, by the end of the 1980s, I had gotten back into the 1960s, in terms of trying to learn more about what had happened to the economy, to find the roots, perhaps, of the changes in the American economy.

That led me to Kennedy, to his policies, and after I read a dozen or two books about him, it started to become obvious to me that nobody had really dealt with that in any serious way.

I set out reading through his proposals to Congress. As soon as I saw what he was sending to Congress, and I saw what he was trying to do, I knew there must have been opposition to it. So, that led me to start looking, first, in the media, to see if I could find any indicators of opposition to him—and I was surprised to find that it was *all over the place*. It wasn't at all difficult to find.

EIR: You go into this in the final chapter in *Assassination Cover-Up*—the *Wall Street Journal*, *Time-Life*, *Luce*, etc. Bitter opposition.

Gibson: When I was finishing the first book, and I was getting a sense that Kennedy was, in fact, in *deep* conflict with various Wall Street and other interests, I then looked at the cover-up process.

People involved in creating the Warren Commission were essentially agents of the same powers who opposed Kennedy. So, that really set me off again, in terms of a new round of investigation and research.

EIR: There's always some opposition. What do you think was so unique about what Kennedy represented, that would have made the Establishment take such drastic steps?

Gibson: What bothered them about Kennedy—Kennedy was aggressively threatening almost all of the broad strategies that the upper class was in the process of adopting, and in fact, he and, especially if his brother had followed him, would have gotten in the way of everything from post-industrialism to globalization.

JFK's nationally oriented, pro-development, pro-growth policies, not only for the United States, but also for other countries, would have been at odds with two of the central thrusts of the last 25 years: that is, the post-industrial society, and globalization.

EIR: I was especially struck in your latest book by the way you approached the ending. You called the last chapter, "The Beginning," and I was happy to see quotations that you chose from Popes John Paul II and Paul VI.

Gibson: Yes, those are stunning. I have a definite impression that Kennedy, somewhere along the line, acquired a commitment to exactly the same things that Pope Paul was discussing in *Populorum Progressio*, and that is, Kennedy saw the *purpose* of things to be our own development as people.

EIR: Was there specific legislation that he took up with Congress, or that he was working on, that you came across that addressed the development of Third World nations?

Gibson: There was, of course, the famous Alliance for Progress program, which was geared to Latin America, but reflected his general approach to other countries in the world, beyond Latin America. For example, he was one of the, I would guess, early proponents, of the idea that you could resolve conflicts with ideas like the Alliance for Progress program. But it was his overall approach.

EIR: These are the issues that what we're facing today, as Lyndon LaRouche has been discussing, with globalization. The United States is either being asked to protect imperial interests—to be the brawn for British "brains," or as some Anglo-Americans are advocating, to become the new sole superpower.



President Kennedy's funeral cortège, 1963. Kennedy's nationally oriented, pro-development policies "would have been at odds with two of the central thrusts of the last 25 years: that is, the post-industrial society, and globalization."

Gibson: I believe there was a *New York Times* Sunday magazine story some time ago, where that was said openly. That free trade was about dominating the world. And that does appear, a lot of this globalization, and the vocabulary that has developed around it, in universities, and in classrooms, in textbooks. It does look like a continuation of Anglo-American neo-colonial policy. And I think that globalization and free trade are new rhetoric for an old policy.

At least that's what I am coming to think about it. There may be some minor differences compared to the old neo-colonialism, but I don't think they're substantive.

EIR: You've broken some new ground on how the cover-up of the assassination was orchestrated, based on President Lyndon B. Johnson's Oval Office telephone tapes. I was interested to see the conversations pushing Johnson to create the Warren Commission, to *head off* Congressional and other investigations. It comes through clear as a bell, that Johnson was heavily lobbied. Is there more to be found in those records?

Gibson: I don't think there is much more to be found in the days immediately following the assassination. I have not gone through more than a few months' worth, and whatever was directly related to the assassination, I think I got everything in that time period.

EIR: Too bad they don't release the private telephone transcripts of the members of the Warren Commission.

Gibson: Unbelievable, they went off the record. . . . There's times that there was a such a heavy Establishment role in the cover-up, which is not explainable by any normal way, that is, *none of these people were even in government*, and here

they were injecting themselves into this affair, within hours of the assassination.

And for anybody who doesn't have any responsibility in government to do that—I knew right away that these were people associated with Kennedy's enemies. So that then led me to take a new look at the Warren Commission.

Once I had done that, I backed up, to look at what the media did with the assassination and in the hours right afterward, and then, lo and behold, I found that they had already laid out all of the major conclusions before the Warren Commission was even created!

EIR: Let me ask you about two other investigations. One, Jim Garrison? Second, you mentioned the House Assassination Committee. What's your take on that?

Gibson: I think Garrison's problem was that he didn't have a good sense of the bigger picture. And I gather that he had been, like many of us were probably, even more so in those days, perhaps, coming out of the 1940s, '50s, and '60s, where there was a lot more trust in the official structure, the government, and law of this country.

And I think maybe part of the reason, is that Garrison really had never educated himself about these things. When I say he's naive, I don't mean to say that I don't have respect: I certainly do. But I don't think he knew a great deal about power beyond the level that he himself dealt with directly, therefore the investigation, I think, often got scattered, and would be easily misled.

EIR: Do you mean the McGeorge Bundy theory? Kennedy's National Security Adviser, and brother of William Bundy, the future head of the New York Council on Foreign Relations?

Gibson: No, that, of course, would have been getting really close to the real circles of people. I'm referring more to his inclinations along the military lines, or, just his speculation at the end of *On the Trail of the Assassins*, where he never even gets close to upper-class, or Wall Street, or Establishment figures, or names or tags. He never gets there.

EIR: I guess that's what he never put into print.

Gibson: Okay.

EIR: What I understood from *EIR*'s discussions with Garrison, I think might only have appeared in his fictional renditions.

Gibson: Unfortunately, he didn't say that in the book. As far as I understand it, there is still a story there that still has got to be told, and I'm afraid that it's not going to be told, either. There was a lot of conflict within that group which made the movie [Oliver Stone's "JFK," about Garrison's investigation].

EIR: What about the House Assassination Committee? You cite a couple of the statements that they took—such as from John J. McCloy, which was just used to reinforce the cover-up that had been put in place earlier.

Gibson: I used that material in talking about how the Warren Commission was created, and they did, in fact, create their own cover story on that.

But, go back to Bertrand Russell, he's the key. That was one of the things that I just discovered, maybe two years ago. I was not familiar at all with this "British Who Killed Kennedy Committee," and I think one of the stunning things about that, was that that committee was created *before the Warren Commission report was even released!* In fact, months before it was released.

And so, it looked prophylactic almost. As if they knew there was going to be criticism, and they were going to get out in front of that criticism immediately and try and lead people around by the nose. And get them on this track.

I'm saying that Kennedy was almost certainly killed for his use of government power. What Lord Russell quickly came along to do, was to *blame the government* for the assassination. So, he was using the assassination to attack the government a second time.

They attacked government the first time, when they shot Kennedy, and then a second time, when they blamed the government for shooting Kennedy.

EIR: This is at the center of so much of this story.

Gibson: That's part of the reason that I got into the history of New Orleans and Huey Long, looking for the early private initiatives toward globalism, and . . . I eventually focussed in on 1925 as a critical year where things happened. . . . All of the forces associated with this had this agenda which went back decades, and the agenda of course, has been to increase

the power of private interests and decrease the power of nations.

Russell's role in that is particularly interesting because of his long-standing criticisms of state and government power. And also, his stated dislike of Kennedy. So, why is *he* showing up creating a committee to investigate the assassination of the President? There are many aspects of this that remain. Especially Russell's role in leading what became a vast industry of misdirection about the assassination. I believe it numbers close to 400 books. And though I have not read all 400, I have read way over 100. At any rate, it is pretty clear that almost all of those were either written for opportunistic reasons, or they were conscious efforts to misdirect people.

EIR: You said that "history has to be served," and that that is why you have to tell the story, even though the murderers may never be found. But there was a kind of surprising development this year in the Martin Luther King case: a jury found that James Earl Ray was not the "lone assassin," and was not a "nut case." Do you see any U.S. institution that is likely to take responsibility for getting to the truth in the JFK assassination?

Gibson: Not under any circumstances where you have Al Gore or George W. Bush as President, that's for sure!

It is hard to imagine. I don't think any government institution in the foreseeable future, is going to be asked to do that. . . .

So, I think it's just going to be left to us. Those other assassinations, I have spent some time on them, but not nearly the amount of time I've committed to the JFK assassination, but they all look suspicious. Even the Malcolm X one, especially if you look at what Malcolm X was becoming in the last year of his life. He was really becoming a very good—and therefore, a very dangerous—person.

But, that whole crew of people who were killed in the 1960s: If you look at them in retrospect, in relationship to what was coming, in the decade after they died, it really looks like they were people who had to be cleared out of the way.

EIR: Why did you call the last chapter, "The Beginning"?

Gibson: Because this is an ongoing thing, I think it's a "forever" thing. That is, at all times, there are always choices to be made about which direction we're going in, and if someone is making the *wrong* choices, then the rest of us—it's left up to us, if we can do anything to change that.

So, I don't see Kennedy as ended. I think Kennedy's essential idea was having a commitment to general development of nations, peoples, and ourselves, and that's something that never goes away. And so, the story of what he stood for, basically, forgetting some of the specific policies, his *essential concerns*, are *forever*. So, I thought that when I was ending the book, that I should make it clear that it was not the end of anything.



Capital Punishment Won't Heal Loss When Murder Strikes

Bill Pelke is president and co-founder of the organization Journey of Hope . . . From Violence to Healing (www.journeyofhope.org). Pelke's grandmother was bludgeoned to death in Indiana in 1985 by four teenage girls, seeking money to play a video game. He describes here the account of his transformation, from being a supporter of capital punishment, to his leading role today in fighting it. EIR met Pelke on April 15, when he addressed a rally at the Pennsylvania state capitol in Harrisburg, in support of a bill to impose a moratorium on executions in that state. He was interviewed by Marianna Wertz on April 18.

EIR: What is the Journey of Hope trying to accomplish?

Pelke: The Journey of Hope . . . From Violence to Healing is led by murder victims' family members who are opposed to the death penalty in all situations. We are joined by death row families, death row survivors (people who've been on death row and were found to be innocent), along with other people who support abolition of the death penalty. We share our stories, of from violence to healing, how violence did come into our lives, and the subsequent healing that we've been able to get; and sharing our stories about how the death penalty has nothing to do with what murder victims' family members need when a loved one has been killed.

Quite often, people want the death penalty purely as a matter of revenge, and we say that revenge is not the answer, it's just never the answer. The answer is love and compassion for all of humanity, and for people who have done terrible things; to hate the sin but love the sinner, is sort of our philosophy.

EIR: Can you tell me what happened to your grandmother?

Pelke: Sure. There were four ninth-grade girls, from Lew Wallace High School in Gary, Indiana, who decided on May 14, 1985, that they were going to skip school during their lunch hour. They went to one of the girl's homes, they drank some wine, they smoked some marijuana, they decided they would like to play video arcade games at a local arcade a few blocks away, but they had one problem: They didn't have any money. After discussion among themselves, one of the girls said, "Well, there's this old lady that lives across the alley from where I live, and she teaches Bible lessons. She's old, she lives by herself, she doesn't have a dog, she has money."

She said, "She would recognize me," but she told the other three girls that if they go knock on the door and tell the old lady they would like to take Bible lessons, you can get into the house and once you get into the house, they could rob her.

So they knocked on my grandmother's door. They said, "Mrs. Pelke, we'd like to take your Bible lessons." My grandmother said, "Come on in." And to know my grandmother, this is what my grandmother would do. One of the girls got into the hall, my grandmother turned her back to go to her desk to get information on the Bible classes, and one of the girls hit her over the head with a vase. She fell on the floor and another girl pulled a knife out of her purse and began to stab her. As she was being stabbed by Paula Cooper, the other two girls looked around the house trying to find money. They couldn't find any. They came back. A girl named Karen Korders took over with the knife. Paula also went to look for money. They came up with a total of \$10 and the keys to her old car. Then they went back to the high school they had left earlier, with her car, and offered their friends rides, to go joy-riding, and left my grandmother to die there on the dining room floor.

EIR: My God. I've read about this case.

Pelke: Yes, there was a lot of media attention to it.

EIR: So, that confronted you with what you had to do?

Pelke: The State of Indiana originally said that it was going to seek the death penalty for all four girls. They ended up going for the death penalty for just two of the girls, the two with the knife. The first girl, the judge elected not to give the death penalty, but to give her 60 years in prison. But Paula Cooper, he did sentence her to death. She pled guilty, so there was no trial, just a sentencing hearing. The judge talked about how he was opposed to the death penalty, but according to law, he had no choice.

At that time, it was fine with me. I really didn't know much about the death penalty, but I knew there was one, and different people were being sentenced to death for various crimes of murder, and I felt that if they didn't give the death penalty to Paula Cooper, then they were telling my family, "We're sorry, your grandmother just wasn't an important enough person. Her death doesn't merit giving somebody the death penalty." I felt my grandmother was a very important

person, and so for that reason alone, I had no problem that the death penalty was given.

That was on July 11, 1986. About three and a half months later, on Nov. 2, 1986, I had a total change of heart. I was at work, where I worked as an overhead crane operator for Bethlehem Steel. I'd been there for 20 years at that time. I had some free time, and I was up in my crane cab, and I became convinced, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that my grandmother would have been appalled by the fact that the State of Indiana was going to put this girl into the electric chair. I felt that my grandmother would not have wanted this girl's family to go through what a family would go through, to see a person that they loved strapped in an electric chair.

Paula's grandfather had been in the courtroom the day of her sentencing hearing, and was actually kicked out of the courtroom, because, as the judge began to deliver her sentencing, he cried and wailed very loudly, "They're going to kill my baby, they're going to kill my baby."

I was convinced that my grandmother would not have wanted this old man to have to watch his granddaughter be put in the electric chair. I felt she [would have] wanted someone in my family to have that same sort of compassion. I thought about my grandmother's faith, I thought about forgiveness. I thought, well, I guess forgiveness is the right thing. I pictured my grandmother in tears, with love and compassion for this girl and her family. I pictured an image of a picture that was shown of her in the newspapers, but with the distinct difference of tears coming out of her eyes. I felt she wanted somebody in our family to have that same compassion. Even though I knew forgiveness was the right thing, compassion I didn't have a bit of. But those tears that I pictured dictated to me to try to generate some kind of compassion. I felt that if I didn't, then I would feel guilty whenever I would think about my grandmother again.

Up to that point, it had been a year and a half since her death, and whenever I would think about her, it was very painful, because I pictured how she died. She was basically butchered on the dining room floor where she lived.

So, with tears coming out of my eyes, I begged God to give me a little compassion for Paula and her family, and I did that on behalf of my grandmother, and that short, simple prayer changed my life, because I realized immediately that I no longer wanted her to die. I wanted to write her a letter, tell her about my grandmother, share my grandmother's faith, and just do whatever I could do to try to help her. I knew that once there was compassion, the forgiveness was automatic. That forgiveness brought a tremendous healing. I just knew immediately that I would no longer picture how my grandmother died, but when I would think about my grandmother, I would picture how she lived and what she stood for and what she believed in, and just the beautiful, wonderful person she was. I knew a tremendous healing had taken place. And I also knew that I wanted to do whatever I could do to help Paula.

I ended up getting involved in an international case on her behalf. There was a campaign started, mostly in Italy, to get petitions to have her taken off death row. I ended up travelling to Italy on three occasions. . . .

In 1989, the Pope had asked the State of Indiana to take Paula off of death row. They had petitions they presented to the Governor. The legislators in the State of Indiana became embarrassed, when it was internationally publicized that the law in Indiana calls for the death penalty for a ten-year-old. So, the legislators in Indiana said, we've got to raise the age limit. So they raised it to 16, but stipulated that Paula was still to be held and executed under the old law. But, on her automatic appeal before the Indiana Supreme Court, they said that it would be exclusionary if she was the only one executed under the old law, and so they took her off death row and commuted her sentence to 60 years in prison.

EIR: Is she in prison today?

Pelke: She's in prison today in Indiana. In Indiana, you're eligible for parole in half-time with good behavior. So, in the year 2015, when she is 30 years old, then she'll be eligible for parole.

I met a few people and organizations against the death penalty while I was involved in Paula's case, and I heard about a march that was taking place in 1990, in the spring. It was a spiritual march to ignite the churches' consciousness against the death penalty. So, I took two weeks of my vacation. It was a march to Atlanta, Georgia, to the burial site of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It was there that I met Sister Helen Prejean, who was one of the organizers and spiritual adviser for the march. After two weeks of marching down the highway with a group of people, getting a real education about the death penalty and becoming aware of the statistics and the facts, I dedicated my life to the abolition of the death penalty. . . .

The first Journey of Hope event was in June 1993. It turned out to be a very successful event. We thought that it was going to be a one-time thing. But it was so successful, the following year we went to Georgia, then in 1995 California, in 1996 Virginia. Then I retired in 1997. I had over 30 years at the steel mill. We took the Journey of Hope . . . From Violence to Healing, rather than just being a two-week event under the Murder Victim Families for Reconciliation, we organized it into a separate organization to be a full-time, ongoing thing, of travelling around, more or less a tour of people sharing their stories. We still do a major event each year. But we also do limited events in different states, with different numbers of people, just sharing our stories of "from violence to healing," and how the death penalty isn't what murder victims' families need.

EIR: Is that how you ended up in Pennsylvania, at the rally for a moratorium?

Pelke: Last year, they had a rally around the end of April,

first of May, and I spoke there. People say, well, if you had someone in your family who was killed, you'd feel different about the death penalty. So, here is an organization that says, "We've had somebody in our family who has been killed, and we say the death penalty is not the answer. It's not what we need."

EIR: Do you see hope in the coming days that the movement for a moratorium on executions will actually succeed?

Pelke: I do. Of course, I've seen what's happened in Illinois [where Gov. George Ryan imposed a moratorium on executions on Jan. 31, 2000]. I've been travelling around the world; I just got back from Amsterdam last week, and I'm going to Italy in another week. There's a worldwide effort for the moratorium. Most countries don't have the death penalty. In Illinois, the Governor has called for a moratorium; I think Pennsylvania is not that far behind.

EIR: Plus you have a Federal call for a moratorium now, from Rep. Jesse Jackson, Jr. (D-Ill.).

Pelke: Right. Because there are innocent people who have been sentenced to death, there's been innocent people who have been executed. There's a book called *In Spite of Innocence* [by Radelet, Bedau, and Putnam, (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 1994)], which documents the cases of 23 people who were sentenced to death in our country and found to be innocent. There was a conference that I was at in Chicago a year and a half ago, of the wrongfully convicted. At the time they began to plan the conference, there were 74 people who had been released from death row, who had been found to be innocent. By the time the conference actually took place, there were about 10 more people, and I think the number now is up to about 90 people.

The people were found to be innocent, not through the court system, but through efforts outside of court—law students, other people confessing to crimes, and DNA evidence and that sort of stuff. Even people who strongly support the death penalty don't want to see innocent people executed, at least the majority don't.

EIR: It's true that many people who support a moratorium, still support capital punishment.

Pelke: Right, but it's just the way the system has worked in our country: It's not working. It's only the poor people who are sentenced to death. They're given poor legal assistance. People turning state's evidence and giving testimony, and you don't know who's telling the truth and who's lying, and they're being sentenced to death on the word of somebody else who's not telling the truth. The evidence isn't being considered. There's not very much money put into the defense, to go out and hire the experts that are needed to do a thorough investigation. There are just a whole lot of reasons why the death penalty doesn't work. At least people who do support the death penalty want it to be fair.

Even the Supreme Court has realized that there's a big difference between the death penalty and other situations, because it does involve human life.

EIR: Even if some Supreme Court members don't believe that innocence is a reason not to execute someone.

Pelke: Yes, they say innocence is irrelevant!

EIR: Let me ask one last question, in the political realm. As you probably know, our magazine editorially supports Lyndon LaRouche's Democratic Presidential candidacy. He has opposed capital punishment all his life. He's raised it in the election campaign. The two nominal front-runners are both avid supporters of the death penalty.

Pelke: Right.

EIR: Is your organization going to try to intervene in the elections on this issue?

Pelke: We're a 501(c)(3) [tax-exempt charitable or educational organization], so we're not allowed to get into lobbying and political stances. Individually, I know what a lot of people are going to do, but as an organization, you can't take a stand. But I sure wish him the best of luck. I know how difficult of an uphill battle it is, that's for sure.

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Gephardt To Oppose China Trade Bill

House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.) announced on April 19, during a speech in St. Louis, that he has decided not to support legislation giving permanent normal trade relation (PNTR) status to China. During his speech, Gephardt said that “sustainable development, worker rights, and human rights must be at the core” of U.S. trade policy. He said that he had attempted to persuade the Clinton Administration to support three additional measures, which would keep Congressional pressure on China’s human rights practices, provide for better enforcement of the China-World Trade Organization agreement, and get U.S. companies to support a corporate code of conduct.

Gephardt said that he had decided to oppose PNTR when he couldn’t get “broad engagement” from either side “to condition the deal with meaningful benchmarks to hold China to progress on human rights and suitable enforcement mechanisms.” Instead, he called for maintaining the annual review of China’s trade status as “the best way to keep the pressure on the Chinese government to reform its human rights policies.”

The question is, what effect Gephardt’s change of stance will have on the bill’s prospects. The White House remains hopeful that Gephardt’s statements won’t cause a loss of support for the trade deal among other Democrats. Prior to his speech, Democratic Party officials said that Gephardt would not join a concerted effort to defeat the bill.

However, Republicans were critical of Gephardt. House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) told reporters on April 18, after word of Gephardt’s plans leaked to the press, that “once again, the House Minority Leader has

chosen politics over bipartisan progress.” Majority Leader Dick Armey (R-Tex.) added, “The would-be Speaker of the House is too tied to big labor and trial lawyers to recognize the needs of the new economy.”

Lott Rebuffed on Gas Tax Repeal

Twelve Senate Republicans jumped ship on April 11, and refused to support cloture on a bill promoted by Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) to repeal the 4.3¢ per gallon gasoline tax increase enacted in 1993. The bill would also have provided for a Federal gas tax holiday should the pump price of gasoline reach a national average of \$2 per gallon. The vote was 56-43, four short of the 60 needed.

Lott claimed that his bill was “specifically designed to make certain that highway spending, and thus the functional totals [of allocations in the budget resolution], are not changed” by the bill. He insisted that if there were a gas tax holiday, “it would come out of the surplus,” rather than the Highway Trust Fund. He also claimed that it was not in conflict with an amendment to the budget resolution, sponsored by Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.), that called on the Senate not to repeal the 4.3¢ portion of the Federal gasoline tax.

Byrd argued that the bill would, in fact, threaten the Highway Trust Fund, by “de-linking” the relationship between highway user fees and highway spending. The bill, he said, “thereby threatens to undermine the ability of the states to invest adequately in our nation’s transportation infrastructure.” In a similar vein, George Voinovich (R-Ohio) said that what Lott is arguing against, is the traditional notion that it’s the users of the highways

who should pay for them. Lott, Voinovich said, would “reduce their tax, and make it up by hitting everybody else in the country and taking it out of the general fund.”

Budget Resolution Adopted on Time

For the second year in a row, and only the second time since the GOP took control of Congress in 1995, both Houses completed action on this year’s budget resolution by the statutory time limit of April 15. The conference report on the resolution was reported on April 12, and both the House and the Senate voted the following day, by 220-208 and 50-48, respectively.

Debate in the House began with Democrats’ complaints that the conference report was moved in violation of House rules. The House took up the resolution a mere 12 hours after the conference committee completed its work, rather than the three days called for by House rules. Louise Slaughter (D-N.Y.), a member of the Rules Committee, told the House that she had “grave doubts” as to whether most members had “any real knowledge” of the report’s contents.

The Senate debate took place later in the day, and there was little harmony there as well. Democrats complained, as they have during previous budget debates, that the GOP plan calls for “risky” tax cuts that benefit the wealthy; that the cuts in non-defense spending threaten education, health, and other domestic programs; and that it fails to protect Social Security and Medicare or to pay down the debt as much as is possible. Three Republicans, Lincoln Chaffee (R.I.), John McCain (Ariz.), and Arlen Specter (Pa.), crossed the aisle to vote against it.

While the budget resolution does not need the President's signature, it sets the pattern for both Houses in the appropriations process and includes instructions for legislative changes to be made to implement it. The resolution provides for \$150 billion in tax cuts over the next five years, and if tax cuts aren't passed, it earmarks that amount for debt reduction. The resolution also provides a \$40 billion reserve fund over five years for Medicare, half of which is supposed to go to prescription drug coverage and the other half for reform, which is supposed to improve the solvency of the program "without the use of new subsidies from the general fund." The limitation on the drug benefit is that it's not supposed to cause an on-budget deficit.

Marriage Penalty Repeal Languishes in Senate

The Senate departed for its Easter recess on April 14 without acting on a bill to repeal the so-called marriage tax penalty. Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) and Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) failed to agree on how many and what kinds of amendments would be considered. The GOP wants to narrowly limit amendments to those they consider "germane" to the tax issue, and Democrats want to more broadly address issues they believe would help married couples, including raising the minimum wage and providing a prescription drug benefit for Medicare beneficiaries.

On April 12, Lott filed for cloture to cut off debate, which angered Democrats. Lott asked for a unanimous consent agreement that the bill be considered for debate only, and when Harry Reid (D-Nev.) objected, Lott asked for an agreement to allow one,

substitute amendment sponsored by Pat Moynihan (D-N.Y.), which Reid also objected to.

Reid called Lott's requests "make-believe Senatorial activity," and accused him of treating the Senate "as if we are in the House and he is the . . . one-man Rules Committee." A few minutes later, Daschle reminded the Senate that the purpose of filing cloture "is to end debate," when what is needed is a "good debate" on the bill.

Federal Investigation of Giuliani Sought

Reps. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) and Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) have demanded an investigation of New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and New York Police Commissioner Howard Safir for their outrageous behavior in the cases of Amadou Diallo, Patrick Dorismond, and Gideon Busch, three unarmed men, two of whom were black, killed by police. The Justice Department is already investigating the New York Police Department for its "patterns and practices" in these cases, but the Congressmen demanded a meeting with the DOJ to make sure that the investigation goes further than just the police. Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder, after meeting with the two Congressmen on April 18, agreed that the DOJ would include an inquiry into statements made by the Mayor and the Police Commissioner.

According to an April 7 press release put out by Nadler's office, this is the first time that there has been a call for an investigation into "whether the actions of the Mayor and Police Commissioner, after recent police shootings, in defaming the shooting victims, constitute or contribute to further violations of the victims' civil rights."

Nadler said, "This sort of attempt to defame the victims by disseminating to the public false or misleading information appears designed to prejudice potential jurors and to subvert investigations into police misconduct. . . . We believe this clearly undermines the rights of New York citizens."

Nadler concluded that, "in all of these cases, there is strong evidence to suggest that the Mayor, the Police Commissioner, and the police department may have violated the civil rights of the victims. This is a serious matter that we believe needs the immediate attention of the Justice Department." Most prominent in Nadler's complaint was Giuliani's illegal release of sealed court records, after Dorismond was killed.

Deal Reached on Africa Trade Bill

According to press reports, a conference committee working on the Africa/Caribbean free trade bill came to a tentative agreement on April 13, in which House negotiators accepted a Senate proposal to give Caribbean nations the same duty-free access to U.S. markets that the bill gives to African nations. The House also acceded to Senate provisions intended to protect the U.S. textile industry.

The deal was endorsed by leaders on both sides. House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) said that he hopes to have a vote on the bill "as soon as possible," and a spokesman for Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) called it a "good tentative agreement," one that Rangel is confident will pass both Houses easily. The Clinton Administration, which backs the bill, is hoping that Congress can take up the conference report before it considers the more contentious China trade issue.

National News

No 'Miracle' in Texas Education

A cornerstone of Texas Gov. George W. Bush's campaign is what he refers to as "the Texas miracle" in education, claiming that he has made the most fundamental advances in school reforms "in a generation." But an article by John Mintz in the *Washington Post* on April 21, titled "An Education 'Miracle,' or Mirage?" gives a rather different picture.

"Texas's standardized test-drilling inflates children's scores and turns some Texas schools into drab factories for test preparation," according to Mintz. On top of that, teachers face an "accountability" system under which their careers and pay rise and fall depending upon how well their students do on this single test.

"The Texas miracle in education is a myth," said Walter Haney, a Boston College researcher who studies test statistics. Texas schools, he said, have some of the nation's highest dropout rates, and the system of accountability that Bush touts helps drive tens of thousands of students, mostly minorities, to quit school each year—a loss that in turn boosts test scores, he said.

The *Post* continues: "Some education experts and teachers say the emphasis on tests also undermines educational quality. Teachers whose careers depend on raising minority pupils' test scores often neglect such activities as creative writing, literature, and science labs, these specialists say."

Massachusetts Fears Spread of Virus

Massachusetts health officials have begun to trap mosquitoes in an effort to screen them for West Nile encephalitis. Fearing that the virus, which can pass from birds to humans via mosquitoes, may migrate to the state this summer from New York City, where it struck last year, the Department of Public Health has designated nine new mosquito-monitoring sites to open this summer in the cities of Boston, Lynn, Fall River, Law-

rence, Framingham, Worcester, Springfield, Greenfield, and Pittsfield. These sites are in addition to 18 other trapping sites that already exist in central and eastern Massachusetts.

Apart from testing mosquitoes and birds, the Department of Public Health plans to initiate a public education program to alert residents, and involve them in eliminating the mosquitoes' breeding grounds: standing water in empty tin cans, discarded tires, trash cans, bird baths, wading pools, and clogged roof gutters.

Falwell Mounts Voter Registration Drive

Rev. Jerry Falwell has announced that his organization will spend \$18 million to register up to 10 million religious voters in time for the November elections, according to a report by Sean Scully in the *Washington Times* on April 15. The effort is expected to benefit the campaign of George W. Bush.

Falwell stated that this was intended to counter Sen. John McCain's (R-Ariz.) criticism of the role of the "religious right" in politics.

Falwell, founder of the now-defunct Moral Majority, has his new organization, People of Faith 2000, mailing voter registration guides to some 200,000 churches on his mailing list.

Although Falwell states that he personally supports George "Dubya" Bush, he says the effort will be non-partisan, because People of Faith 2000 will not endorse any candidate. "It is my experience that most people of faith in this country vote pro-family, pro-life, and that will mean George W. Bush," Falwell told the *Times*.

Houston Hispanics Warned on Rights

The Mexican consulate has released 50,000 fliers, warning Hispanics in Houston not to speak to police without a lawyer, the *Houston Chronicle* reported on April 20. This extraordinary action follows several

shootings of Hispanics, and charges that witnesses have been coerced into signing statements.

This is the second time the Mexican government has warned Hispanics and Mexican citizens about law enforcement in Houston. In May 1999, the government considered issuing a travel advisory warning about Houston, following questionable police shootings of two Hispanics, in September 1997 and July 1998.

The consul general's human rights lawyer, Gilberto Valverde, told a press conference that the consulate released the fliers "so the people can know their rights. There are many Mexicans here, and we wanted them to understand that they can remain silent." The leaflet states that a witness to the shooting of Jaime Santiago Cruz by Houston police on March 5 "was induced under threat of imprisonment to sign a white paper in the police department. He did not know its purpose."

While the Houston Police Department is reported to be angered by the circulation and posting of the fliers, the *Houston Chronicle* and local television report that Hispanics are happy to receive the information. One person who speaks only Spanish told a reporter, "I know I have rights, but I'm still afraid of police. It's good to have this information."

Studies Show Video Games Make Killers

Professor Karen Dill of Lenoir-Rhyne College in North Carolina, has co-authored two studies which demonstrate that interactive video games make children more aggressive, and are more harmful than violence on television or in movies. According to an article by Tracy McVeigh in the *London Observer* on April 23, Dill said that the games, such as "Doom" and "Quake," "are very engaging and require the player to identify with the aggressor. In a sense they provide a complete learning environment for aggression."

Studies were done of occasional users, who were shown to be harmed psychologically; and of those who are already habitually aggressive, who "may be especially vul-

A CONGRESSIONAL delegation, led by House Banking Committee Chairman Jim Leach (R-Iowa), attended hearings at the Russian State Duma (Parliament) in April, on money laundering. Others who were invited included Bank of New York Chairman Thomas Renyi, and representatives of the FBI, the Federal Reserve, and other U.S. agencies.

THE FLORIDA Supreme Court voted on April 15 to void most of a new law—for which Gov. Jeb Bush (R) had campaigned—intended to speed death penalty appeals, unanimously finding that parts of the law, passed in January, violate the separation of powers clause in the state Constitution. Only the judicial branch of government has the power to make court rules, the justices concluded.

SEN. JOHN McCAIN (R-Ariz.) arrived in Hanoi on April 25, ahead of the 25th anniversary commemoration of the end of the Vietnam War. McCain took part in a ceremony to repatriate the remains of six U.S. servicemen, and will visit the Hoa Lo Prison, where he spent five years. McCain and his wife and son were swamped by well-wishers in a walk around the central lake in Hanoi. He has been an advocate of rebuilding U.S.-Vietnamese ties.

SEN. JOHN KERRY (D-Mass.) has been asked by the UN to travel to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to try to reach a compromise on the near-to-last sticking point on a tribunal for senior Khmer Rouge officials, which concerns the power of the prosecutors to indict. The UN has rejected Cambodia's insistence that indictments must be issued jointly by the Cambodian and foreign co-prosecutors.

AL GORE took a "states' rights" position on the case of Elian Gonzalez, reports columnist Jack Newfield in the *New York Post* on April 25. "Gore took the states' rights position that local law superseded Federal law in this case," he writes. Newfield likens this to the "Southern segregationist strategy" of the 1960s.

nerable to the aggression-enhancing effects of repeated exposure to violent games," said researcher Craig Anderson.

A recording left behind by Columbine High School shooters Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris said that the mass murders they would commit would be just like the video game "Doom," to which they were addicted.

The *Observer* cites the case of two British parents who may use the new findings to sue video-game manufacturers. Their 17-year-old son is in reform school for battering his best friend with a wooden staff, inflicting brain damage. The youth said, "It was like I wanted to smash him dead, like in a computer game." For four hours a night he was a player of "Doom," and of "Carmageddon." In the latter, the player wins points by running people over with a car.

A 14-year-old boy is quoted explaining how children can get violence-enhancers over the Internet for "Quake," and they can scan in the faces of their teachers, and "cut off their heads and kick them around or use them as head [sic] grenades to explode another person."

Pentagon Official: Delay NMD Decision

Pressed by an irrational, Congressionally set timetable mandating that by this summer, President Clinton must make a decision on whether or not to deploy a National Missile Defense system, the Pentagon has been promising that the June test scheduled for the ground-based interceptor system will provide the needed data for the Presidential decision. But Philip Coyle, head of the Pentagon's Directorate of Test and Evaluation, is cautioning against any "rush to judgment."

In remarks to *Space News*, reported on May 1, Coyle warned that experience from previous tests indicates that data analysis could take longer to complete than the 30-day turnaround the Pentagon is promising the President. "The final post-test analysis briefing for integrated test-4, which was executed on Jan. 18, took place on March 16," he said. More time will be needed to allow the President to make an informed decision, Coyle believes. The next test, scheduled for

June 26, has been delayed from April 26, to allow time for engineers to fix a damaged coolant system aboard the interceptor.

In the past few weeks, the Pentagon has revised the projected program cost for the kinetic kill system, from \$12.7 billion to \$20.2 billion, in 1991 prices. President Clinton has stated that the potential threat and the cost of the system, in addition to technological readiness, will determine his decision.

Meanwhile, the NMD program continues to come under attack. *Aviation Week* reported on April 24 that Arms Control Association head Spurgeon Keeny, Jr. states that supposed threats from North Korea and other "rogue states," which are being used to rationalize an NMD deployment decision, are "preposterous." Keeny states that NATO allies are confused and troubled by the program, which seems unnecessary and provocative; Russian officials see the North Korea "threat" as a clumsy excuse; and "China dismisses the North Korean threat as a transparent ruse to deploy a system directed at China."

See Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., "When Andropov Played Hamlet," *EIR*, April 21, 2000, for a cogent commentary on the issue.

McCaffrey To Be Hit with Propaganda Attack

Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Gen. Barry McCaffrey (ret.) is about to be hit with a character assassination by Seymour Hersh in *New Yorker* magazine, according to an April 18 *Washington Post* article entitled "Drug Czar Up in Arms over Gulf War Inquiry." The article, by Howard Kurtz, says that Hersh is interviewing people who charge that the U.S. 24th Infantry Division, under McCaffrey's command, committed war crimes during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

McCaffrey is unpopular in certain Washington circles, particularly at the State Department, where he has contradicted Secretary Madeleine Albright on drug policy, especially after she wrote an article defending peace negotiations with the FARC narco-guerrillas in Colombia.

The October Model

Lyndon LaRouche's document, "When Andropov Played Hamlet" (*EIR*, April 21) must be studied intensively by any person who wishes to develop a competent strategic overview of the crisis of competence wracking even the more sentient levels of U.S. establishment institutions, and others, today. At the moment, every section of the U.S. establishment of whose commitments *EIR* has certain knowledge, is committing today the same type of fatal error which he exposed there as the blunders of the 1980s Soviet leadership's response to the SDI offer from President Reagan. They, like the presently disoriented AFL-CIO bureaucracy, are proceeding from the tragically fatal delusion, that no change will occur which is not in keeping with actions considered acceptable among at least a potentially hegemonic ration of the relevant establishment.

The significance of V.I. Lenin's decisive role, in virtually single-handedly orchestrating the 1917 seizure of power by the Soviets, even despite most of the Bolshevik leadership, is the best available lesson from recent history, for illustrating the strategic principle applicable to the presently escalating, global strategic crisis.

Every other set of players of influence in the Russia crisis of 1916-17, proceeded on the assumption, that responses to the crisis must be arranged within the framework of what might be gathered together, through negotiations, as representatives of the existing Russian establishment. The lesson of 1917 is, that all of these approaches failed. Not only did they fail in fact; they failed of necessity, because of reliance upon the pre-doomed method, of relying upon negotiations of agreements among a consenting concatenation of the elements of the pre-existing establishment, or, as is said in today's U.S., "the institutions."

The Russia situation of 1916-17 was already, in and of itself, a classically revolutionary situation. That means, a situation in which pre-existing popular opinion and the overwhelming majority of the relevant establishment groupings, are all, as constituted, incapable of introducing competent solutions for the crisis before them. Although many elements of Russia's society joined the Bolshevik seizure of power in 1917, or relatively soon thereafter, this motion represented a migra-

tion of figures from discredited and destroyed elements of the former establishment, as individual representatives of a Russian intellectual elite, into new configurations of power. In that transition, there was a distinct interval of discontinuity.

One may not admire the Soviet system which, indeed, ultimately doomed itself. However, it was the only option presented, in a circumstance in which only truly revolutionary options could succeed in averting prolonged chaos comparable to the Mongol occupation.

The situation within the world's present financial and monetary system, and within the U.S. itself, is of a similarly revolutionary character. This does not mean, that a Bolshevik revolution is in the wind; it means, that the stubborn clinging, of most among the existing U.S. establishment, to pre-existing arrangements, dooms its every effort, like the present support of Gore's candidacy by President Clinton, to catastrophic failure in the course of the now-unfolding general crisis; he, and the AFL-CIO, are supporting Gore in the way a drowning man clings desperately to the ship's anchor, on which he is relying to save him. This means, that either someone will lead a revolution of some kind, or by default, chaos—even a prolonged, global new dark age—will reign for a coming period of decades.

A revolutionary crisis of this general class, is a time to reshuffle the deck. In such a period, patriotic leading figures from the establishment will, if they are not Hamlets, recognize that a break-up and regrouping of the pre-existing establishment is indispensable for a peaceable remedy for the crisis. Therefore, local loyalties are to be superseded by higher loyalties, that to the General Welfare of the nation, its people, and civilization in general. True patriots will react to such a situation as the 1776 U.S. Declaration of Independence prescribed for then, and also for the future; as the Preamble of the Constitution, including its General Welfare clause, is the highest legal authority, higher than any other institution of government. Leaders, if they are honest leaders, will act for the nation, not for preserving a pre-existing establishment configuration, which, by the very nature of such a situation, has failed as hopelessly as did Russia's institutions of the pre-October months of 1917.

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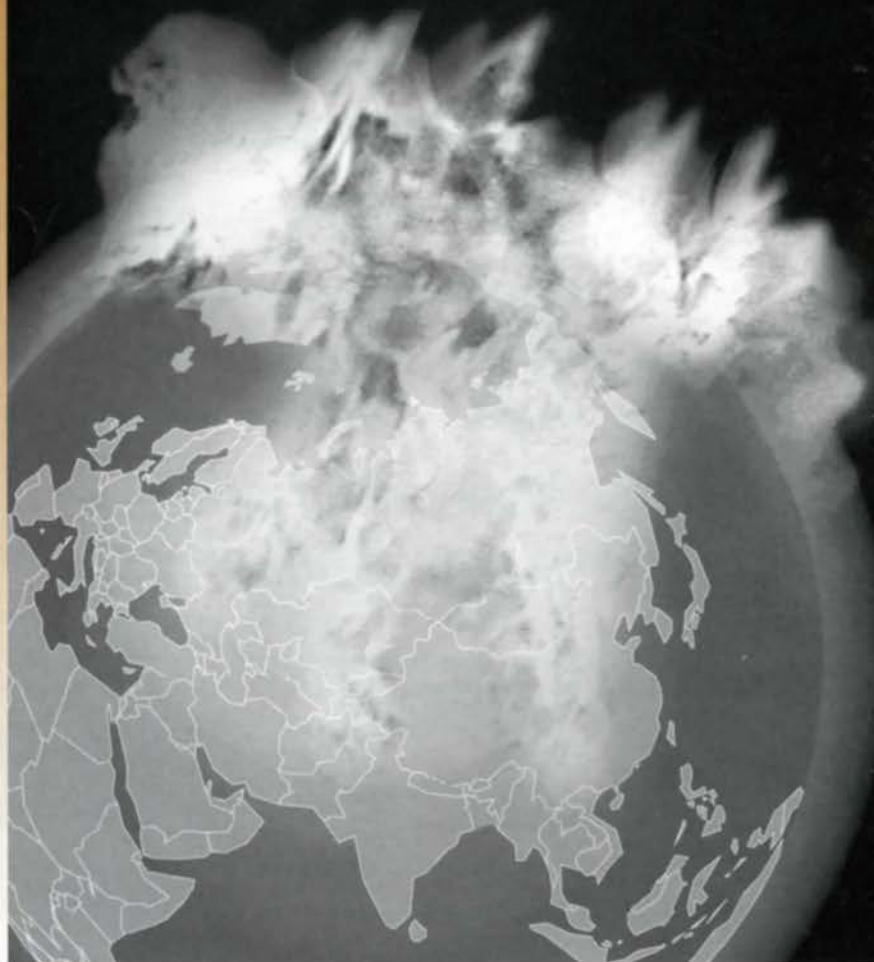
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