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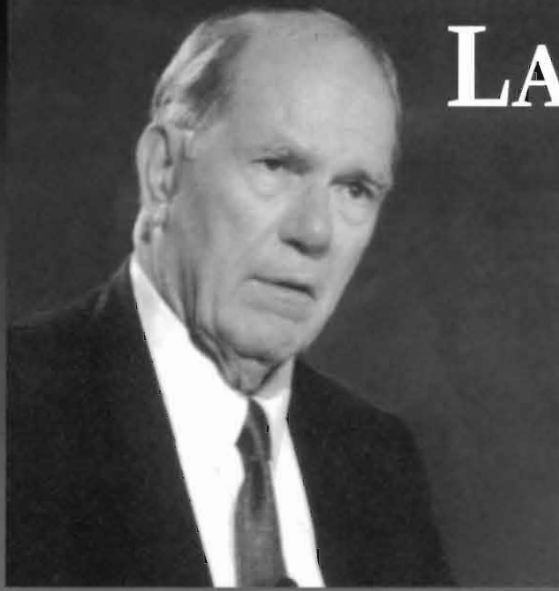
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LaRouche In Rome: Toward A Dialogue Of Civilizations
Argentina's Default Will Be The Biggest Ever
How Reagan's 1982 Mideast Peace Was Drowned In Blood

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From the Associate Editor

LLyndon LaRouche's call for a competent policy of "Homeland Defense" (p. 58) provides the key to wresting control over U.S. policymaking from the lunatic advocates of a "clash of civilizations."

If we want homeland defense, we must overturn the failed axioms that have left our economy vulnerable to terrorist attack. Dump "free trade"! Rebuild the infrastructure of our physical economy, including health-care. Go after the money-launderers who provide the financing for terrorism—even when they are to be found in the boardrooms of Wall Street, among the "citizens above suspicion."

Any other approach, such as the U.S. operations in Afghanistan, as LaRouche emphasized in an Oct. 27 memorandum to *EIR* staff, is bound to fail: "Somebody has to frankly tell the President that this operation is a delusion, it can't work, and some alternative needs to be adopted, fast. Cut bait, take a different approach, and don't even bother to stop and explain the change in policy. Just do it and the beneficial results will speak for themselves."

In this issue, we present the two sides of this life-and-death policy fight. Our *Feature* is about those who are calling for a *dialogue of cultures*, based, not on a Pantheon of religious doctrines, but on a conception of man, as in the image of God. LaRouche, in a speech in Rome, lays out his ideas of how such a dialogue might succeed. Complementing this, we have the initiative of Pope John Paul II toward China, on the fourth centenary of the arrival in Beijing of the Jesuit missionary Father Matteo Ricci.

In *International*, we have reports on the opposite policy grouping, the "clash of civilizations" crowd, ranging from the secretive Mega group of Zionist lobby influentials, to British Prime Minister Tony "Imperial" Blair. Michele Steinberg recounts the little-known history of how President Reagan's 1982 Mideast peace plan was derailed, by the same Anglo-American-Israeli grouping that is now plunging the Mideast into a bloodbath. And, we review the explosive reports that are appearing in the European press—leaks from various intelligence services—on alleged ties between Osama bin Laden and the CIA, as recently as July, and on the role of bin Laden's operatives in the Balkans. Clearly, there are influential forces in Europe who are trying to stop the Afghanistan imbroglio, before it leads to a much wider conflagration.

Susan Welsh

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Postal workers enter D.C. General Hospital to receive the antibiotic Cipro, because of the anthrax bioterrorism.



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Argentina: Default By Any Name . . . Will Be Biggest Ever

by Cynthia R. Rush

The looming collapse of Argentina's \$222 billion foreign debt would be that largest default in history, as *Moody's Investors Service* emphasized on Nov. 1. The government's long and terrible savaging of its own economy, *rather than declare sovereign bankruptcy*, has failed to avoid default; this trumpets to the world that Lyndon LaRouche's bankruptcy-reorganization policy must be adopted in place of International Monetary Fund (IMF) and similar "bailout" disasters. And it spotlights imprisoned Argentine military hero and LaRouche collaborator, Col. Mohammed Alí Seineldín, as the only national leader not discredited by Argentina's economic disasters and corruption of the past decade.

The "voluntary and amicable" swap of public debt, proposed by President Fernando de la Rúa and his "Rasputin," Finance Minister Domingo Cavallo, did not console the international financial community. "Looks like default, smells like default, must be default," BCP Securities senior analyst Walter Molando said in remarks to Bloomberg financial agency on Oct. 30. "Argentina Signals Default On Foreign-Held Debt," Bloomberg trumpeted in its Oct. 29 coverage. Standard and Poor's now rates Argentine debt SD—"Selective Default."

No one bought Cavallo's assurance that he was lining up guarantees for the deal of at least \$7 billion from multilateral lending agencies, including the IMF, the World Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank. "Either he's lying to us, or he's thinking of a compulsory restructuring," one Argentine banker said to the daily *Página 12*. Nor could he get an agreement with the nation's governors, to force them to accept still further, directly life-threatening budget cuts, for no purpose.

In a Nov. 1 press conference, IMF spokesman Thomas Dawson said that additional funding for Argentina "is not in the cards," and even the \$3 billion credit already committed by the IMF depended on more devastating cuts from the governors. As for moving up a \$1.2 billion disbursement planned for December, Dawson's message was, "Forget it."

Not An 'Argentine' Problem

Free-market lunatics such as the *Wall Street Journal* have insisted that Argentina's debt problems are of its own making—an "overregulated economy" and "excessive spending"—instead of a reflection of the crashing world financial system. Given the overwhelming exposure of foreign banks in Argentina, U.S. financial institutions in particular, it is delusional to think that the country's financial disintegration won't have dramatic repercussions on both the U.S. and world economy, or that there won't be more "implosions." Argentina accounts for almost 25% of all emerging-market bonds in world markets.

Look at Brazil. On Oct. 30, U.S. Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill told the *Journal* emphatically that fear of an Argentine default would not hurt other Ibero-American markets. But on Oct. 29, it was only through a \$2.45 billion debt repayment from Poland—itsself close to bankruptcy—that Brazil held off currency collapse! Brazil's recent \$15 billion credit line extended by the IMF will not protect it from Argentine shockwaves.

Argentina's default is lawful, not because of a failure to fully impose free-market policies, but rather because, first under President Carlos Menem's 1989-99 regime, and then under the Alianza coalition government which took power

in December 1999, the government *did impose*, with total abandon, virtually every nation-wrecking dictate made to it by the international financial community. That's how it became the IMF's "success story" of the 1990s.

Murder As Policy

Domingo Cavallo, a longtime tool of the Anglo-American financial oligarchy, was installed in March of this year, to oversee this death ritual, while attempting to maintain the myth that Argentina's debt was still performing. Not content with the devastation he had wrought in his first 1991-96 term as Finance Minister, Cavallo came up with the "zero deficit" program in July, to deliver the final blow to the economy. It was premised on "we'll only spend what we collect" in taxes; as the tax base shrank, it mandated deeper budget cuts in every sector across the board *except debt payments*, accelerating the ongoing collapse of production and living standards.

On Oct. 22, Lyndon LaRouche warned that, should Cavallo's policy continue, Argentina will indeed die. "The amount that Argentina is supposed to pay has already passed the point that people in Argentina can live. If you try to collect the debt that's imposed on Argentina, Argentina will die, physically die. That is, the amount of wealth being produced is not only being looted by so-called fiscal responsibility measures, but the amount of production, from which payments presumably will come to pay these financial charges, is being collapsed by the measures of fiscal austerity," LaRouche said.

In its Sept. 14, 2001 issue, *EIR* projected this deadly policy, showing what would happen if collected taxes shrank at the rate of 10-15% per year, while interest payments zoomed by 25% per year (see **Figure 1**). This projection now has proven, if anything, to understate the rate of the downward spiral. *EIR* posed: "When the soaring interest payments demanded eventually are *greater* than the entire contracting tax base — when the parasite is bigger than the host — what then?"

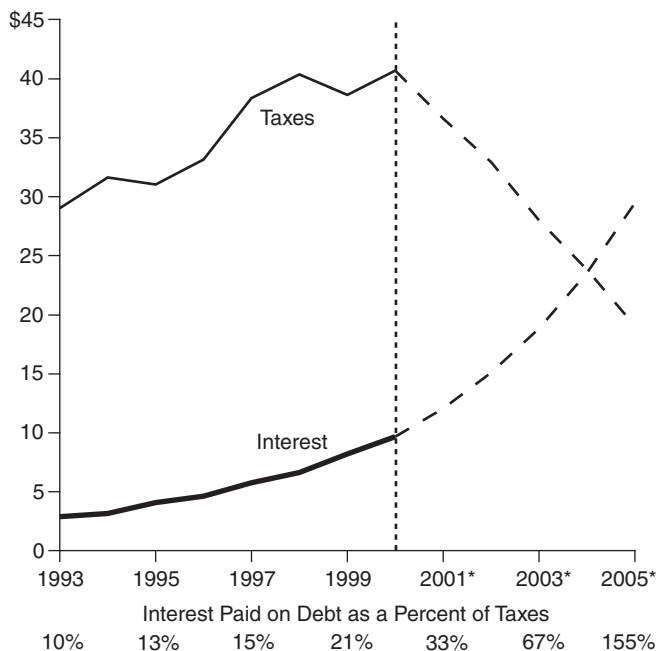
Regardless, the IMF's deadly policy has continued. The killing is seen in the 18.7% national unemployment rate, up from 16% a year ago, which translates into 1,570 jobs lost every day. The government's statistical agency, Indec, released figures showing that, as of last May, half of Argentina's 9.2 million salaried workers were earning less than \$400 a month. Between October 2000 and May of this year, wages dropped an average of 2%, but among the poorest-paid workers, wages dropped by an average of 10.7%.

Forty percent of the population now officially lives below the poverty line, calculated to be a monthly wage of \$470 or less. This is an unprecedented figure for the nation which prided itself on being the "granary of the world," and never lacked food for its people. According to the FIDE economic think-tank, a family of four requires \$1,030 monthly to meet food, education, and health needs, hardly attainable at current wage levels.

In September, industrial sales dropped by 9.3%, com-

FIGURE 1
Argentina: Taxes Collected vs. Interest Paid On Public Debt

(Billions \$)



**EIR* projection.
Sources: Ministry of Economics, Argentina; *EIR*.

pared to a year ago. Orders for virtually all manufacturing sectors that depend on the internal market dropped dramatically. Also in September, industrial production dropped by 7.4% compared to September a year ago. The Nov. 1 *Ambito Financiero* reported that for the year to date, the number of bankruptcies nationally is 15% higher than for the same period of 2000. "It's clear the economy is melting down," PNB Paribas official José Barrionuevo told Bloomberg on Nov. 1.

October's tax revenues dropped by 11.3%—less than September's 14% drop—but government officials admitted that the fall was "only" 11% because revenue from the tax on banking transactions compensated for a 20% fall in the Value Added Tax, a key measure of consumption.

These policies have bankrupted Argentina's provinces and once-vibrant regional economies, and explain why governors refuse to accept Cavallo's demand for cuts in the \$1.4 billion which the government is mandated by law to send provinces monthly. Even without an agreement, the Finance Minister has defiantly cut funds to the provinces this year, citing the drop in tax revenues.

The debt has gotten paid above all, until now, but it is this folly which is reaching its deadend. It is this theft that led

Gov. Angel Rozas of Chaco province to recently announce a partial default on two bond payments. A member of the Radical Civic Union (UCR), the party of President de la Rúa, Rozas said he made the decision because he had to pay salaries first, and asked creditors to please be patient. “Investors have to understand that I can’t fail to pay wages, or purchase medicine [for people], and also pay principal [on the debt].”

The Protest Vote Wins

This reality explains why in the Oct. 14 mid-term elections, 41% of the electorate, an unprecedented 10.2 million voters, refused to participate. They either didn’t vote at all, risking a hefty fine, or they spoiled their ballots, to express their rage over the Alianza government’s genocidal policies.

Citizens preferred to “vote” by leaving their ballots blank, or stuffing the envelopes with pictures of Osama bin Laden, cartoon characters, food, or pornographic pictures — anything except the traditional parties or candidates. In some provinces, such as Santa Fé, the protest vote “won” with 40% of the vote, defeating the candidates of both the opposition Peronists and the ruling Alianza.

Those who did cast valid ballots, handed a significant victory to the Peronist, or Justicialista Party, strengthening their existing Senate majority, and increasing their numbers in the House, where they will now hold a plurality when Congress reconvenes on Dec. 10. This is the first time in Argentina’s history that the political opposition will dominate both houses of Congress.

But the big question now is, what will this opposition do? In the midst of the greatest existential crisis of Argentina’s history, there is a total vacuum of power. To date, no Peronist has come forward to propose a real alternative for Argentina, or offer hope to a demoralized and terrified people. Various governors and legislators, with an eye toward the 2003 Presidential elections, are jockeying for power, rather than providing real leadership, as the nation falls apart around them.

The Alianza government is crumbling. A sector of its radical wing, Frepaso, linked to the continental narco-terrorist umbrella group, the São Paulo Forum, has already left the government. Tension is running high inside the UCR, Frepaso’s partner in the ruling coalition, because of growing opposition to Cavallo. The government is even losing the support of Alianza governors, because of Cavallo’s crass attempts to bludgeon provinces into submission. Alianza Gov. Alfredo Avelin of San Juan, has called Cavallo “a faithful exponent of international usury . . . a modern Al Capone. He doesn’t care about the country, or its people. He wants to squeeze the provinces.” The only possible outcome of these policies, he warned, will be a “volcanic eruption.”

Seineldín: The Man Of The Hour

LaRouche has said repeatedly that the leader capable of steering Argentina away from genocide is former Army Colo-

nel, Mohamed Alí Seineldín. The Malvinas War hero, who has endorsed LaRouche’s New Bretton Woods proposal, for a reorganization of the global, IMF-based financial system to restart production, has been locked up in jail for 11 years, a political prisoner of an Anglo-American oligarchy terrified that his nationalist principles and broad appeal, extending well beyond military circles, could rally Argentines around a program to rebuild the shattered nation.

Understanding the role that Seineldín could play both in Argentina and the region in this extraordinary crisis, Brazilian military nationalists have formed a committee to lead a campaign for Colonel Seineldín’s freedom, and whose “Manifesto For The Freedom Of Colonel Mohamed Alí Seineldín” was published in the October issue of *Ombro a Ombro*, the magazine of Brazil’s retired military. The Manifesto, which is circulating in Ibero-America and internationally, states that Seineldín’s freedom is “fundamental to the moral reemergence of the Argentine nation,” and could represent the “road to rebuilding the sovereignty” of both Brazil and Argentina, allowing the two to play a real leadership role in forging programmatic regional and continental unity (see statement below).

This initiative complements the activities of the LaRouche-affiliated Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA), which has brought together patriots from both nations in two regional conferences this year, one in Brazil and one in Argentina, with a third one planned for Campo Grande, Brazil, in November. The purpose of these gatherings, which are rapidly becoming an institution, is to address the regional crisis from the standpoint of the global financial crash, and discuss what role the Southern Cone, and all of Ibero-America, can play in LaRouche’s proposed Eurasian Land-Bridge development program and New Bretton Woods monetary system.

It is Cavallo, not Seineldín, who should be in jail—and he might well end up there, if current legal suits against him are allowed to proceed. On Oct. 10, a group of congressmen belonging to the Alternative for a Republic of Equals—Elisa Carrió, Mario Cafiero, Alfredo Bravo, and Graciela Ocaña—asked a federal court to include them as plaintiffs in the legal suit brought against Cavallo by former Peronist legislator Juan Labaké. That suit accuses Cavallo of “abuse of authority and malfeasance of public funds,” and states that a possible charge of “illicit association” is being investigated in the \$30 billion debt swap that the Finance Minister and his mentor, former U.S. Deputy Treasury Secretary David Mulford, now at Credit Suisse-First Boston, carried out in early June of this year.

The point, Congressman Mario Cafiero told *EIR*, is to “determine how Argentina ended up paying debt [service] that is more than 50% of its Gross Domestic Product, without this ever having meant any kind of investment in infrastructure or in services to Argentines.

Brazilian Manifesto: Freedom For Seineldín

A “Brazilian Committee For The Freedom Of Col. Mohamed Alí Seineldín” has been formed. The October issue of the widely read retired military officers’ monthly newspaper, Ombro a Ombro, published a manifesto explaining why it is a fighting matter for Brazilians—and other Ibero-American patriots—to lead a campaign for freeing the jailed Argentine former colonel, at this moment of world crisis. The three leaders of the Brazilian “Free Seineldín” committee are Division Gen. Tasso Villar de Aquino (ret.), Honorary President; Vice Adm. Sergio Tasso Vásquez de Aquino (ret.), a former Deputy Minister of the Armed Forces Ministry, President; and Col. Pedro Schirmer (ret.), editor of Ombro a Ombro, Executive Secretary. The Manifesto reads:

The world economic and financial collapse, which so dramatically affects the Argentine Republic and its people, and which will soon hit Brazil and the rest of the developing nations with full force, makes clear that men of good will and the true national patriotic leadership must speak out in defense of the values of the sovereign nation-state, to reverse a situation in which nationalist references appear to vanish. In this situation, it is noteworthy that the incarnation of the sovereignty and dignity of our great brother country remains imprisoned at the Campo de Mayo Military Prison in Buenos Aires, in the person of Col. Mohamed Alí Seineldín, who is completing the 11th year of a life sentence there.

Colonel Seineldín stands as an example, not only for his military peers and the Argentine people, but for all patriots of Latin America. He is a symbol of resistance to the global hegemonic system which intends to prevail over national states and their institutions, especially the armed forces. He is a symbol of the fight against the neo-liberalism of plundering globalism, who should serve as a constant for all true patriots who love their countries. That he remains in prison can only be explained by the political pressure of these neo-colonial groups, who do not forgive him for what he represents, having been the great Argentine hero of the Malvinas campaign, and leader of the resistance to the weakening of his country’s armed forces. All this, inspired by unbreakable firmness, patriotic ideals, and the profound Catholic convictions which have guided his life. There is no room in such a system for lackeys and cowards.

We Brazilian patriots who have signed below, understand that the freedom of Colonel Seineldín, beyond representing a high act of justice, is fundamental for the moral reemergence

of the Argentine nation, and a crucial step for national unity. Without those requisites, any initiative for regional integration in which the Argentina-Brazil axis exerts uncontested leadership, will be impossible. This being the case, the greatness of Latin America and the happiness of its people must be sought in common, through the conscious union of all the nations of the region. Together, they constitute one of the richest and most blessed areas of the Earth, and it is necessary that we give testimony to humanity that independent and sovereign nations can build a better and more just world in peace and harmony.

The freedom of Colonel Seineldín could open the path to rebuilding the sovereignty of both nations, strengthening the unity of both, and reestablishing the value of their armed forces, all the more relevant in light of the events of Sept. 11 in the United States. The incarceration of a man of the moral and spiritual depth of Colonel Seineldín cries out to the heavens.

For these reasons, we have decided to release the current Manifesto, which is open for all interested patriots to sign, and will be forwarded to the relevant authorities of the Argentine Republic at the opportune moment.



Argentine war hero Col. Mohamed Alí Seineldín, who has been unjustly imprisoned for 11 years.

Influence Of LaRouche's Ideas Continues To Expand In Russia

by Rachel Douglas

A new economics publication was inaugurated on Oct. 30 in Moscow with a featured interview with U.S. economist and Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche.

Rusky Predprinimatel (Russian Entrepreneur) was launched at an event in the huge, rebuilt Cathedral of Christ the Savior, attended by 400, including businessmen, economists, and Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) leaders. They heard the editors of the new journal speak on its concept of bringing morality back into economic policy and practice. In his speech, Deputy Editor Andrei Kobyakov explained that the commitment to a morally engaged economics, made it appropriate for the first issue of *Russian Entrepreneur* to feature a big interview with Lyndon LaRouche.

The “theme of the issue” is “The Crisis of Immoral Economics.” Editor-in-chief Andrei Chernakov reminded the audience that “money is not the main thing” in the economy. The new publication will focus on religious and moral precepts, in the domain of economics. The first issue contains an article on President Putin, who is shown with ROC Patriarch Aleksii, as having begun to move the Russian economy “out of intensive care,” although it is not yet healthy. In this context, the magazine calls for the press to stop playing a destabilizing role in society, and become a stabilizing, constructive factor.

Russian Entrepreneur, said Andrei Kobyakov, will be a “passionate publication,” which will take sides and promote certain values. Kobyakov described LaRouche as one of the most profound thinkers alive today, and the interview feature is titled, “A Man Who Is A Titan.” Kobyakov stressed that this was what the great figures of the Renaissance era were called — titans. The interview and photo feature appears under the headline “The Engine Of Progress Is The Striving To Do The Good.”

Sharing the first issue is Kobyakov's own article analyzing the breakdown of the financial bubble in the United States. This is the topic on which he gave expert testimony at economist Sergei Glazyev's June 29 State Duma (parliament) hearings, which LaRouche keynoted (see *EIR*, July 20, 2001). Several other participants in those turning-point hearings also attended the inauguration of *Russian Entrepreneur*, and Jona-

than Tennenbaum of the Schiller Institute addressed it on behalf of the LaRouche movement.

New Journal Asks: What Is Christian Economy?

This interview with Lyndon LaRouche in the Oct. 30 inaugural issue of Russian Entrepreneur is entitled “The Engine Of Progress Is Striving To Do The Good.” The interviewer is deputy editor Andrei Kobyakov.

Russian Entrepreneur: Ten years ago, you published a fundamental work, *The Science of Christian Economy*. Could you explain, in an accessible form to our readers, what meaning you gave to that concept? What is Christian economy; on what is it based; and what are its main characteristics?

LaRouche: “Christian economy” signifies, most broadly, the Mosaic doctrine of man, as created by, and in the image of the Creator of the universe. More narrowly, it signifies Christ's redemption of mankind, as stated, for example, in the Gospel of John, and implicit in the emphasis on the concept of *agapē*, in Paul's *I Corinthians* 13. It signifies a notion of scientifically verifiable natural law consistent with those two, crucial elements of Christian teaching.

The emphasis is on the physical evidence which demonstrates absolutely the characteristic difference between man and beasts. As Vladimir I. Vernadsky argued, man is essentially a cognitive being, capable of discovering, and successfully applying experimentally verifiable, universal physical principles; the beasts are not. Therein lies the definition of the specific creative powers of the individual person, the powers of the human being which mirror the character of the Creator of the universe.

It is through those creative powers, and only those creative powers, that society is enabled to increase the potential relative population-density of the human species, or a specific society, as no species of the animal kingdom can do this.

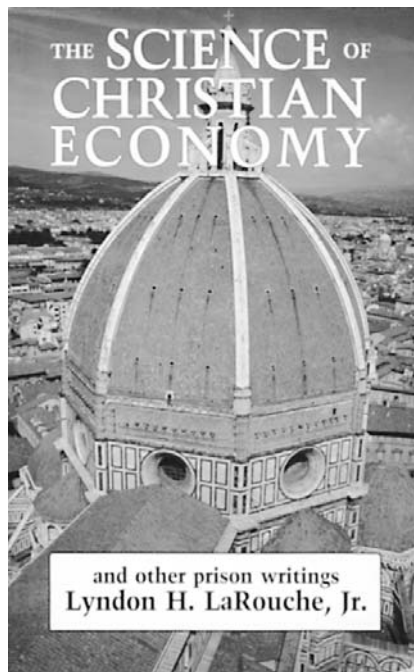
While the discovery of a verifiable, universal physical principle, is characteristically the sovereign act of an individual human mind's cognitive processes, the ability of society to employ such discoveries, depends upon the replication of those acts of discovery in the minds of other individuals, and to bring such knowledge into currency for society's practice by such routes. Therefore, a corresponding quality of relations among persons within society, is essential to the realization of mankind's true potential as a creature made in the image of the Creator. This is therefore a moral principle, without which society can not function adequately.

Russian Entrepreneur: Earlier, you introduced into scientific usage, the term, "physical economy." How does the concept of "Christian economy" relate to your conception of "physical economy"? Are the two concepts identical?

LaRouche: The concepts underlying those two terms are congruent, but respectively distinct. The science of physical economy was originally introduced and developed by Gottfried Leibniz, over the course of 1671-1716. Originally, it appeared in Leibniz's work as a revolutionary transformation in the work of those cameralists who were sometimes associated with "mercantilism." I revived Leibniz's usage through original discoveries I made during the interval 1948-1952. By the beginning of 1953, I adopted Bernhard Riemann's revolutionary 1854 discovery, which had founded an explicitly anti-Euclidean form of physical geometry, as the way in which to organize my own original discoveries into a generalized form for practice.

As a part of my teaching at various locations during 1966-1973, I applied my own original discoveries in physical economy to a critical assessment of Karl Marx's "four volumes" of *Capital* in the light of post-1945 developments in the world economy. With the 1971-1972 vindication of my published forecasts for the U.S. economy, which brought me into modest, but growing prominence around the developments during and following mid-August 1971, the pedagogical methods I used in classes taught during 1966-1973, became known widely in many parts of the world, and, after 1991, drew attention increasingly in Russia.

In Russia, for example, a significant number of scientific thinkers either accept, or would tend to accept, my notion of physical economy. Yet, even among them, a significant number would not yet have accepted fully either my insistence, nor that of Vernadsky, that the principle of human cognition can not be derived from a mathematical-physics based upon currently popular notions of the universal principles of an abiotic universe. The latter persons could not yet reconcile the notion of a principle of physical economy, with the fact that it is the efficiency of cognition which proves conclusively that man is made in the image of the Creator. That is typical of the difference in meaning many observers would tend to attribute to the terms physical economy and Christian economy.



This most recent, major public discussion of LaRouche's works in Russia, focussed on his 1991 book: fundamental principles of economics for a Russia overcoming both the 1990 collapse of communism, and the 2000-2001 collapse of "free trade" globalization.

Russian Entrepreneur: Why is liberal economics, economics based on liberal theory, anti-human and anti-Christian by its nature?

LaRouche: Over the course of the 17th Century, in England, and then in France, "liberalism" signified a social philosophy premised upon a more or less radical version of the empiricism of Paolo Sarpi and Galileo Galilei. Sarpi's theory, as expressed by Sir Francis Bacon and Galileo's student Thomas Hobbes, was given a systematic form through the influence of such writers as John Locke, Bernard Mandeville, and David Hume. Later, this social dogma acquired a more radical form under the influence of Lord Shelburne and Jeremy Bentham's leading role in the British East India Company's Haileybury School.

The general form of this social theory, from Hobbes on, was that our universe functions on the basis of long-range percussive, statistical interactions among individual human "particles." The doctrine of "free trade," from Mandeville through the 19th-Century marginal utilitarians, was premised upon a frankly superstitious interpretation of that axiomatic presumption.

First of all, this social theory is both dangerous and scientifically absurd. Man's mastery of nature depends essentially upon the discovery and cooperative employment of those verifiable discoveries which are typified for science by discoveries of universal physical principle. It is the cooperation in application of these discovered principles, upon which progress in the human condition depends absolutely. This cooperation, not percussive interaction, is thus the essential interest of not only society, but also of each individual within society. It is the intention of the members of society to serve an effi-

LaRouche Predicts Russian Greatness

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LaRouche Predicts Russian Greatness

By Igor Semenenko
Staff Writer

He predicted the 1971 collapse of the Bretton Woods agreement that fixed global currency rates and gave birth to the International Monetary Fund.

And he predicted the demise of the Soviet Union and the reunification of Germany 20 years later.

Now, Lyndon LaRouche, the six-time U.S. presidential candidate and author of dozens of political and economic tracts, is back in Moscow with a new prophecy — Russia is the only hope for global civilization.

The 78-year-old American, often called a political extremist for his incessant criticism of the U.S. political system, arrived in Moscow this week to share his vision "on fostering the Russian economy in a disintegrating global financial system," at an open hearing in the State Duma scheduled for Friday.

LaRouche is the guest of Sergei Charyev, the architect of the Communist

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LaRouche, left, who has had a reputation for being a radical political thinker since the early 1970s, sees a bright future for Russia.

Made in Russia

"Your special relationship to Russia is well known," Russian Entrepreneur told LaRouche. Here is the Moscow Times coverage of LaRouche's crucial June 29-30 visit, when he testified to the State Duma on economic policy.

cient, willful intention to do good, which is the motor of human progress.

Second, the empiricists' percussive theory of social relations, is a modern product of a long and ugly tradition, in those ancient, medieval, and modern societies, in which a relatively small oligarchy and its lackeys variously hunted down, held captive, and culled, "herds" of human beings which lived in relative subjugation as virtual human cattle. Adam Smith's adoption of the doctrine of *laissez-faire* of the reactionary feudalist François Quesnay, is an example of the connection between ancient oligarchical traditions and modern liberal doctrine.

Third, not only was the author of modern liberalism, Sarpi, then the de facto lord of a Venice, that during a period Venice was in the concluding hundred-odd years of its role as the dominant imperial maritime power in Europe. It was the Venetian model, as typified by Sarpi, and under his direct influence, which took over England and the Netherlands during the course of the 17th Century. This Venice-modelled, Anglo-Dutch form of rentier-financier-oligarchy-ruled imperial maritime power, is the form of oligarchism under which the spread of liberalism has occurred, as we meet this phenomenon in Russia and elsewhere today.

Fourth, since ancient imperial Rome, the method of social control over a mass of human cattle, has been what the Romans called *vox populi*, or, in modern English, popular opinion. Liberalism is a form of belief which functions like a psychotropic drug, whose intended use is to induce the popular-opinion-"drugged" human cattle to put on their own

chains each day. The people so "drugged" by the oligarchical predators who herd them as cattle, are induced to accept both what is done to them, and what they do to each other, as the marvelous will of fate; in this case, "the invisible hand of free trade" serves as a synonym for "the hand of fate." Since popular opinion, sometimes called "democracy," is a more efficient instrument of tyranny than the whip, in ordinary times the Enlightened rentier-financier oligarchy prefers to herd and loot its victims in a most liberal manner.

In a society consistent with Christian belief and practice, the primary motive of the people is the intention to bring about good. This is called serving the general welfare, the common good. In such a society, it is the rulers, above all others, who have the greatest obligation to serve that common good.

Russian Entrepreneur: In the course of centuries, Russia remained without interruption a Christian country. Only in the 20th Century, she did not stand firm in the face of many temptations, and she fell victim to completely destructive doctrines and utopias, losing much of her identity in the process. There were, of course, positive accomplishments, but they were attained at too high a price. Perhaps the main accomplishment may be the kind of bitter experience, which can exert a minimizing effect, providing an antidote to new temptations. But, it seems, the period of anti-natural social experiments in Russia has not yet come to an end. Will Russia, in your opinion, survive the present infatuation with ultra-liberal ideas?

LaRouche: I am, of course, aware of the complex of developments to which you refer. On some points, I can respond with relative certainty; on others, I do not consider myself qualified to make blanket judgments. I do know, that the October 1917 revolution would never have occurred but for the personal role of Lenin, and Lenin's continuing pre-assessment, that a revolutionary situation was inevitable, because neither the Czar nor any of the so-called reformers would be willing to take Russia out of the war. Thus, the seizure of power in October occurred in a relative vacuum. Then, Lenin was shot, and essentially out of control of the situation. There was Russia, seeking survival in those circumstances of the 1920s and beyond.

To assess that situation, consider the circumstances. The British monarch, Edward VII, was determined to put his nephews, Czar Nicholas II and Kaiser Wilhelm, at one another's throats. The uncle was evil, the nephews were fools, and the Habsburg Kaiser was the biggest fool of them all. Except for U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt, the 20th Century was, essentially, a global tragedy, a down-slide into global cultural decadence. The problems of Russia, including the developments of 1914-1917, and since, have been essentially a reflection of the heritage of the long wave of cultural decadence which took over European civilization as a whole, from about the time of the Dreyfus indictment in France, until the present moment.

That decadence has now reached a critical point; we either

reverse that trend now, or the worst is to be expected. This is the issue on which my attention and efforts are primarily focussed.

Russian Entrepreneur: Your special relationship to Russia is well known. Could you please explain to our readers, why you consider Russia to be key to the 21st Century? What is the geopolitical and general civilizational role of Russia in the world?

LaRouche: Today, Russia is one of the only three national cultures which enables its people to think in global terms. These three are, the British monarchy, the U.S.A., and Russia. East and South Asian cultures do not think in world terms, but of defending their place within the world. Continental Europe thinks of itself as a mere satrap of Anglo-American maritime supremacy. Africa and South America think of themselves as captives of (chiefly) Anglo-American imperial maritime power.

Any world economic recovery now will depend absolutely upon the integrated economic development of the nations of (chiefly) continental Eurasia, in which Russia, a specifically Eurasian nation with a European cultural basis, is the crucial link between European and South and East Asian cultures. If the U.S.A. were to cooperate with Eurasian development, then the means for launching the sustained progress of South and Central America and Africa would be assured.

For that role, Russia is indispensable today.

Russian Entrepreneur: What are the main causes of the series of financial crises, which have become inseparable characteristics of the world economy in recent decades?

LaRouche: The roots of the present crisis go back to the period of the American War of Independence. The victory of the U.S.A. then, was accomplished with the role of France as its principal ally, but with crucial strategic support provided by Russia and other members of the League of Armed Neutrality. Since that time, the pivotal strategic issue within globally extended European culture, and beyond, has been the determination of the British imperial maritime power, with aid from its temporary ally Metternich, to crush the young American republic, and prevent anything like it from existing within Eurasia.

The victory of the U.S.A. over the Confederacy, and the rapid rise of the U.S. economy to the position of a leading economic power, during the 1861-1876 interval, was a potentially crushing defeat for the global interest of the British monarchy and its oligarchical allies. The cooperation among Germany, Russia, and others, during the post-1876 period, created a growing pattern of cooperation in Eurasia which threatened to supplant London-led maritime power with continental Eurasian economic cooperation. The 1901 assassination of U.S. President William McKinley, and the 1905 Russo-Japan War, marked pro-Confederacy Presidents Theodore Roosevelt's and Woodrow Wilson's reversal in U.S. traditional policy, toward close alliance with London against

continental Eurasia. The objective of the London-centered rentier-financier interests, was both to set the nations of mainland Eurasia permanently against one another's throats, and to bring to an end the commitment to science-driven agricultural and industrial development which the U.S. developments of 1861-1876 typified.

The Churchill-Truman orchestration of the post-Franklin Roosevelt, strategic conflict of the 1945-1989 interval was a continuation of that so-called "geopolitical policy."

In the aftermath of the 1962 missile crisis, and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the Anglo-Americans used the situation to introduce an axiomatic change in U.S. cultural and economic policy. Beginning with the influence of the pro-racist "Southern Strategy" Richard Nixon election-campaign of 1966-1968, sweeping reversals in direction of economic and social policy were unleashed. The 1971 collapse of the old Bretton Woods monetary system, and the savagely destructive policies under Brzezinski's President Jimmy Carter, were leading elements in this continuing trend. The result is the 35-year downward trend of a self-doomed system introduced during the mid-1960s.

Russian Entrepreneur: In the consciousness of the masses, "America" is closely associated with the ideas of "super-power," "financial power," and "technological leader." For this reason the present financial and economic crisis in the U.S.A. shocked the majority of inexperienced observers, appearing to them totally unexpected. Incidentally, for fairness' sake, one should note, that many "professionals" were revealed to have been intellectually and morally unprepared (for such a development). You and a few other analysts and economists, who came out with dark prognoses about the inevitability of a crash, were relegated to the margins of science. Now, history itself is opening the eyes of many to the correctness of your conclusions. How serious, in your view, might become the consequences of the present American crisis?

LaRouche: The crisis was, chiefly, the inevitable result of the axiomatic changes in economic and social policy-shaping of the past 35 years. The deluded faith in the alleged "resilience" of this presently collapsing world system, was essentially a reflection of the moral, as well as intellectual corruption, or perhaps the simple ignorance of the believer.

Typical of the process, is the present collapse of that deliberately created swindle, the 1995-2000 financial bubble called "the new economy." Also typical, is the presently overstretched U.S. real-estate bubble, and the global, hyperinflationary debt-bubble built up in the sphere of international financial loans.

The only solution is to put the entire international financial and monetary system into bankruptcy-reorganization: to simply eradicate most of the mass of accumulated financial debt of the world, and resume building the real economy under a new system with many of the leading features of the 1945-1963, gold-reserve-based international monetary and finan-

cial system. If that reform is not made, then a planetary new dark age is inevitable for the medium-term ahead.

The practical question for the near future, is: Who has the will to make the needed, drastic reforms; and, when will such persons acquire the power to make that decision? Certainly, if Russia and the U.S.A. were united in this purpose, drawing other nations into partnership, success would be virtually assured. Otherwise, avoidance of a plunge into a planetary new dark age, would be probable, if not absolutely inevitable.

Russian Entrepreneur: What must be done, in order to prevent a catastrophic scenario for the outcome of events?

LaRouche: Three most essential steps are to be considered. First, who has the knowledge to take the needed steps? Second, who will soon have the power to enact those measures? Third, who, having the knowledge and power, has the will to see through the needed reforms quickly? If those three conditions of adopted leadership among nations are satisfied, we shall probably succeed.

Russian Entrepreneur: Building the world, creating the future of mankind, is generally considered to be the lot of politicians. But the politicians do not always fulfill our expectations, and often do not measure up to the scale of the tasks. What could ordinary people do, to oppose destruction? What role could entrepreneurs — as the most active part of society — play in this constructive opposition?

LaRouche: See this as in the case of President Franklin Roosevelt's leadership, during the 1932 election-campaign, and during his first year in office. In all known history, the people have never spontaneously overcome a crisis of a degree of severity comparable to this one. The people require leaders who will give a frightened and confused people the courage to think clearly, for a change, and to have confidence in both their leaders and themselves. The leaders must represent an appropriate policy and program. They must quickly set the people into motion in doing the things which can and must be done. As the people thus acquire increasing confidence in both their leaders and themselves, apparent miracles become possible. So, it has been in terrible wars which could not be avoided; so it is with the times during which the challenge of the works of peace are most frightening, as now.

The entrepreneurs will not solve the problem "spontaneously." Large-scale infrastructural projects will create employment and also opportunities for entrepreneurs to find employment for their efforts. The government's adoption of national technological missions, in addition to infrastructural developments, will inspire and assist technologically creative entrepreneurs. The process of progress, through a combination of infrastructural improvements and acceleration of the rate of technological progress in both designs and methods of production, will increase the rationality within the population affected by these developments.

Out of progress in such directions, we must aim to foster

a shift away from the bureaucratic mentality of administration for administration's sake, toward increasing emphasis upon progress in the development and fruits of the productive powers of labor. This, today, is a world-wide challenge. We must change the people's opinion of themselves, by demonstrating to them, before their own eyes, how ingeniously productive the people can become. A happy producer, is one who admires himself or herself as being a productive individual who never need be ashamed of what he or she is.

In some distant future, when most of the population is brought to true adult maturity, the relative role of the national political leader will be less than is most urgently required today. Throughout today's world, most biological adults, are not truly adult specimens of a humanity made in the image of the Creator. Most of our biologically adult population is too small-minded, too obsessed with narrow and short-term interests, rather than having the moral and practical outlook of individuals who embody the history of the past and a sense of the role their life must contribute to future generations. All true national leaders are those who have reached, at least approximately, what is presently a rarely achieved historical sense of what true maturity signifies. In times of crisis until now, such leaders are indispensable; without them, a society will collapse into a period of ruin, even vanish in the unfolding of a new dark age.

GENOCIDE RUSSIA AND THE NEW WORLD ORDER

Russia in the 1990s: "The rate of annual population loss has been more than double the rate of loss during the period of Stalinist repression and mass famine in the first half of the 1930s . . . There has been nothing like this in the thousand-year history of Russia."

—Sergei Glazyev



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Deflationary Death Spiral Engulfs Enron

by John Hoefle

When economic and financial sanity ultimately reasserts itself, the story of the rise and fall of Enron Corp. will be one of the case studies in the examination of how the greatest financial bubble in history came to be, and why it inevitably had to—and did—collapse. Enron is not dead yet, but the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is investigating the company's actions, and the possibility of its demise is now being discussed in the boardrooms of Wall Street and beyond. Enron's blood is in the water, and the sharks are circling.

The once-mighty Enron has been in decline since Autumn 2000, but its health took a serious turn for the worse on Oct. 16, 2001, the day it announced a \$618 million loss for the third quarter. The loss was not due to a drop in revenue—revenue was up a bubbly 59% from the third quarter of 2000—but due to the write-off of just over \$1 billion on its ill-fated water privatization business, its broadband communications business, its investment in the New Power Company, and, in the words of a company press release, “early termination” of “certain structured finance arrangements with a previously disclosed entity.”

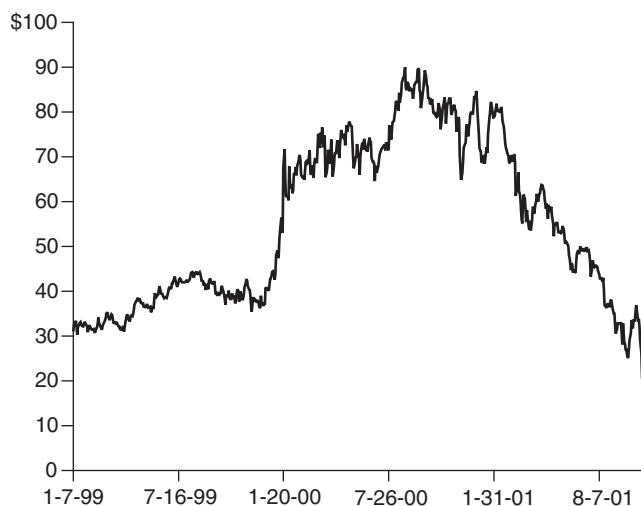
What Enron chose not to disclose in its earnings release, was something Enron Chairman Kenneth Lay mentioned in passing in a conference call with analysts and investors later that day; namely, that Enron's equity capital had eroded by \$1.2 billion—11%—in connection with the repurchase of 55 million of its own shares it had issued as part of a complex series of transactions with that “previously disclosed entity.” It was a limited partnership created by Enron and run by the company's chief financial officer, Andrew Fastow.

Enron's equity-loss bombshell, and its failure to disclose it in its earnings statement, triggered a backlash among many Wall Street analysts and institutional investors, who had tolerated Enron's reporting vagaries while the company's stock was soaring, but rebelled as the stock dived. Some among them began to suspect that Enron was a shell game, not actually as lucrative as it was claiming to be. On Wall Street, where money is paramount, false reporting of profits is a capital offense (except, of course, when it is done by the Wall Street firms themselves, which hide their bankruptcies for purely patriotic reasons).

The next day, as word of Enron's presumed duplicity

FIGURE 1
Enron's Stock Meltdown, 1999–2001

(Closing price per share)



Sources: Yahoo!, Finance, and Bloomberg.

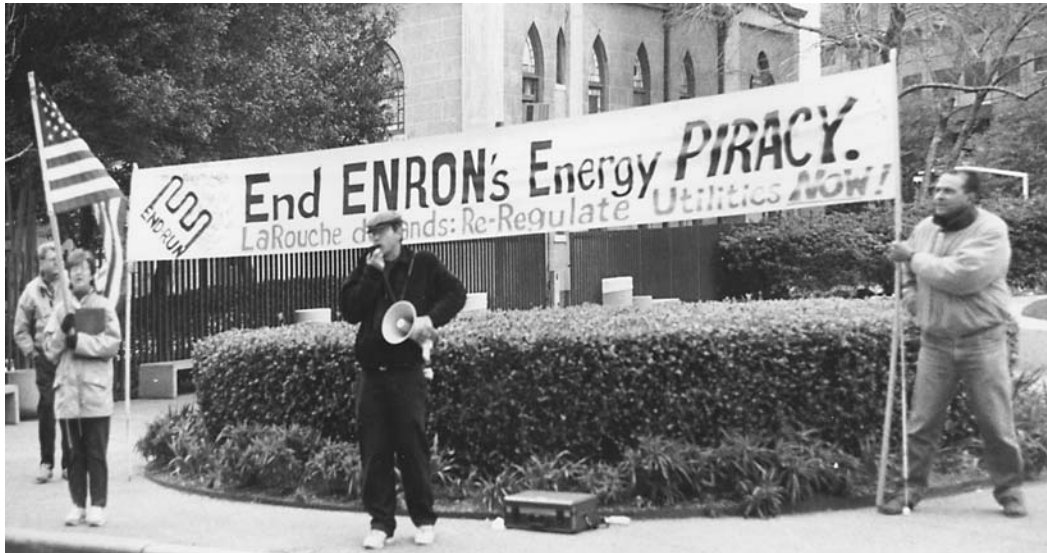
spread, the company's stock began to drop like a rock. Enron's stock, already down 63% from its August 2000, peak, fell 5% on Oct. 17, 10% on Oct. 18, and another 10% on Friday, Oct. 19 (Figure 1). The fall escalated on Monday, Oct. 22, when the stock fell another 21%, and by the end of the week, in just nine trading days, the stock had lost 54% of its pre-Oct. 16 value, and was down 83% from its peak.

The SEC, the agency responsible for making companies report their results according to the generally accepted dishonesties, also noticed Enron's sleight-of-hand, and requested that the company provide information about its “related party” transactions. The inquiry reportedly comes from the enforcement arm of the agency, suggesting that the SEC is looking at possible violations of U.S. securities laws.

Sacrifice To The Street

Enron attempted to mollify Wall Street with a conference call on Oct. 23, but failed miserably. Rather than calming the waters, Lay roiled them, accusing one analyst of attempting to talk down the company's stock and testily cutting off his questions. The call was a failure, with analysts demanding answers and Enron dancing around them. When it was making money hand over fist, everyone put up with Enron's arrogance and cryptic financial statements, but with its financial power crumbling, the Wall Street gang decided it was time to put Enron in its place, and demanded a sacrifice.

The next day, Enron announced that Andy Fastow—whom Lay had steadfastly defended in the conference call—



“When Enron was up,” and ripping up the economies of California and other states with a hyperinflationary energy-price bubble, it was attacked and exposed by the LaRouche campaign and EIR. Now down, the Wall Street bubble-maker is going “pop,” and suddenly has many detractors.

had been replaced as chief financial officer, and Lay publicly ate crow.

“In my continued discussions with the financial community, it became clear to me that restoring investor confidence would require us to replace Andy as CFO,” Lay admitted in a press release announcing the change. Lay added that Fastow’s replacement, Jeff McMahon, “has the trust and confidence of our investors and financial institutions.”

That trust and confidence was essential, as Enron was actively seeking cash to fund its operations and pay down its debt. Faced with a rash of downgrades by the major credit-rating firms, and the probability of further downgrades, Enron tapped an existing \$3 billion line of credit arranged through J.P. Morgan Chase and Citicorp, and used about \$2 billion of that cash to redeem its outstanding commercial paper. Enron characterized the action as a move to restore investor confidence, but many observers saw it as an act of desperation, a sign of weakness. Sharks do not react with *agapē* to signs of weakness.

Enron is now reportedly seeking another \$1 billion to \$2 billion line of credit for future contingencies, fuelling yet another round of selling, as some investors dump their Enron holdings and others go short on the stock, betting on further drops.

The company is also running the risk of becoming a pariah in the global energy market. Through its EnronOnline Internet energy-trading site, Enron buys and sells electricity, natural gas, and other commodities worldwide, and is involved as a buyer or a seller in nearly one-quarter of all U.S. energy trades. Companies which sell to Enron through this on-line marketplace, do so with the expectation that they will be paid; if the confidence of payment is not there, companies will cease doing business in that venue. This has already occurred, with reports that at least a half-dozen

European electricity firms have frozen their trades with Enron, until new payment guarantees can be worked out.

The Predator Becomes The Prey

Given Enron’s role as part of the infrastructure of energy trading—which is to say the brave new world of unregulated energy speculation and looting—the company’s problems directly mirror the larger energy and financial markets, which at the top are inseparable. Energy deregulation was essentially conceived of as a way to convert the pricing structure of the energy cartel away from long-term stable prices, to volatile spot-market prices, in the process smashing the remnants of national sovereignty and putting the power to set prices in the hands of the cartel-controlled “free market.” Deregulation, as we have said before, is a geopolitical strategy, the main goal of which is to shape the post-crash world, allowing the oligarchs who run the financial/energy cartel to remain on top of whatever pile of rubble is left after the system has disintegrated.

It is this in-progress disintegration which defines the geometry in which the rise of Enron occurred, and in which its fall is now well under way. One must place the Enron disaster within that context in order to understand the forces at work; it is but an element of a global deflation of the speculative bubble, which continues to erode even faster than Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan and his fellow central bankers can hyperinflate money into the system.

In such an environment, the predatory nature of the financial system rises visibly to the surface, as open warfare breaks out among institutions determined to preserve their shares of the shrinking pie. Enron, yesterday a feared predator, has become today’s prey, as Wall Street rips it to shreds.

2001 Odyssey Spacecraft Begins Infrastructure Buildup At Mars

by Marsha Freeman

A critical link in the 15-year Mars exploration program under way by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), is now safely in orbit around the red planet. In the late evening of Oct. 23, 2001, Mars Odyssey fired its onboard engine, slowed down, and was captured by the gravity of Mars. The spacecraft was launched last April, and after its 285-million-mile interplanetary cruise, made a “bull’s-eye” insertion into Mars orbit, to the relief of anxious scientists and engineers. It has been four years since a new spacecraft arrived at Mars, after the back-to-back failures of two missions nearly two years ago.

Odyssey has two major missions to accomplish. The first, its primary science phase, which will begin early next year, is to carry out a mapping of the planet in visible light and infrared, and measure its radiation environment. The second, to commence after one Mars year (nearly two Earth years), is to provide a critical communications link, between the Earth and two Rovers that are scheduled to land on Mars in 2004.

During the planned 917-day science mission, data will be returned by 2001 Mars Odyssey which will also help lay the foundation for future manned flights to Mars. Characterizing the radiation environment, and trying to locate any subsurface water, are two of the prerequisites to human missions. The combination of images and information from Odyssey, and the intrepid Mars Global Surveyor, which has been orbiting the planet since 1997, will also locate any concentrations of minerals, and provide topographical data that could aid scientists in choosing potential human landing sites for Mars exploration.

Aerobraking Into A Science Orbit

When Odyssey arrived at Mars, its highly elliptical orbit at insertion was about 80 miles by 17,000 miles. To carry out its science mission, its orbit must be circular, at 250 miles altitude. When a spacecraft is captured by the gravity of a planet—including satellites launched from Earth—small on-board thrusters are usually fired to circularize the orbit, at the proper altitude.

But another option exists if a spacecraft is to orbit a body with an atmosphere. A series of delicate maneuvers, called aerobraking, can be used to slow the spacecraft down without using any fuel, thus saving weight, which allows increasing the scientific payload. The 2001 Mars Odyssey team has

started the aerobraking mission phase, which will last anywhere from 60 days to three months, depending upon atmospheric conditions.

Aerobraking involves sending a spacecraft through the upper layers of a planet’s atmosphere, where drag slows it down. This series of maneuvers requires a delicate balance between too shallow an angle, which will increase the number of passes required, or sending it too steeply into the atmosphere, which can damage the satellite as it heats up. For the Mars Odyssey, the engineers estimate that about 400 drag passes through the upper layers of the atmosphere may be required. They estimate that the temperature of the spacecraft could be as high as 350° Fahrenheit during aerobraking.

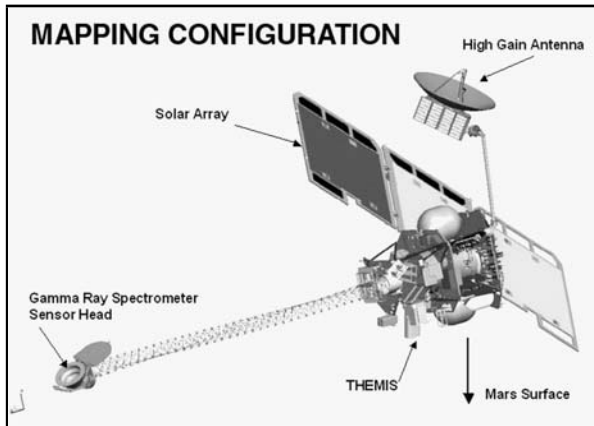
During aerobraking, energy from the spacecraft’s orbit “bleeds off,” slowing it down. In order to maximize the surface area of the spacecraft that will skim the atmosphere, Odyssey has been oriented with its broad solar arrays facing into the direction of flight. The first aerobraking drag pass took place three days after the spacecraft went into orbit around Mars.

When the Mars Global Surveyor began its aerobraking maneuvers in 1997, one of its solar arrays had been damaged. In order to protect it, the dips into the atmosphere were done slowly and cautiously, over a year and a half. But Odyssey’s engineers do not have that option.

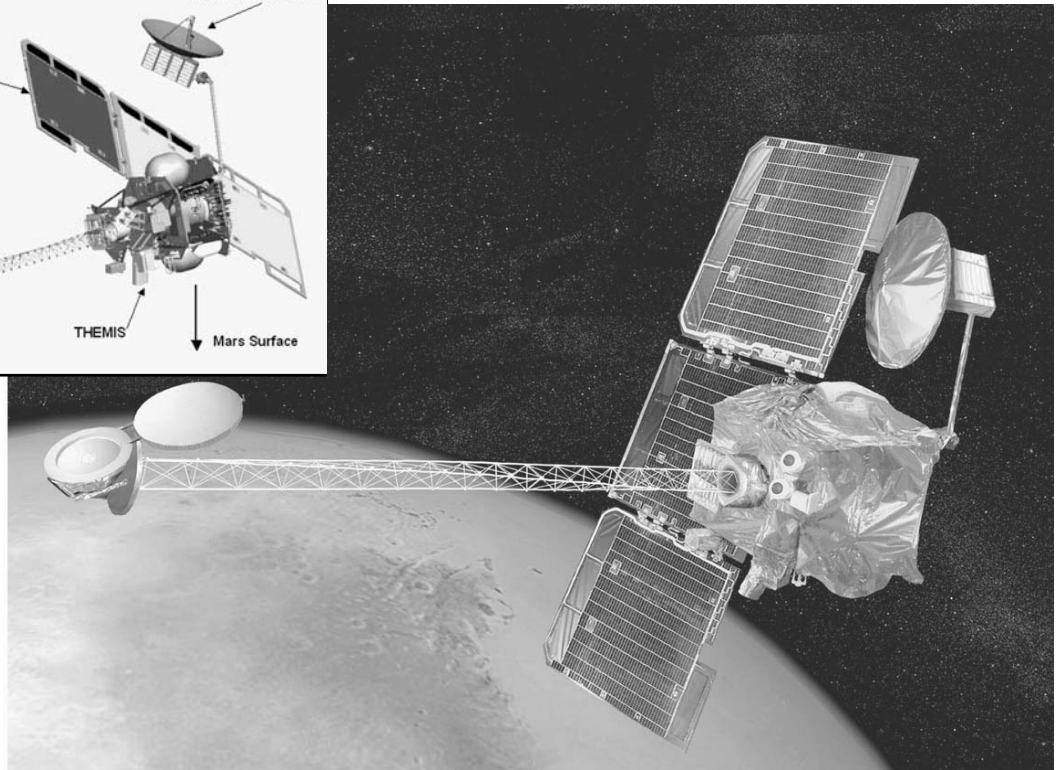
The spacecraft must start its scientific mission by early February, so that it will have completed that mission by the time the next mission, which includes the two Rovers, arrives in 2004. At that time, its primary responsibility will shift from science to acting as a communications link between the landers and Earth. Therefore, each drag pass during aerobraking must be carefully planned and precise, because the entire process must be finished when science is scheduled to begin.

Upon orbital insertion, Odyssey was in an 18.5 hour elliptical orbit. Its science orbit will be two hours, and circular at 250 miles. Aerobraking will be carried out in three phases. The “walk-in” phase, occurring during Odyssey’s first four to eight orbits, is being used to calibrate the performance of the spacecraft during aerobraking.

In this phase, the aerobraking team, which will work for the next two months on a 24-hour-per-day basis, will determine how closely the model they have of Mars’ atmosphere is, to that encountered by the spacecraft. This is no easy task.



The 2001 Mars Odyssey spacecraft will begin its science mission in early February of next year.



A Meteorologically Active Planet

Mars is a very meteorologically active planet, and for the past four months has been the victim of several raging, planet-wide dust storms. Images taken by the Hubble Space Telescope and Mars Global Surveyor this Summer showed a featureless Mars, shrouded in dust.

Recent dust storms led to a heating of the atmosphere, by as much as 80°F, and although the storms have subsided, scientists fear that they may have kicked up again as Mars reached its closest distance to the Sun in mid-October. The heated atmosphere rises and is denser at a higher altitude, while the surface is cooled by the Sun-blocking dust. These changes in the atmosphere must be constantly monitored, so that the navigational parameters of each drag pass can be adjusted to allow the spacecraft to achieve the required results.

On Oct. 30, the Thermal Emission Imaging System (THEMIS) on board Odyssey took its first infrared temperature image of Mars to determine if the imaging system is working properly. The image of the south pole was taken at nighttime on Mars, to demonstrate the “night-vision” capability of the camera system. THEMIS will perform the critical function of detecting dust storms on Mars during aerobraking. These *in situ*, real-time measurements will be critical to the mission.

When Mars Global Surveyor was carrying out its aerobraking maneuvers, major short-term changes in the density

of the upper atmosphere of Mars made it almost impossible for the engineers to predict the conditions that would be encountered on the next orbit. For 10% of the time during aerobraking, the density encountered by the spacecraft on a sweep through the atmosphere was off by more than 70% from the density predicted based on the previous pass!

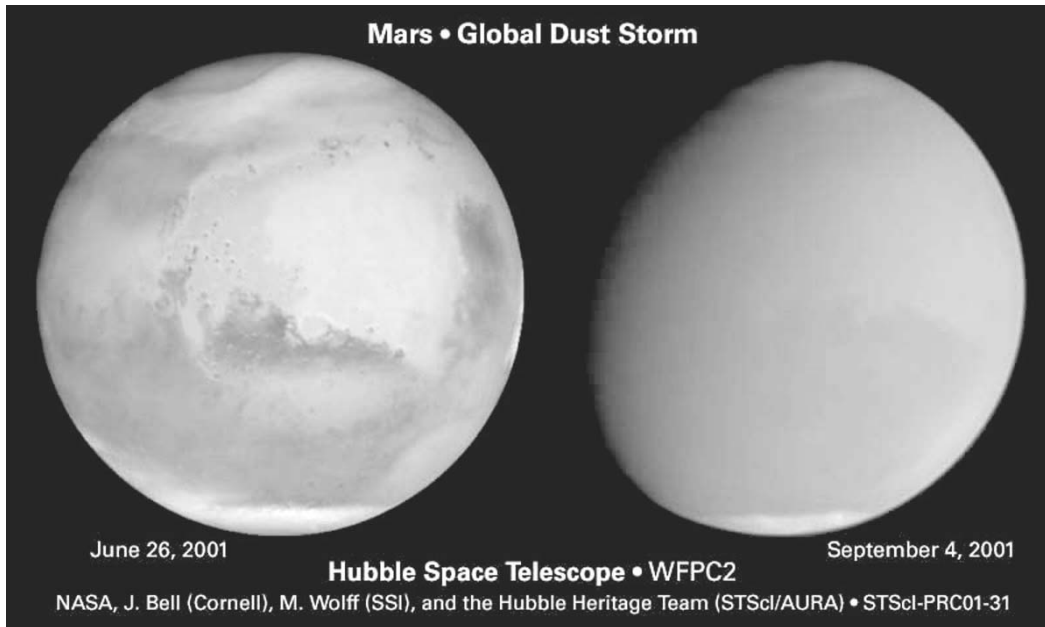
The challenge increases with each aerobraking pass. As the spacecraft’s orbit is lowered, its orbital period is reduced, leaving less and less time between passes for the engineers to modify its flight path. At a briefing on Oct. 24, scientists explained that while the time between drag passes will decrease, they will have “more passes under your belt,” from which experience to draw on.

The main aerobraking phase will begin when the spacecraft’s periapsis (closest distance to Mars) has been lowered to about 60 miles.

The third, or “walk-out” phase will occur during the last few days of aerobraking, when Odyssey’s orbit is still elliptical. The periapsis will be about 75 miles, and the most distant point, or apoapsis, will be near the planned 250-mile orbit. Onboard thrusters will raise the spacecraft’s periapsis, and circularize the two-hour orbit. Then, Odyssey will be ready for its science mission.

Following The Water

Before there is human life on Mars, one of the most intriguing questions scientists want to answer is, if there were life



These images were taken by the Hubble Space Telescope as a global dust storm began and ended on Mars, obscuring the entire surface, then clearing. Such storms change the atmospheric conditions of the planet, making aerobraking tricky.

on Mars in its past, or if it is even extant. Over the past decade, partly in response to that question, a new search for life has been taking place, *on the Earth*. Peering under Arctic ice caps, inside highly radioactive closed nuclear facilities, and in the driest deserts, scientists have been looking for life in extreme environments. And they have found it everywhere they have looked.

The only prerequisite for life, they have concluded, is access to liquid water, even if it is in the tiniest amounts, and only there on occasion. These discoveries have energized the search for past or present liquid water on Mars.

During the past two years, photographs taken in orbit by the Mars Global Surveyor have indicated more evidence of large bodies of water on Mars in the past, as well as the possibility that even after the planet's climate changed to its present cold, dry state, there may have been underground reservoirs.

In June 2000, a team of scientists studying high-resolution images from Mars Global Surveyor presented evidence that liquid water on Mars may have found its way to the surface more recently than previously believed, and they proposed that seepage of water from below the surface may be continuing even to the present day. Michael Malin, principal investigator for the Mars Orbiter Camera on the spacecraft, along with colleague Ken Edgett, scoured more than 65,000 Global Surveyor images returned over a period of three years, and found that present in about 150 of them are features which, on Earth, are caused by "fluid seepage and surface runoff" of water.

The scientists found about 120 sites where miniature valleys or gorges were excavated from the surrounding cliffs, south polar pits, and crater sides, which they call gullies, indicating that they were created by running water. From the

alcove, or source of the seepage, run channels that would have been carved out by water. A fan-like apron is seen at the end of the channels, where debris carried by the water was deposited.

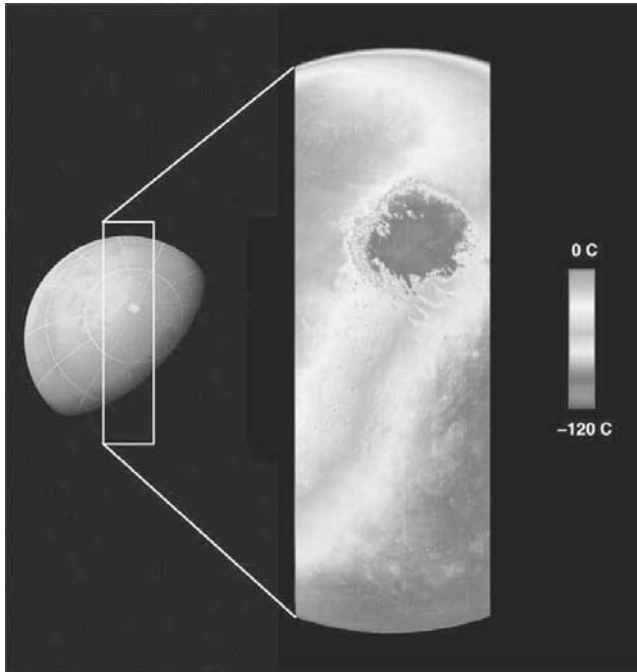
More than 90% of the sites occur south of the Martian equator at high latitudes, nearer the poles in colder regions of the planet. The features are found to occur about two and one-half times more often on colder, polar-facing slopes, as opposed to equator-facing slopes, which would receive more sunlight during the Martian day.

The findings raised a number of questions. First, the scientists estimate that, judging from the features they observe, the water would be 300-1,300 feet below the surface. It has been assumed that any water at that depth would be frozen, since there has been no internal heat source detected in Mars.

Second, it seems peculiar that any seepage would occur in the colder parts of Mars, where liquid water making its way to the surface would evaporate and then freeze instantly. Malin and Edgett propose that when the water emerges and evaporates, the ground is cooled, and the water behind it freezes, producing an "ice dam." Pressure would build behind the dam, and at some point water would break through and send a flood down the gully. Malin believes the gullies formed from repeated outbursts of water and debris, similar to flash floods on Earth.

Evidence Much More Recent

Perhaps the most provocative conclusion from the new research is that the features indicating water seepage and floods seen on Mars, are much more recent than would have seemed possible. The most common, although imprecise, method used to estimate the age of a planetary surface, is to count the number and density of impact craters. The scientists



On Oct. 31, NASA released this first image taken by 2001 Mars Odyssey, which is a thermal profile of the south polar region of the planet. The central polar cap registered at -184°F . The data were taken at night to test the night-vision capability of the Thermal Emission Imaging System, or THEMIS.

report that these 100-plus gully sites have very little cratering, and therefore, are younger surfaces, perhaps millions, rather than billions, of years old.

In addition, there are instances where the apron of debris from the flooding has covered over sand dunes on the surface. Assuming that sand dunes are constantly changing, since dust storms occur during Martian seasonal changes, the gullies could be decades old, or even newer.

After Malin and Edgett released their findings, geologists tried to come up with alternative explanations for the phenomena, disputing the proposition that cold Mars could somehow support underground liquid water. But Richard Hoover, an astrobiologist at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, proposed that we not assume that the water on Mars is fresh water, and always freezes at 0°C . Water containing salt, for example, could stay liquid down to -60°F . Indeed, a recent analysis of a meteorite from Mars which contains ancient crystals of water, suggests that if Mars had oceans, they contained a mix of salts similar to those in the Earth's oceans today. As early as 1976, the Viking landers found that Martian soil contained 10-20% salts.

Another possibility that could explain an underground aquifer on Mars, is that if water keeps moving, it does not necessarily freeze, even when the air temperature is below freezing. This has been observed in Alaska, and at Lake Vostok, which lies underneath an ice sheet in the Antarctic.

Six months later, the scientists presented further evidence

that life could have existed on Mars. The new evidence, of widespread sedimentary layering on Mars, lends credence to the view that early in Martian history, conditions there allowed for the existence of large-scale oceans or lakes, for significant periods of geologic time. And with large bodies of water, over time, there could have been life.

What Malin and Edgett compiled from the Mars Global Surveyor images is evidence of widespread layering of what appears to be sedimentary rock, created from the compression and hardening of deposited material, mainly inside craters and in chasms of canyons. Although such layering had been seen since the Mariner 9 mission in the early 1970s, it has never been seen in such great detail or been known to exist so widely across the planet before.

At a press conference in December 2000, Malin stated, "Some of the images of these outcrops show hundreds and hundreds of identically thick layers, which is almost impossible to have without water." Summing up the significance of this latest find, Malin remarked, "On Earth, sedimentary rocks preserve the surface history of our planet, and within that history, the fossil record of life. It is reasonable to look for evidence of past life on Mars in these remarkably similar sedimentary layers. . . . What is new in our work is that Mars has shown us that there are many more places in which to look, and that these materials may date back to the earliest times of Martian history."

Onboard 2001 Mars Odyssey are two instruments that will contribute to answering these questions. It will be the first time there are two spacecraft in orbit at Mars, with different instruments, that will complement each other and work together.

Taking A Closer Look

The Gamma Ray Spectrometer (GRS) will play the leading role in determining the elemental composition of Mars' surface. It will study the gamma rays and neutrons emitted from the planet's surface and, using a gamma ray spectrometer and two neutron detectors, measure the distribution and abundance of about 20 primary elements on the surface.

When chemical elements are exposed to background cosmic rays, gamma rays are emitted from the nucleus, each with a distinct electromagnetic signature. The energy spectrum of the gamma-ray emissions coming from the Mars surface will indicate the presence of various chemicals, and the intensity will indicate their concentrations. The GRS will be able to detect the presence of hydrogen, which scientists assume will imply the presence of water. The neutron detectors are sensitive to concentrations of hydrogen in the upper three feet of the surface.

The sensor head, containing the GRS, is separated from the rest of the Odyssey spacecraft by a 20-foot boom, in order to avoid interference from any gamma rays coming from the spacecraft itself. About 100 days into the mission, the boom will deploy and remain in this position for the remainder of

the mission. The two neutron detectors are mounted on the main spacecraft structure.

The GRS was turned on for testing during one of the spacecraft's first orbits of Mars, and found to be in good working order. Scientists reported at a briefing the day after orbital insertion that "all of the detectors are working perfectly."

THEMIS will collect data in the visible and infrared parts of the spectrum. In the infrared, THEMIS uses ten spectral bands to detect minerals such as carbonates, hydroxides, hydrothermal silica, and others that are formed in the presence of water. In addition, silicates, sulfates, oxides, and phosphates will show themselves as different colors in the infrared spectrum, and their concentrations can also be determined. With ten spectral bands, THEMIS will be able to detect minerals at abundances as low as 5-10%.

THEMIS, which will be able to detect temperature differences as small as 1°F, will also be able to search for thermal spots, which could lead to the discovery of hot springs or underground pools of water on Mars. THEMIS will also provide a daily weather report from Mars.

The visible imaging system, in five spectral bands, with 60-foot resolution, will map the mineralogical and structural geology of the planet, to determine the record of past liquid environments. More than 15,000 images will be acquired, which will bridge those of lower resolution from Viking in the 1970s, and the higher resolution images from Mars Global Surveyor.

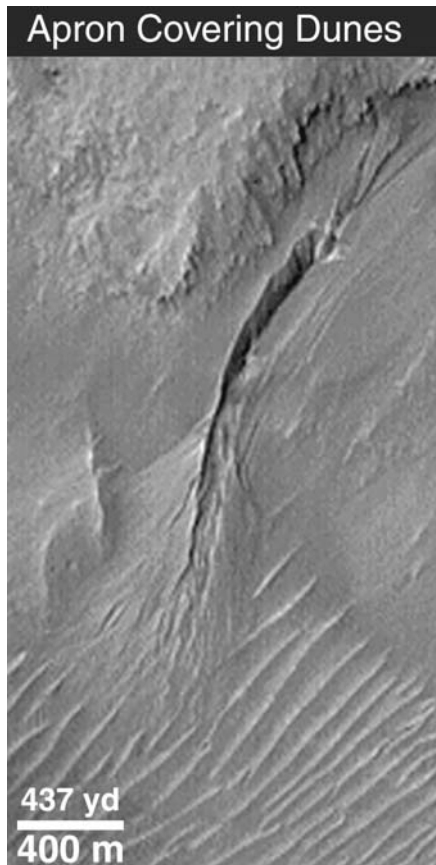
Because Mars has little atmosphere and no protective ozone layer, it is well known that the surface is bombarded by radiation from deep space, and also from the Sun. The third scientific instrument aboard Odyssey is the Mars Radiation Environment Experiment (MARIE). Space radiation can be electromagnetic, such as X rays and gamma rays, or particulate, such as protons and electrons. From Mars orbit, for the first time, MARIE will be able to detect charged particles. It is the particle energy that poses the greatest radiation threat to humans. Protons in space come mainly from activity on the Sun.

Solar flares, which are the most powerful explosions in the Solar System, can shower interplanetary space with protons, which lose their energy in any tissue they come in contact with, and ionize molecules along their tracks. MARIE collected data on the radiation environment during Odyssey's seven-month interplanetary cruise phase. In orbit around Mars, the spectrometer will sweep through the sky and measure the radiation field.

From these data, scientists hope to be able to determine what the radiation environment is on the surface of the planet, so that plans for protecting crews can be made accordingly.

Expanding The Infrastructure

In 2003, NASA plans to send two Rovers to the surface of Mars. During the same launch opportunity, the European



This picture, taken in September 1999 by the Mars Global Surveyor, shows a gully which scientists assume was created by the flow of water. The apron, or fanlike deposit at the end of the channel, covers sand dunes, indicating that the channel is only hundreds of years old, or less.

Space Agency will send the Beagle lander to the planet as part of its Mars Express program. To make the most of each mission, coordination and shared resources will be needed.

At Cornell University, in Ithaca, New York, a group led by Professor of Astronomy Steven Squires is participating with an international team in the development of the Athena science package of instruments which will be carried to the Mars surface during the U.S. 2003 Mars Exploration Rover mission.

Although the Mars Global Surveyor, still in orbit around the planet, could provide a communications link with Earth, the ageing spacecraft would be a high-risk back-up. Odyssey is outfitted with a relay antenna that will transmit data directly to Cornell's Space Sciences Building.

Each Rover is a 300-pound mobile scientific laboratory. And one of Odyssey's instruments, THEMIS, will provide data on the mineral composition of soil and rocks that will help scientists better understand the four potential Rover landing sites that have recently been chosen.

The 2001 Mars Odyssey spacecraft is a crucial piece of infrastructure to be put into place at the planet. Over time, NASA plans to build an "interplanetary internet" in orbit around Mars, to increase the data rate and allow it to collect and relay data not only from spacecraft, but also from aircraft and balloons in flight around Mars.

LaRouche in Rome: Toward A Dialogue Of Civilizations

On Oct. 16, Lyndon and Helga LaRouche, in Rome for a few days of meetings and discussions, were invited to address an informal seminar held at the Italian Institute for Asia, an organization which for years has been promoting economic cooperation, cultural dialogue, and contacts between Italy and all the countries of Asia and the Middle East. About 20 people, including senators and parliamentary deputies and a delegation of the International Civil Rights Movement Solidarity (Movimento Internazionale per i Diritti Civili Solidarietà), participated in the event. The meeting was opened by the president of the Institute, Sen. Giulio Orlando, former minister of the Italian government.

We publish here the transcript of the seminar. The questions and comments by the Italian speakers have been translated by EIR.

Sen. Giulio Orlando: The last time we were together, we had a very interesting exchange of views, and given the nature of the international situation today, I'm sure the discussion will be very interesting. Along with the directors of the Institute, we decided to ask some parliamentarians to be present at our meeting. I would like to introduce them now: beginning with the vice president of the Institute, Sen. Gian Guido Folloni, a minister in the previous government; the Hon. Fabio Evangelisti, former Member of Parliament; the Hon. Tullio Grimaldi; the Hon. Mario Brunetti; lawyer Rita Bruno; Dr. Antonio Loche, general secretary of the Institute; a student from the University of Rome, as well as others. We will now give the floor to Mr. LaRouche.

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

Well, we are in a typical situation today. We have the disintegration of the world's present monetary and financial system. And we have the danger of things



Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. at a conference in Germany, August 2001.

like world war. We've had, despite the newspaper reports, an attempted coup d'état in the United States, *against* the Bush Administration. And, unfortunately, that is the thing we must first consider, because otherwise we would completely misunderstand the world situation in all its aspects.

The monetary and financial crisis has been foreseen. There have been for some years, discussions of policy to be taken in case of such a crisis. All these discussions recently are based on the assumption of the post-Soviet period. With the collapse of the Soviet Union as an adversary of the United States, the question was whether the Anglo-American powers, and with the Israelis, could establish a Roman Empire. It's a special kind of Roman Empire, like that of ancient Venice, when Venice ruled the Mediterranean as a maritime power; of a rentier-financier form. We have today, with the Netherlands developments, in modern times, and with the developments of England, Britain, we have an international interest, which is centered in London, with a chief ally in New York, which is a world rentier-financier imperium.

Increasingly, since the period 1966 to 1971, this imperial power has dominated the world with a new monetary system of its own. The change from a fixed-exchange-rate system, to a floating-exchange-rate system, in 1971-1972, established a new world monetary and financial system. This system is now disintegrating. So, therefore, you have an Anglo-American rentier-financier imperial power, which is threatened with the extinction of *its* system.

The character of this is demonstrated by the attempt, since

In This Section

Writing in *EIR* on Oct. 26, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. described Pope John Paul II in "as the world's recognized leading voice against a degeneration of religion into a new pantheon. In everything I have observed him to say and do on this account, I have found nothing which is not fully consistent with my own ecumenical outlook as expressed over more than a quarter-century to date. So far, the hope of peace hangs chiefly on the thread of his frail body.

"My long-standing philosophical arguments to this effect, provide a complementary, and much more broadly applicable expression of that same ecumenical approach to the current world situation."

In this *Feature*, we present those complementary approaches: first, through a dialogue with Italian leaders conducted by LaRouche in Rome in mid-October; and second, through the Pope's historic intervention to seek a rapprochement with China, after long years of estrangement between the Catholic Church and that nation of more than 1 billion people. Included is a report by Michael Billington on Father Matteo Ricci, the Jesuit missionary who opened the first Christian mission in China in 1581.

1989, to establish what's called "globalization." For example, in 1975-1976, with the launching of the attempt to globalize Italy, under the IMF conditionalities, there's been the attempt to reduce even all existing nation-states, of European advanced nation-states, to essentially colonial dependencies of an international rentier-financier power. So, essentially, the conflict has been, and is now, a conflict between the modern form of nation-state, sovereign nation-state, and an imperial power of a rentier-financier form, a new kind of Roman Empire.

So, therefore, the conflict is essentially between the force behind this, and the forces which represent the interests of the modern sovereign nation-state.

The implication of this is seen clearly, when you think about what do we do, as nation-states, in the case of a collapse of the financial system? Under natural law, as it's been defined in Europe since the 15th-Century Renaissance, as established by Nicholas of Cusa's *Concordantia Catholica*, the only legitimate basis for the existence of a nation, a national government, is the efficient commitment of that government to promote the general welfare, the common good, of all of the people, and among nations.

Now, despite the problems of the religious war period of the 16th and 17th Century, we have managed to maintain that legacy of the common welfare, the common good, as a general fundamental principle of law of civilized society. Which means, in a time of crisis, the state, the sovereign state, must intervene, in collaboration with other sovereign states, to reorganize the financial system to ensure the protection of the general welfare. Thus, the modern nation-state, in this form, is the greatest enemy of the attempt to create a new empire.

We have, therefore, the significance of what is happening in Asia, which has two chief dimensions: On the one hand, we have, with the developments around President Putin of Russia, as with Prime Minister Primakov before him, a tendency to bring the nations of Asia, and Europe, into contiguity. The second problem, which is posed by that, is, we have two basic cultures on this planet. We have, not Western civilization, but European civilization. By European civilization, I mean something which began in Egypt, which developed in Greece around figures like Solon and Plato, and which became a new European culture through the apostolic mission of John and Paul.

The Basis For A Dialogue Of Cultures

Now this culture, European culture, is based on a conception of man in the image of God, which is the basis of the notion of general welfare in law. This includes the Reform form of Judaism, as typified by Moses Mendelssohn. It is also an influence on Islam; it is the origin of Islam. But when we go to South Asia, and East Asia, we find a different culture. The idea of the conception of man as in the likeness of God, does not prevail as a cultural standard in these cultures. You have an approximation of this in the influence of Islam. . . .

Certain aspects of Hinduism are not entirely hostile to this. Nor is the Confucian tradition in China hostile to it. But when you deal with Asia, you do not have an acceptance of the most fundamental, and most precious principles of European culture.

So, on the one level, it is not difficult for us to approach China, Japan, India, and so forth, and say, "We want respect for the perfect sovereignty of nation-states." But when you say, what does that mean, you come to the conception of culture, the conception of man. In that case, you can not have — . If you try to approach it one way, you end up with an impossible, and a self-defeating policy. If you say we're going to respect the *opinion* of other cultures, you create an order which is like the Roman pagan Pantheon, and we see in the plan for a Clash of Civilizations, precisely how that works.

We have in the history of civilization, in ancient Babylon, for example, to the present, all empires were based on the principle of the Pantheon. And the way that the emperor ruled the empire, was to play the different religions of the Pantheon against each other. What Brzezinski is proposing, is exactly that: a war among cultures, to define the planet as a Pantheon, and to make war among the different religions and cultures of the Pantheon. That is the Islamic "Clash of Civilizations" thesis of Zbigniew Brzezinski.

So that, from the standpoint of our Christian tradition, you can't approach this from a standpoint of doctrine. You must approach it from a missionary standpoint, from an apostolic standpoint, not a doctrinal standpoint. Rather than saying, what are the differences between us, you have to say, what is the agreement among us? It means, there has to be, as Khatami has proposed, the President of Iran, there has to be a discussion of the agreement on an idea, a certain idea of man. And there must be a discussion, with agreement to the *idea* of man, but a continuing discussion of what that means.

You can never unify people except around a common principle. You can never unify people around a Pantheon. We see this in Babylon, we see this in the delphic cult of the Satanic Apollo, we see it in pagan Rome, and so forth. You can *never* — . You see it in the doom of Byzantium, which doomed itself in the same way the Roman Empire doomed itself, by trying to organize civilization around a Pantheon. There must be a conception of man. We must do that. So, this is our problem.

The Coup Plot

Now, the enemy is well aware of this. So now we have — the crisis is coming on, the financial crisis. Nothing can stop the collapse of the system, in the system's present form. Any attempt to perpetuate the system will only make things worse. Forget the financial markets, they're doomed anyway. What the financial market does this month, or next month, or the month after that, is totally unimportant.

The world economy, including the U.S., is going through a hyperinflationary, monetary-financial expansion, and a de-

flationary economic collapse. And the people who had planned this coup d'état against the United States, have accepted that.

Now, we don't know who the coup plotters are. What we know is, the fact is, that there are certain technical features of the attack that occurred on Sept. 11, that could not have been done by anybody outside the United States. This had exactly the form of a military coup d'état. Anyone who has studied coups d'état, of that type, knows exactly that, by looking at the facts. Every state has certain security provisions against coups d'état. These are more or less efficient, when used. Even if the coup might work, it probably will be caught, and be aborted. The plotters must be assured that either the security measures are not functioning, or that they are able to shut them down.

Now, this kind of knowledge does not exist so much in police departments; it exists largely in intelligence services, and military services. And always, when a coup is made, it's made because the people who are making the coup, are a minority in that interest. If they were the majority power, they would simply take power. So a coup d'état is a method of *taking power by cheating*.

Now, for example, you may start a fire in a theater, and the people will panic in response to the fire, and then you'll be able to do certain things, in consequence of a few people having panicked many. That's a simple explanation of the way a coup d'état works.

What they did is, they set fire to the buildings in Lower Manhattan, and the Pentagon, attacking personnel. There were tens of thousands of people in those buildings, of whom maybe 6,000 were killed. They aimed at the Pentagon. If they'd gone just a few feet higher, and when they came in to the attack on the Pentagon, they would have taken out the Joint Chiefs of Staff. All the security arrangements which should have been functioning, to prevent this from working, were down. The maneuvers were highly sophisticated. No Arab government, no Arab terrorist organization, could by any means have done it. It could have only been done from inside the United States command.

Now, there could have been foreign accomplices, but this is the crucial question.

Now, what does this imply? This means, on the one hand, we know from the character of the act, it was a coup attempt. What else do we know? What was the purpose of the attack? The purpose of the attack was, get the United States into a Clash of Civilizations war. Now, we know who has this policy. There are three places where this policy exists: the military command of Israel; the Blair government of England; and a lot of financier circles in the United States, typified by Henry Kissinger, Brzezinski, and so forth—many others. There are people inside the U.S. government who share that view. Wolfowitz, the Assistant Secretary of Defense. Armitage, the number two at the State Department. Similar people. Ashcroft is obviously part of this thing. Does that mean these

people did it? Not necessarily.

In a coup d'état, what you have is, you have a large agreement among some people on a policy. Then some people, who have this agreement, now say, "We are going to make it happen." So that inside the administration of power, you have Mr. X, Mr. X, Mr. X, who also has a uniform, or has an official position, and he has a double position: one as a member of the authority, the establishment; another as a member of the coup plot. It's a true conspiracy—a true conspiracy. They exist, contrary to mythologies. Conspiracies actually exist. Some are silly, some are dangerous.

So therefore, what we've seen, is, you have a group which tried to set fire to the United States, to push the United States into supporting Israel, under its present command, in launching general war against the Arab world, to the purpose of geopolitics, to destroy the attempt at cooperation between Europe and Asia. So, we don't know who the perpetrators are, but we have seen that the present government of Israel, the Prime Minister of England, the United Kingdom, Blair, and others are behind this operation, this policy. It was Blair who pushed through NATO this Article 5 agreement, which otherwise had been resisted. So the push was to blackmail and terrify the President and others in the United States government, into bombing Afghanistan, which is *silly*. Supported by a lot of the U.S.-controlled mass media, which have been trying to panic the people into this state of hysteria, about going against, killing all the people who are Arabs, or something.

So that's the situation. And it becomes clear when the fight between Bush and Blair breaks out, as it did the last two days. When Bush says, "We must have a Palestinian state established," Blair says, "No," Sharon says, "No," and the Israeli military command says, "We'll kill." Now the character of the coup comes out into the open.

How Do We Deal With This Crisis?

Now, how do we react to this? Do you have to go in and find the people who planned the coup? That is the wrong way to go at it. While you're chasing them, you'll not be dealing with the problem. The point is, is how do you defeat the purpose of the coup? Well, if the people will not accept the result of a coup, then it won't work. A coup d'état depends upon the predisposition of the people to accept the *fait accompli*.

So, how do you establish the rule of law? You have to take measures which address directly the problem, which is, to use the principle of the nation-state, to bring about cooperation in Asia, Eurasia, around the basic economic and related problems, and get cooperation from the United States and others to support that. If the nations of Eurasia say, "We will not tolerate this," it will not happen.

My concern is to try to get the United States to say, it won't happen. And if that occurs, if that won't work, then what has to be done is to address the real problem, which is



The scene at the World Trade Center on Sept. 13. "You may start a fire in a theater," LaRouche said, "and the people will panic in response to the fire, and then you'll be able to do certain things, in consequence of a few people having panicked many. That's a simple explanation of the way a coup d'état works."

the financial, monetary crisis, which is what I propose, and others have proposed, as a New Bretton Woods approach. Or the idea of the Eurasian Land-Bridge is a very specific way of creating an economic policy, which supports the idea of a New Bretton Woods. It's obvious, it's very obviously needed. Europe, Western Europe, can not survive economically under present conditions. Unless Europe can again export, open up its exports, for technology products, especially into Asia, it can not survive.

In order to do that, means that we have to reach agreements on economic development in Eurasia, and then we face the problem of how do we transform a perception on the part of Japan, of China, of India, of Southeast Asia, how do we have an understanding on their part, as well as ours, of how we are going to work together? What principles, what ideas are we going to have, which are positive ideas of cooperation, not just trade? We must then have a conception of the issue of man. We must have a dialogue of cultures, but a dialogue not within a Pantheon, but a dialogue of cultures on the subject of the nature of man. A minimal objective should be to establish the same principle which was set forth by Cusa in *Concordantia Catholica*, and was also articulated by Secretary of State John Quincy Adams of the United States, a community of sovereign nation-states, a community of principle. The principle is rooted in the nature of man. The principle is, the common good, the general welfare. So you must have enough agreement among Christians, various Chinese currents, Japanese currents, Indian currents, and so forth, an agreement on principle to the nature of man, insofar as it enables us to define agreement to the common good, the general welfare.

Ordinary treaty law, positive law, will not work to such purpose. It must be very simple law. The notion of the general welfare, of the common good, that whenever there's a crisis, the decision has to be, the deliberation must be: what is the general welfare? What is the common good? Because we must put this planet back together again. For as long as we know, human beings in large groups have been killing each other. There are those in the empiricist tradition, who say that will go on forever.

I think, contrary to Bertrand Russell, actually, that with the development of nuclear weapons, we reached the point that we should recognize that warfare has a limit. How do we reach this limit of warfare? We recognize that the solution does not lie in creating a Pantheon, as Bertrand Russell and company suggested; not turning the human race into a zoo, but by finding a common principle of law, true common principle. A law which is made clear to us by nature itself: the nature of man.

Man is a cognitive being, with the power to make discoveries of principles, which no animal can do: to transform nature, and to transform man's relationship to nature. The communication of these concepts of discoveries, which are discoveries in the arts as well as physical science, within a population, and from generation to generation, this should be the law. And that, I think, is the only hope. We must work, we must understand, there's a limit to warfare. Modern society has reached the point that warfare, in any case, can be made so terrible that it's unfightable. So, we must have the kind of thinking that is appropriate to that reality.

So we come to a point in history, at which there's an

attempt to plunge all humanity into a Dark Age; and that's what would happen if Brzezinski's ideas prevailed. We must enter into the kind of dialogue of cultures I've indicated, around the practical question of bringing together the nations of Eurasia for cooperation in dealing with this crisis. And we must involve Africa and the Americas in that process. If we succeed, we shall have probably accomplished the greatest thing in all political history. We may have begun the adulthood of the human race.

So, that, in capsule, is my view.

Dialogue With LaRouche

Senator Orlando: Thank you very much for your intervention. Senator Folloni would like to speak now.

Sen. Gian Guido Folloni:

You have given us a very stimulating view of the recent events, and I have some questions. The first is about what you called the second model regarding the cultural conception and idea of man.

Do you think that this model, which you indicated in the Oriental philosophies, rather than in the Oriental religions, has a strong presence inside Western culture, and in particular within the Protestant world?



The second question: What will be the attitude of the U.S.A. and the Bush Administration, which are conscious of this attempted coup, toward that which you called Eurasia? I ask this, because what you explained about the theses of Brzezinski is a debate which exists in the United States, and Brzezinski himself has promoted it in his books; the consequence of this debate has been a resistance in the U.S.A. to development in the Eurasian continent and to strong collaboration between the European Union and the strongest Asian nations. Is there a new attitude in the American administration or in American public opinion regarding the role which Europe and Eurasia can play in a new phase of international relations?

A final question, regarding how you think it possible to create this dialogue about the idea of man. It seemed to me that this was in the intentions of John Paul II when he wanted to go to Ur, a place which represents a synthesis of the three monotheistic religions. But my question is, how to start this dialogue with nations such as China, which have a philosophy which is very different. Why didn't you speak of China in your final considerations? You spoke of Latin America and Africa. Is China to remain outside, or can it be involved in this dialogue?

LaRouche: China is part of Asia, it's part of this Eurasia business. It's a key part. It's the most challenging part of the whole business, the most important part.

Orlando: I suggest that we hear several interventions before hearing the response.

I would like to say something about what has been said here. There are two aspects which very much convince me. The first is that the Pantheon is the negation of unity . . . which honors neither religions nor the dialogue among religions. The idea of man as an end, not of a dialogue but of a new principle, goes together with a cultural tradition which begins with Greece and passes through Roman Law. It was good to cite Cusa, but if we look before him, in Roman law there is "*Id quod naturalis ratio inter omnes homines constituit [vocalur jus gentium]*" ["That which constitutes natural reason among all men is said to establish the right of the people"], and then after Cusa, the natural-law concept based on the defense of the natural rights of man.

LaRouche: As for Cicero, for example.

Orlando: Cicero, certainly; but also Seneca. I would like to say though, that after Cusa, Alberigo Gentili and others of the natural-law current exalted the function of man, the nature of man, the defense of the nature of man; naturally, though, all of this is part of European culture.

But I find myself agreeing with what you said about Asia, if we correctly judge the events which are taking place. I went to China when the kids were protesting and yelling "Down with Confucius," because this was the Order of the Gang of Four and of the Cultural Revolution. Now, it gave me great pleasure to see the revival of the Confucian studies departments in the universities in China, both in Shanghai, where I attended a class, and in Beijing and other places in China. I also heard the speeches of the Dalai Lama, who emphasizes man and the rights of man. So, I want to say that, yes, there can be an impetus, but, as my friend and colleague Folloni said very well, how can all of this find a channel which helps to at least pose this question as the main problem?

On the principles, I think we won't find dissent. Among other things, it was good that Folloni mentioned the preaching of the current Pope, but I would also like to cite John XXIII and also Paul VI. The Popes of these recent decades have always exalted the function of man and the rights of man, and they have always polemicized against the consumerist and hedonistic structure of contemporary societies. Therefore, I agree with these two principles; the battle against the Pantheon and the support of man with all of his rights. *Homo sive natura* [man in his natural state], at times the pantheists of the Middle Ages said; it is a paradox from the Catholic point of view, but it expresses the idea well.

Where I'm a bit more skeptical is on the economic problem; that is, the destruction of the market economy; if this means the market economy as it is configured today, before

and after these events, phenomena of growing recession in various parts of Europe and the world. But I think that the path taken by Bretton Woods is still practicable. We must remember that the final approach of Bretton Woods was the unity of a trading currency. The problem of exchange rates, the problem of using the dollar as the basic currency for trade, are things which came later. The Special Drawing Rights, which could have been, in a certain sense, meant overcoming the Anglo-American monetary domination, but never made it off the ground. So, I want to say that it is important not to forget certain lessons from the recent past in order to change a situation as difficult as that in which we find ourselves.

Eurasia: Eurasia is one of our goals. Our Institute was founded based on the collaboration between Asia and Europe. Italy has had and has an important role, including in dissent with the United States itself; just look at what we as an institute have done to break the isolation of Iraq, look at the evolution that is taking place inside Iran, one of the most important countries. Among other things, this oil alliance, which threatens to subordinate the politics of the United States to certain Arab countries which still maintain slavery, tolerate slavery, and ignore nations such as Iran, with a very ancient civilization. Iran is a democratic country. Where are the Parliaments in Saudi Arabia or in Kuwait or in the United Arab Emirates?

I would ask you to pass over the things I have said, and answer the questions put by Senator Folloni as to how we can join our efforts to arrive, in the name of the celebration of man and against the Pantheon, at this Eurasian cooperation in which also the Americas and Africa will eventually join.

What Is The Difference Between Man And Beast?

LaRouche: Let's take the first question from Senator Folloni. The question is, were there things, like the degeneration of morality in Europe today, experienced earlier in Asian cultures?

The history of man, the prehistory of man, is even as interesting as its history. But the essential thing about man is — which is a question which is very seldom addressed today in politics, or in theology also — is the question of what is the difference, from a scientific standpoint, what is the difference between man and an animal? For example, how do I tell the difference between a baboon and Henry Kissinger (which is a real challenge)? The point is, what does man do functionally, what is there about man's nature, which is different than that of any animal? Not as a doctrinal question, as a scientific question.

Now we have a very interesting Russian scientist, who has something to say about these things. He's not alive any more, except he speaks to me: Vernadsky, Vladimir Vernadsky. Now, Vernadsky correctly defined the physical universe as of three different components, distinct components. . . . And as Pasteur and others demonstrated, and as Vernadsky demonstrated in a different way, the living processes have effects on non-living processes, which never

occur in non-living processes. Therefore, the principle of life is both universal, and it's independent of the principles of so-called physics, as generally taught today.

In the living universe, the cognitive processes of man have an effect on both living and non-living processes, in the same way that life affects non-living processes. No animal can do it. So the demonstration is, the continuity, the impact of the cognitive processes, is not shown merely in the individual discovery. And this is where Vernadsky misses the point. It is that the issue is not individual, it's social. The individual, by making a discovery, and sharing the act of discovery, with other persons, causes the process of transmission of human knowledge from generation to generation.

Man changes the universe by the existence of this power of cognition.

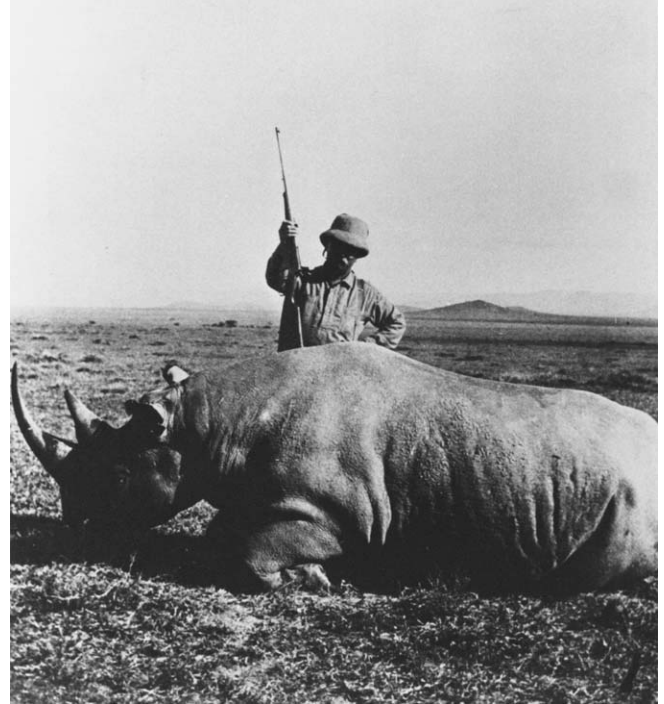
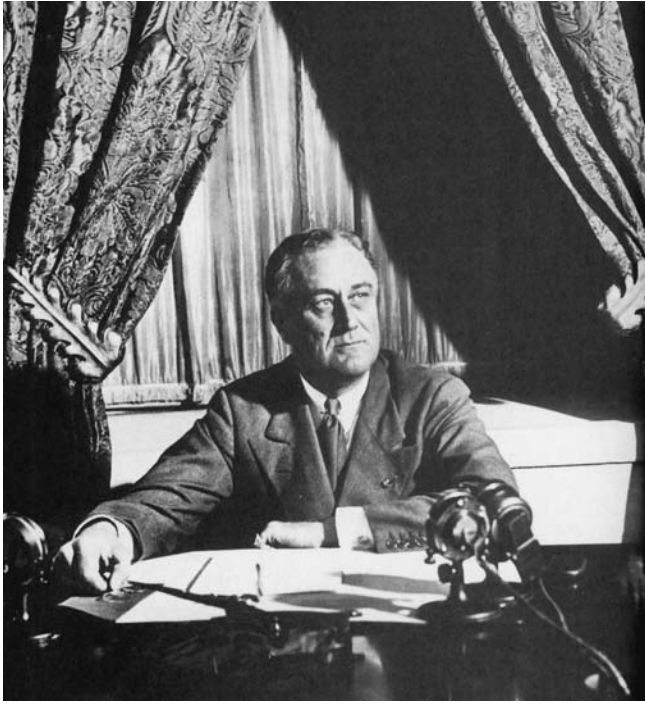
Now, the problem then is, in history, from what we know, we have evidence going back hundreds of thousands of years of actual discoveries by man. We can tell the difference between an ape and a man, if we can find some of the work of the man. For example, you discover certain tools, in a site with human remains. That was done by man, not a monkey. So by looking at the formal features of a relic, you can't tell the difference between a man and an ape. Only by looking at the work can you find the difference.

Two Opposing Cultural Tendencies

So, you say, "Why isn't this the basis of human relations? Why is our education teaching people to *learn* something, rather than discover it?" This is a big question. I shall not attempt to do here what I've done in many writings. But the point is this: The problem of mankind, as we know it, prior to the 15th Century, when for the first time, the idea of a principle of man was made law, is that man, all societies, have treated mankind as divided between three groups: top group — oligarchy; second group — lackeys of the oligarchy; third group — human cattle, wild cattle and captured cattle.

For example, you look at the Code of Diocletian. The Diocletian Code prescribes that the average person in society shall do what his father did before him. We find, in society today, an educational system; we say, we do not believe in the general education of people; children should be educated for their destiny, as employees. We get this in China, in Legalism. As opposed to Confucianism, which is the opposite. You find, even in Hinduism, you find division between two views on this question of education.

In the case of the United States, you have a patriotic tendency, which I represent, and you have my opponents, who represent an anti-patriotic tendency. Such as the Bush family, are not patriotic. They represent an oligarchical tendency, a financier-oligarchical tendency, which does not maintain health care, which does not maintain education, cognitive education; which does not promote the general welfare. Why? Because they say, most people are destined, we must have an orderly society based on our principles. And they have lackeys, who administer the society, so that essentially, we



The two opposite political tendencies in the United States are represented by “American Tory” President Theodore Roosevelt (right, in hat), and patriot President Franklin D. Roosevelt (left).

treat them as slaves. You say, where does this come from?

We have a treasonous tendency in the United States, that is, treason against the conception of its founding. One is a financial interest, a rentier-financier interest, which is based in the Northeast, or was, traditionally: the Bank of Manhattan, for example, founded by Aaron Burr, a traitor. The New England opium traders, and the Southern slaveholders. To understand the history of the United States, you have to see the struggle between the two forces, the patriotic forces, and these, what are called the American Tory forces. Lincoln is the best example of the patriotic forces, as is Franklin Roosevelt, for example. John Kennedy intended to become that.

But you have the other side, you have the ascendancy of Teddy Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Calvin Coolidge, Nixon, and so forth. And this group — what happened in 1966-68, is that Nixon led the revival of the American Tory, pro-slavery tradition. And this has been the great struggle in European history, between what kind of society should we have: a society based on developing the individual around the mind; or maintaining the old oligarchical system, in which you degrade the majority of members of society to the conditions of animal-like human cattle.

So, what we know of mankind in general, is paradoxical. We have evidence, prehistorical as well as historical, of showing great efforts, and great accomplishments, within societies. But a predominant tendency, which always leads into the destruction of societies, which is against that.

Like, for example, the case of the crash of Rome. Rome died about the time that Scipio came back from Africa. The

end of the second Punic War. What happened, is, you had the returning soldiers, or the knights, came back, and became a wealthy financier, latifundia class, which destroyed Italy from the inside, and degraded the Roman population to bread and circuses. So you had a brutalized, degenerate culture, Roman culture, from that time on.

So, then you had again the Byzantine culture, that repeated the same thing on a higher population base. You have ancient Babylon — the same thing.

So you have a history of cultures which destroy themselves. Sometimes it takes two generations, sometimes it takes 20 generations. Dynastic systems that destroy themselves, like the present dynastic system which is destroying itself.

In Western Europe, in the United States, the Americas, from 1945 to 1966, there was general progress. That is, there was an improvement in the condition of life for the average person, in postwar rebuilding. From 1966 to 1976, there was a change in the opposite direction. Since 1971, European civilization has been doomed as a system, like the Roman Empire before it, by its own internal rot. Most of the people today, living, except a few of us, did not live through the Second World War. We do not know what the kinds of decisions are, that you make in times of great life-and-death issues. We have generations that don't know what reality is. They don't know that you come to a time in life, when you as a person, have to make a decision about life or death, based on what you think society requires of you.

So we have a society of fools! We turned our children into

fools. Because they believe you can manage everything, you can talk your way out of everything. We have the empire of the Sophists: You can talk your way out of anything.

So that, yes, what happened, the difference is that in the case of European civilization, or Christian civilization, if you look at it as a system, from the time of Solon and Plato, you see a long wave of European civilization which is moving generally upward, with many setbacks, but always persisting, always persisting, moving upward, up to this time. For the first time in all existence in European civilization, in 2,600 years, for the first time, European civilization's extinction has now become a possibility. A Dark Age for all humanity.

You look at the history of non-European civilizations, cultures—they've gone through this many times. Because never did they achieve what we achieved, in this conception. And we know how we achieved it. We achieved it through two things. Probably through a gift of Egypt, in the sense of this image of Athena, from the Egyptian image of Athene, into Greek culture. But around Solon, and around Plato, typically, there developed in Greece something which was crushed. And then this was rescued, by the apostolic mission, especially of John and Paul. This rescue, this Greek culture, made it the basis of a Christian culture, and this is what made European civilization possible.

If you look back to the period of Europe prior to the 15th-Century Renaissance, that, relative to the rest of the world, Europe was Europe, but it was not that well-developed, relative to the rest of the world. The great power of European civilization began in Italy in the 15th Century. Some people would say at Padua, with certain professors. But this—and only the creation of the idea of the modern nation-state, as an idea, the idea of the general welfare, of the common good, enabled European civilization to defend its most precious characteristic.

Since that time, we have had a constant struggle within European civilization, between forces which are for the common good, and those which are oligarchs, who are trying to suppress it. And the problem is, that our people are so poorly educated, that many people will simply say: "Well, I have to think about my family, and my community, and I have to make compromises for the success of my family and community." And therefore, they betray civilization, by making compromises which are morally rotten, against the common good.

'The End Of Compromise, Or The End Of Man'

We come to a time, now, when all this foolishness must end. We must recognize that mankind is faced with an existential crisis of civilization. There's no possibility of compromising your way out of this one. The end of compromise, or the end of man.

That you have the problem—as is seen by the case of John Paul II. He's a man who's in very terrible condition, but who has taken up the cause, and I think not accidentally, by any

means, but taken up the cause of an ecumenical, apostolic approach to world crisis—then you see those who turn against him. It's obvious, from my standpoint, that that is the only way we can save humanity, from a terrible time. What he did in Greece, what he did in Russia, what he did in respect to Ukraine, what he did in Kazakstan, what he did in Syria—this is exactly what we need! We need an apostolic approach to the sense of the common good.

I would say that, of this situation, Asian cultures went through this, and lost. European civilization, in its Christian form, has managed to withstand that, despite all evils up to now. But what I know of European civilization today, and its condition, I would say that is so morally bad, generally, that only a great crisis, which terrifies it, will teach it to find its own nature again.

So, in general, you have the following problem. You have only three national cultures on this planet today, which are capable of thinking, of proposing, initiating global solutions for global problems. One is the British monarchy, which has not introduced anything good. Another is Russian culture. Another is the United States, which is very brutalized, but not defeated. Then you have European nations which have been conquered and occupied so many times they no longer have the sense they have the authority to initiate global solutions.

So the problem is, as a practical problem, how do we mobilize forces, including Russia, including what Russia's trying to do with Asia, with cooperation in Eurasia, to bring the nations of Western Europe, in particular, and Poland, and Hungary, and Slovakia, and so forth—bring them into the dialogue on the future of mankind, so that they become again individual, sovereign voices in the process of discussion?

This is not only a matter of permission to participate; it's—without bringing in the factor of continental European culture, you will not get a good decision from even an agreement between the United States and Russia.

You see this in Italy, in the question of the Bretton Woods issue. You have, despite Italy's lack of power over European decisions, you find a higher intellectual and moral quality, of opinion, among Italian political leaders than you do in any other nation in Europe. So, if we do not bring the best of these European nations' voices into the dialogue, the dialogue will fail. And I would hope to inspire people in Europe to think like that.

The question of the European national identity. The Italian national identity in the world at this time. Maybe the French can find an identity too. I kept recommending François Rabelais to them, to have a sense of humor about France. And Germany, Helga [Zepp-LaRouche] has some ancient sources we hope to revive there too.

The Brzezinski thing, just finally. The Brzezinski thing—it's not Brzezinski's influence. If you know him, as we know him, he's an idiot. He's a mental case. He is also a member of a kind of Satanic circle, despite what some people think

about him. Brzezinski was the son of a Polish bureaucrat, of the state bureaucracy. He went to Canada from Poland, and became a nonentity in Canada. The son went to Magill University, where he was a nonentity. He was then recruited to Harvard University, by one of the most evil men in 20th-Century U.S. history. You had a professor, William Yandell Elliott. Elliott was one of the key members of what was called the Nashville Agrarians, which was a pro-Confederacy memorial association, racist evil, and associated with H.G. Wells, and his philosophy. These were all people who were members of the families that founded the Ku Klux Klan. This is the hard core of the Southern crazy religious fanatics. Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell, these types, are all products of this movement.

Two people came out of Harvard who are most notable, who were trained and promoted by Elliott. One was Brzezinski, the other was Henry Kissinger. Madeleine Albright came out of the same background—didn't go to Harvard, but came out of the same background. Her father was Josef Korbel. They're very close to Brzezinski. Brzezinski married the daughter of Eduard Benes, and so forth, so it's all one tight circle. Brzezinski was the person who organized the Trilateral Commission, who got David Rockefeller to put money into it. He chose Jimmy Carter to become President. He went, through intermediation, to Islamic Jihad, which was then in Egypt, to organize what became the Afghansi, which became the Afghanistan war, and then became, eventually, the Taliban.

So, these people are purely evil, this whole circle. But, the important thing is, these are people, like Kissinger, who are typified—remember, both were, Kissinger was Secretary of State, National Security Adviser for Nixon; Brzezinski was National Security Adviser and controller for Carter. Twelve years of disaster. So, these people represent a certain faction, inside the U.S. Establishment and the British Establishment, and that's all they represent. They are not independent forces; they are lackeys.

So this is just a symptom of evil. This is like the Voltaires or the Talleyrands of modern politics.

The Nature Of Religious Wars

Hon. Tullio Grimaldi: I would like to ask a question which touches on political questions, rather than ontological or philosophical questions. You spoke about a coup d'état, attempted or successful, maybe more attempted than successful, a coup which had the aim of provoking a sort of religious war, a contest between the Western and Islamic worlds. The reality is, that this



is, in a certain sense, taking place, because after the war into which America has been dragged with the attack on Afghanistan, there is a spread of Islamic fundamentalism beyond what there was before. A new order is shaping up globally because Europe is being kept out, except for the U.K., which has always been a close ally of the U.S.A. There's an instability in the Eastern chessboard between Pakistan and India, with Kashmir, a powderkeg which could lead to a possible war. There is also a destabilization of the relations between Saudi Arabia and the United States, relations which were very close. There is a different problem with Israel in the Middle East. All of this is creating a new order.

My question is this: Was there a mind which planned all of this, the massacre of the Twin Towers and the attack on the Pentagon, etc.?

LaRouche: Yes, sure.

Grimaldi: Did this mind foresee the scenario which is playing out? And, therefore, how is this new order governed? I don't much believe in the Pantheon as you described it. It's possible to govern with a Pantheon when everyone stays in his place. When some gods begin to fight amongst themselves. . . . I don't believe that "religious wars" are actually religious wars; they explode as religious wars, but they really always have material and economic ends. What is it that triggered this war, and did a mind foresee this or not?

LaRouche: Well, take it last. First, the religious wars that were fought in Europe between 1511 and 1648, were not prompted by religion. They were prompted by certain Venetian interests, and in the last case by Paolo Sarpi, who organized what led to the Thirty Years' War. The interesting thing is, in both cases—remember that the first attack came on England, with the operation on this foolish Henry VIII. The first modern nation-state was Louis XI's France; the first state, constituted on the basis of the general welfare. The second was Henry VII's England, which ended the Plantagenet councils. What happened is, the Venetians then, after 1511, organized to disrupt the unity which existed at that time, among England, Spain, Italy, France—in a sense—of community, and Germany. And it was done by religious war. Or religious conflicts, orchestrated from Venice, by Zorzi from Venice, for example, who became the sexual adviser to Henry VIII, by Cardinal Pole, who was a Plantagenet, and so forth.

For example, then you had inside the United States—the so-called fundamentalist movement in the United States, was always founded as a political tool of the British monarchy. The fundamentalists as they exist now, the crazy fundamentalists, including John Ashcroft, the Attorney General, were founded as a religious movement by the Nashville Agrarians. Also, you will find that many of the Islamic fundamentalist organizations were organized by British intelligence; that's their origin. In Egypt, and so forth, elsewhere. Many in India, Egypt, and so forth. So, they were organized. They were orga-

nized for this purpose, because the tendency was—this goes back to the Caliphate of Baghdad. In the time of Charlemagne, the Caliphate of Baghdad was the most advanced civilization in the world, in a period of crisis in Europe. It was destroyed, by what? It was essentially destroyed by the philosophy expressed by al-Ghazali, in his *Philosophy of the Destruction*. The beginning of this kind of process was with al-Ghazali, in the *Destruction*. Which was political, at that time.

So, when you see religious war, religions generally do not lead, religious belief does not generally lead to war. It may be a factor in war. However, religious war is the most horrible form of war that was ever developed, because it goes so deep into the person, that the person will keep on killing to the end. When Brzezinski, in conjugation with British intelligence, planned this Clash of Civilizations policy, the intention was to keep a perpetual religious war, in the center of Asia, in South Asia. Did the people behind the coup intend this kind of effect? Yes. I've watched this for years.

The Eruption Of Irregular Warfare

What has happened is, in the postwar period, with the development of nuclear weapons, and nuclear weapons policy, there came the adoption of a policy of using irregular warfare, as a surrogate for regular warfare in conflict among states. . . .

So, what you had was a development, particularly in the 1980s, when it became consolidated, which was called the Israeli method, in which private sources of funds were used to create large armies which were irregular armies, and weapons trafficking and drug trafficking became the primary sources of wealth to do this. Afghanistan, for example, today, is the biggest source of opium in the world. For example, that's how the whole thing is financed. The Pakistani economy would collapse, without opium from Afghanistan. So, this is all planned—this part of it. This is the way they think.

You have—developed in the military—you have a faction, which is the special-warfare faction. They're crazy! They do these things. We have developed a command structure, inside NATO, as you saw in the Balkans. The Balkans war was totally orchestrated, immediately. They got through Desert Storm, they went and started the Balkan wars—generally French and British agents who organized it. . . . *They intend to keep it going now.* You have the U.S. Special Forces are running the UCK [Kosovo Liberation Army] as a terrorist organization against Macedonia. Soon, you will have Italian troops going into the Balkans with German troops, to take over from the NATO troops, to get killed there, in this war, which is being run by the British and the United States.

There are two other things that answer your question about the general nature of the objections. First of all, this is not the last phase; what you described is not the last phase of this intended operation. The plan was to put Europe and the United

States under dictatorships. There are steps in that direction, but they have not yet been implemented. Which will take another stage to get to, to do that—like the Hitler dictatorship took about four stages to get it consolidated. And, think of this as like, analogous to the Hitler dictatorship, the Hitler coup, which was run from London and New York. But, what they've intended to happen, so far, is what they intended to have happen. They intended that the American people would be stupid enough to be stampeded into thinking that Osama bin Laden is responsible for what happened in New York. They were not completely successful, but they were largely successful. With British help, with the British government's help, they managed to stampede Europe into joining them—that's why we're having the bombing now. Blair's endorsement of this reversed the NATO non-decision, to a decision. That's why the bombing started. It's not NATO, but NATO gave the permission.

But, secondly, on this part: They're not such smart people; they're desperate people. They represent tremendous power, tremendous capability. And they have very weak opposition. The opposition is numerous, but weak and cowardly. But, they will not get the effects they want. They are unleashing something they can not control. *If we don't stop them, there won't be any civilization.* Because they will unleash things that nobody can control.

For example: If this revolt in Pakistan—then, the Indians will put nuclear weapons on top of Pakistan nuclear sites. That's why the Prime Minister of India has been warning about the terrible security situation. This can also be triggered another way, by an intensification of the Kashmir [conflict]. The ISI types inside Pakistan may revolt against Musharraf, either directly or by stirring up the Kashmir operation.

But, the end objective—remember, that the objective of this thing, is two things: is war with Russia, a perpetual war with Russia; and the obliteration of China. This is clear enough in the, shall we say, the "*Mein Kampf*" of Zbigniew Brzezinski. And, that's what they're aimed at! Russia has nuclear weapons. The Chinese nuclear weapons don't mean much. But the Russian arsenal—what remains of it—means a great deal. Are you going to try to destroy Russia? Because that's the next step.

If you get a dictatorship in the United States, the dictatorship will be based on: China is the long-term enemy, and Russia better not get in our way. The continental Europeans will be slaves to the Anglo-Americans.

There's no possibility of tolerating what is happening, and surviving. We're in a period of great cowardice, where people will always find excuses to tolerate, to get along. It's easier for people of my generation to recognize this kind of problem. We *lived* through a generation of World War. We understood that. Unfortunately, the present generations *do not* understand that; they do not understand it emotionally. *You don't play these kinds of games with history!*

Grimaldi: That is possible, but a war like that of 1940-45 was one of destruction, but not total destruction; a nuclear war would allow the survivors to control only the ruins, nothing else. A mind which proposes this is absolutely insane; but this doesn't seem to be the case to me, rather, a clear mind which wants global dominion, sets the aim of a more immediate dominion, which can be used to impose a new order, something which may already be happening in this immediate phase. New alliances, new scenarios, a part of the moderate Islamic world which is absorbed, Europe out of the game . . . a dominion of material interests, or multinational corporations. This is more realistic than an insane mind which wants to start a nuclear conflict, which would be apocalyptic.

LaRouche: They're actually that crazy!

The Culture Of Existentialism

Folloni: I recently re-read a book by an author from the end of the last century, Benson, *The Master of the World*. This came back to my mind because in this book, which has an apocalyptic tone, the world comes to Armageddon, and Benson uses the term which has reappeared today, the "alliance," an alliance as the new boss of international relations. My question is: You spoke about a Pantheon; what relation do you see in the formation of this alliance that the U.S.A. is asking the world for, and the Pantheon as you presented it?

LaRouche: Well, the Pantheon, the most dangerous Pantheon, is the one that's being formed within European civilization itself. What's happened to European culture, and religious culture in particular, has undergone a great decadence in recent times. This was already raised in the early 20th Century by the papacy, in a discussion involving Germany, in which the observation was that the most dangerous thing in Germany, from the standpoint of the papacy, was the influence of Nietzsche among German Catholics.

What happened, as we mentioned earlier, in the discussion earlier, in the case of Kant, is, Kant, essentially, was an empiricist of a British, Paolo Sarpi legacy, who introduced the categories of Aristotle to empiricism, and created a system called his *Critiques*. These *Critiques* were based on attacking, basically, Leibniz—the attack on Leibniz by Kant, which denied that there's knowable truth in the universe, and that everything was simply deductive. So that, in Germany, around Kant developed what was called the New Romanticism, of Kant, Fichte, Hegel, and so forth. The denial of the existence of truth. This had the effect with Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, and others, of the revival of the so-called existentialist movement.

Now, what happened in the degeneracy of the 20th Century, was largely the outgrowth of things like Nietzscheanism, which included the Frankfurt School in Germany, which included Heidegger, which included Jaspers, which included Adorno, Horkheimer, Hannah Arendt, Jean Paul Sartre, and so forth. These people created the new existentialist movement.

Now, if you look in the United States, look in Europe, you will find that existentialism in various forms dominates, and has replaced Classical culture generally. Now, this also in religion. So what happened is, now they say, "There is no truth, there is only opinion." They say, now, between Catholics and Protestants and this and that and so forth, there's no truth, there's only opinion. They say, "You can have your opinion. That's your doctrine. But the other person has this opinion, and this doctrine. And this person has this doctrine." If the churches accept that, the churches become part of a pagan Pantheon, as under the Roman Emperor. Then the possibility of a society which accepts the Pantheon, can not make a moral decision.

Folloni: In fact the Armageddon in Benson's book is the clash between the Alliance and the Catholic Church.

LaRouche: Exactly. But see, that's the point. If you don't have any principle— . You've heard this thing about the rule of law. Now, what they mean by "rule of law" in the United States, which came up, for example, in the debates on impeachment of President Clinton, it means the generalization of Roman law, *not* natural law, but Roman law, Romantic law. So, therefore, if you don't have natural law, how can you have a dialogue of civilizations? How can you resolve conflicts? How can you end religious war?

Remember the principle that Europe was able to end the religious war in Germany, in 1848, with the Treaty of Westphalia. As Helga has emphasized, read the documents of the Treaty of Westphalia: "You must love one another." Which is ecumenicism. So only through a non-doctrinal, ecumenical way can you avoid religious war, a Pantheonic kind of war, becoming an administration of the world by imperial methods.

The emperor, Pontifex Maximus, sits on top of the Pantheon, and adjudicates the differences among the doctrines. Anybody who does not accept the emperor, is called a "rogue state" and will be destroyed, as under the Roman Empire.

So that's the danger. The issue here is a question of moral judgment. The only thing that can save us from this nonsense we've brought on ourselves, is the quality of introducing this moral judgment factor of natural law. And John Paul II is the best lawgiver we have loose today. On precisely that point.

Confront The Economic Crisis

Student: A question on economics. We know about the overwhelming economic and commercial power of the United States compared to the rest of the planet. The Sept. 11 attacks have heavily destabilized the American economy internally as well as the global economy. Globalization has taught us that the world works like communicating vessels, not separate containers. The evil that can come with a coup in one country, on one continent, can end up bringing calamity and recession also in the bordering states and continents.



The Pantheon in Rome. "All empires were based on the principle of the Pantheon. And the way that the emperor ruled the empire, was to play the different religions of the Pantheon against each other. What Brzezinski is proposing, is exactly that: a war among cultures, to define the planet as a Pantheon, and to make war among the different religions and cultures of the Pantheon. That is the Islamic 'Clash of Civilizations' thesis of Zbigniew Brzezinski."

I read a radio interview you gave a few hours after the attack on the Twin Towers, in which you spoke about the risk of a depression on a global scale as a consequence of this attack. Is there not a bit of pessimism on your part, regarding the situation which has been created? You spoke of a global crash, or a global collapse, when all of the major international financial analysts, starting with Morgan Stanley, have spoken of a recession which can be overcome in six or nine months.

LaRouche: These fellows — . First of all, a world depression is in process. It is *in* process. And it's not a recession, it's a depression. People are trying to sell stocks. They will try to sell them, they'll probably say there's some, build up the delusion there's some hope of a recovery in that crisis.

Actually, Sept. 11 had very little effect on the economy, except on the airline industry. In the period preceding that, for example, between March of 2000 and before September, the United States New Economy stocks had lost about \$30 trillion, in terms of nominal asset value. Wall Street in general, the Dow, all these values, had lost. So you have a general hyperinflation in monetary and financial assets in the United States, and a *deflation* of about 30% in employment, in industrial and real employment.

And the United States economy was much exaggerated in European opinion. For example, the United States economy is running on the basis of a current account deficit of about three-quarters of a trillion dollars a year. It was being propped up by large financial flows, multitrillion-dollar financial flows, into the United States financial markets. The dropping of the flow of financial flows into the United States financial markets, would collapse the U.S. economy immediately.

This is crucial, because the United States no longer produces most of its own product; it imports it. It's shut down its industries. You have a similar problem in Europe. European factories are shut down for cheap-labor markets abroad. Without purchasing power for cheap-labor products from abroad, Italy, Germany, France, and so forth, would be in a terrible situation. These kinds of things — globalization, free trade, ultra-liberalization, monetarism, and ecologism — have destroyed the economies of Europe and the United States, and much of the rest of the world besides.

See, you had the world's most powerful economy, the transatlantic economies, the most powerful combination of economy in the world, and in 35 years of stupid policy, we've destroyed it! And people say, "You can't change it! Look, this is irreversible. These trends, globalization, is inevitable. Free trade is inevitable. These things are inevitable." Of course, if they're inevitable, we're dead.

The question is, do we have the will to reverse, and change the mistakes we made?

You see in the thing in Italy, for example, with the Berlusconi government. You see the initiative, which is good, for this infrastructure development. The problem is, it doesn't go far enough. It's in the right direction, but it's not enough. You have all these years of destruction of the Italian economy, from the time that the Mezzogiorno project was really working. You look in Germany, over a similar period — a similar kind of destruction of the economic power of Germany. The United States is a catastrophe.

But we did it to ourselves. Nobody from Mars, or outer space, did it to us. We did it to ourselves. And we are now paying the price.

Look at the danger, clearly in the eye, and you can see the solution more clearly. If you see the solution, then you have a reason for optimism.

The worst place to go, in a bombing attack, is under the bed.

Orlando: We are very happy to have had this broad exposition, and especially happy for the stimulus which we have been given, since we have touched on some things which are unusual for us. I agree that this is a pessimistic view, but pessimism is an important tool, because it wakes people's conscience, or it should wake people's conscience.

If I were to give a synthesis, although it is impossible to do so, of everything which has been said, I would say that our attention must be concentrated above all on the grave loss of humanity which has taken place in the recent years. There are many other subjects which we have not touched on. For example, I think of the question of the United Nations, regional agreements, etc., but we can do this in another meeting, otherwise we'll be here all night.

I thank Lyndon LaRouche and all of the illustrious guests. Long live man!

LaRouche: I am grateful to you, as well.

Pope John Paul II Praises Matteo Ricci In Quest For Dialogue With China

by Elisabeth Hellenbroich

On Oct. 24-25, an international conference took place at the Gregorian University in Rome, under the title “Matteo Ricci: For A Dialogue Between China And The West.” The conference, which gathered experts from Italy and China, as well as political and Catholic Church representatives, was organized by the Italy-China Institute of Milan, to commemorate the fourth centenary of the arrival in Beijing of Father Matteo Ricci (1552-1610).

A truly historic message was transmitted to the conference by Pope John Paul II, and read by the president of the institute, Cesare Romiti. The speech (published in full below) was a passionate plea for a “dialogue of cultures and religions,” the foundation for a “civilization based on peace and love.”

In what must be considered an historic breakthrough, the Pope asked for forgiveness for the errors which the Catholic Church had committed in the past. Making indirect reference to the famous “Rites Controversy” (see article in this section), and in particular to the 19th Century, when Catholic missionaries often allied with the colonial powers, the Pope expressed his “deep sadness for these errors and limits of the past” and expressed his “regret that in many people, these failings may have given the impression of a lack of respect and esteem for the Chinese people on the part of the Catholic Church, making them feel that the Church was motivated by feelings of hostility towards China.” He asked for the “forgiveness” and “understanding of those who may have felt hurt by such action on the part of Christians.”

In his speech, the Pope stressed the groundbreaking missionary and scientific work of Father Ricci, which he presented as a model for a truly successful dialogue among cultures. In his passionate portrait of Father Ricci, the Pope pointed out that the Jesuit father, with his famous monograph *Expédition Chrétienne au Royaume de la Chine (Christian Expedition To The Chinese Kingdom*, published posthumously), was the missionary and Sinologist who gave Europe its first profound insight into the culture, philosophy, history, and geography of China.

Given the current global crisis, and in view of the fact that China and the Catholic Church are two of mankind’s most “ancient institutions,” representing more than 1 billion peo-

ple, the Pope expressed his profound hope that the Vatican and the People’s Republic of China will resume diplomatic relations, and said that this “would have undoubtedly positive repercussions for humanity’s progress.”

The Pope expressed his “sympathy” for the Chinese people and his respect for “the significant advances made by China in recent times in the social economic and educational spheres.” The Chinese people, especially in more recent times, have set themselves important objectives in the field of social progress, the Pope said.

He spoke of the benefit for the “whole human family,” which the “opening of some form of dialogue with the authorities of the People’s Republic of China would have.” Once the misunderstandings of the past have been overcome, such “a dialogue would make it possible for us to work together for the good of the Chinese people and for peace in the world.”

During the conference, some speakers (such as Prof. Ren Yan Li) mentioned that during the past 50 years, during which official relations between the Vatican and the P.R.C. have been at a standstill, Pope John Paul II, following in the footsteps of Popes John XXIII and Paul VI, was the most passionate to “encourage reconciliation and unity among Chinese Catholics” and who began a new epoch of opening relations. An example cited of the new climate, is the fact that there are various centers for research on Christianity at Chinese universities, often linked to the philosophy departments. (Among these are the Center of Christian Studies at the University of Zhejiang in Hangzhou, founded in 1991, and the Center for Religious and Christian Research at the University of Beijing, founded in 1996.)

In a first official reaction, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Sun Yuxi hailed the Pope’s speech as a “positive signal,” saying that China is willing to improve relations with the Vatican, if the Vatican terminates “diplomatic relations with Taiwan” and admits that the government of the P.R.C. is the sole legal government representing the whole of China, and that Taiwan is an inseparable part of China’s territory. The Vatican should furthermore promise that it will not interfere in China’s internal affairs, including not interfering in China’s internal affairs under the guise of religious activities.

The Pope's Message

The following message of Pope John Paul II for the Fourth Centenary of the arrival in Beijing of the great missionary and scientist Matteo Ricci, S.I., was delivered on Oct. 24, 2001. The Vatican translation was taken from International Fides. Subheads have been added.

1. It gives me great joy to address you, distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, on the occasion of the International Conference commemorating the 400th anniversary of the arrival in Beijing of the great Italian missionary, humanist, and man of science, Father Matteo Ricci, a celebrated son of the Society of Jesus. My greeting goes in a special way to the Rector of the Pontifical Gregorian University and the Directors of the Italian-Chinese Institute, the two institutions which have sponsored and organized the Conference. In welcoming you, I also extend a cordial greeting to the scholars who have come from China, Father Ricci's beloved adopted country.

I am aware that this Conference in Rome is taking place in a certain continuity with the important International Symposium recently held in Beijing (Oct. 14-17) on the theme Encounters and Dialogue, with special reference to the cultural exchanges between China and the West at the end of the Ming Dynasty and the beginning of the Qing Dynasty. There too, scholarly attention was directed to the singular work of Father Matteo Ricci in China.

2. Today's meeting takes us in mind and heart to Beijing, the great capital of modern China and the capital of the "Middle Kingdom" in Father Ricci's time. After 21 long years of avid and intense study of the language, history, and culture of China, Father Ricci entered Beijing, the city of the Emperor, on 24 January 1601. Received with every honor, held in high regard and frequently visited by men of letters, mandarins, and those desiring to learn the new sciences of which he was an acknowledged master, he lived the rest of his days in the imperial capital, where he died a holy death on 11 May 1610, at the age of 57 years, almost 28 of which had been spent in China. I am pleased here to recall that when Father Ricci arrived in Beijing, he wrote a Memorial to the Emperor Wan-li, in which he introduced himself as a celibate religious who sought no privilege at court, asking only to be able to place at the service of His Majesty his own person and the expertise in the sciences which he had acquired in the "great West" from which he had come (cf. *Opere Storiche del P. Matteo Ricci S.I.*, ed. P. Tacchi Venturi S.J., vol. II, Macerata, 1913, 496ff). The

reaction of the Emperor was positive, and this gave greater significance and importance to the Catholic presence in modern China.

'A Precious Connecting Link'

For four centuries, China has highly esteemed Li Madou, "the Sage of the West," the name by which Father Matteo Ricci was known and continues to be known today. Historically and culturally he was a pioneer, a precious connecting link between West and East, between European Renaissance culture and Chinese culture, and between the ancient and magnificent Chinese civilization and the world of Europe.

As I had occasion to mention on the occasion of the International Congress of Ricci Studies held to commemorate the fourth centenary of Matteo Ricci's arrival in China (1582-1982), his merit lay above all in the realm of inculturation. Father Ricci forged a Chinese terminology for Catholic theology and liturgy, and thus created the conditions for making Christ known and for incarnating the Gospel message and the Church within Chinese culture (cf. *Insegnamenti di Giovanni Paolo II*, vol. V/3, 1982, Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1982, 923-925). Father Matteo Ricci made himself so "Chinese with the Chinese" that he became an expert Sinologist, in the deepest cultural and spiritual sense of the term, for he achieved in himself an extraordinary inner harmony between priest and scholar, between Catholic and orientalist, between Italian and Chinese.

3. Four hundred years after the arrival of Matteo Ricci in Beijing, we cannot fail to ask what is the message he can offer to the great Chinese nation and to the Catholic Church, to both of which he felt ever deeply bound and by both of which he was and is sincerely valued and loved.

One of the aspects that make Father Ricci's work in China original and enduringly relevant, is the deep empathy which he cultivated from the first towards the whole history, culture, and tradition of the Chinese people. His short *Treatise on Friendship (De Amicitia Jiaoyoulun)*, which had great success from the first edition produced in Nanking in 1595, and the wide and intense network of friendships which he constantly built up during his 28 years in the country, remain an irrefutable testimony to his loyalty, sincerity, and fellowship with the people who had welcomed him. These sentiments and attitudes of the highest respect sprang from the esteem in which he held the culture of China, to the point of leading him to study, interpret, and explain the ancient Confucian tradition and thus offer a re-evaluation of the Chinese classics.

From his first contacts with the Chinese, Father Ricci based his entire scientific and apostolic methodology upon two pillars, to which he remained faithful until his death, despite many difficulties and misunderstandings, both internal and external: first, Chinese neophytes, in embracing Christianity, did not in any way have to renounce loyalty to their country; second, the Christian revelation of the mys-



Pope John Paul II meets Armenian President Robert Kocharian in Armenia on Sept. 1. The Pope “has taken up the cause of an ecumenical, apostolic approach to world crisis,” commented Lyndon LaRouche. “It’s obvious . . . that that is the only way we can save humanity, from a terrible time. What he did in Greece, what he did in Russia, what he did in respect to Ukraine, what he did in Kazakstan, what he did in Syria—this is exactly what we need! We need an apostolic approach to the sense of the common good.”

tery of God in no way destroyed but in fact enriched and complemented everything beautiful and good, just and holy, in what had been produced and handed down by the ancient Chinese tradition. And just as the Fathers of the Church had done centuries before in the encounter between the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Greco-Roman culture, Father Ricci made this insight the basis of his patient and far-sighted work of inculturation of the faith in China, in the constant search for a common ground of understanding with the intellectuals of that great land.

Objectives In Social Progress

4. The Chinese people, especially in more recent times, have set themselves important objectives in the field of social progress. The Catholic Church, for her part, regards with respect this impressive thrust and far-sighted planning, and with discretion offers her own contribution in the promotion and defense of the human person, and of the person’s values, spirituality, and transcendent vocation. The Church has very much at heart the values and objectives which are of primary importance also to modern China: solidarity, peace, social justice, the wise management of the phenomenon of globalization, and the civil progress of all peoples.

As Father Ricci wrote precisely in Beijing, when in the last two years of his life he was editing that pioneering work which is fundamental for an understanding of China by the rest of the world and which is entitled, “On the Entry of the Society of Jesus and Christianity into China” (cf. *Fonti*

Ricciane, Vol. 2, cit., No. 617, p. 152), so too, today, the Catholic Church seeks no privilege from China and its leaders, but solely the resumption of dialogue in order to build a relationship based upon mutual respect and deeper understanding.

5. Following the example of this great son of the Catholic Church, I wish to say once more that the Holy See regards the Chinese people with deep affection and close attention. It is familiar with the significant advances made in recent times in the social, economic, and educational spheres, as also with the difficulties that remain. Let it be known to China: the Catholic Church has a keen desire to offer, once more, her humble and selfless service for the good of Chinese Catholics and of all the people of the country. In this regard, may I recall at this point the outstanding evangelizing commitment shown by a long line of generous missionaries—men and women—as well as the works of human development which they accomplished down the centuries. They undertook many important social initiatives, particularly in the areas of health care and education, which were widely and gratefully welcomed by the Chinese people.

Past Errors And The Search For Truth

History, however, reminds us of the unfortunate fact that the work of members of the Church in China was not always without error, the bitter fruit of their personal limitations and of the limits of their action. Moreover, their action was often conditioned by difficult situations connected with

complex historical events and conflicting political interests. Nor were theological disputes lacking, which caused bad feelings and created serious difficulties in preaching the Gospel. In certain periods of modern history, a kind of “protection” on the part of European political powers not infrequently resulted in limitations on the Church’s very freedom of action and had negative repercussions for the Church in China. This combination of various situations and events placed obstacles in the Church’s path and prevented her from fully carrying out for the benefit of the Chinese people the mission entrusted to her by her Founder, Jesus Christ.

I feel deep sadness for these errors and limits of the past, and I regret that in many people these failings may have given the impression of a lack of respect and esteem for the Chinese people on the part of the Catholic Church, making them feel that the Church was motivated by feelings of hostility towards China. For all of this, I ask the forgiveness and understanding of those who may have felt hurt in some way by such actions on the part of Christians.

The Church must not be afraid of historical truth and she is ready—with deeply felt pain—to admit the responsibility of her children. This is true also with regard to her relationship, past and present, with the Chinese people. Historical truth must be sought serenely, with impartiality and in its entirety. This is an important task to be undertaken by scholars and is one to which you, who are particularly well-versed in Chinese realities, can also contribute. I can assure you that the Holy See is always ready to offer willing cooperation in this research.

‘Mutual Need And Mutual Help’

6. At the present moment, the words written by Father Ricci at the beginning of his *Treatise on Friendship* (Nos. 1 and 3) take on a new timeliness and significance. Bringing into the heart of late 16th-Century Chinese culture and civilization the heritage of Classical Greco-Roman and Christian reflection on friendship, he defined a friend as “the other half of myself, indeed another I”; and therefore “the *raison d’être* of friendship is mutual need and mutual help.”

And it is with this renewed and deeply felt friendship towards all the Chinese people that I express the hope that concrete forms of communication and cooperation between the Holy See and the People’s Republic of China may soon be established. Friendship is nourished by contacts, by a sharing in the joy and sadness of different situations, by solidarity and mutual assistance. The Apostolic See sincerely seeks to be a friend to all peoples and to collaborate with persons of good will everywhere in the world.

Historically, in ways that are certainly different but not in opposition to one another, China and the Catholic Church are two of the most ancient “institutions” in existence and operating on the world scene: both, though in different domains—one in the political and social, the other in the reli-

gious and spiritual—encompass more than a thousand million sons and daughters. It is no secret that the Holy See, in the name of the whole Catholic Church and, I believe, for the benefit of the whole human family, hopes for the opening of some form of dialogue with the Authorities of the People’s Republic of China. Once the misunderstandings of the past have been overcome, such a dialogue would make it possible for us to work together for the good of the Chinese people and for peace in the world. The present moment of profound disquiet in the international community calls for a fervent commitment on the part of everyone to creating and developing ties of understanding, friendship, and solidarity among peoples. In this context, the normalization of relations between the People’s Republic of China and the Holy See would undoubtedly have positive repercussions for humanity’s progress.

7. Expressing once more my happiness at the timely celebration of such a significant historical event, I hope and pray that the path opened by Father Matteo Ricci between East and West, between Christianity and Chinese culture, will give rise to new instances of dialogue and reciprocal human and spiritual enrichment. With these good wishes, I gladly impart to all of you my Apostolic Blessing, imploring God to grant you every gift of happiness and well-being.

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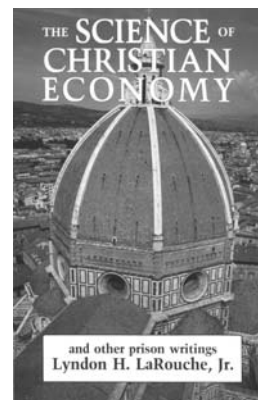
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Matteo Ricci, The Grand Design, And The Disaster Of The ‘Rites Controversy’

by Michael Billington¹

The apology by Pope John Paul II for the past errors of the Catholic Church in its relations with China, and his appeal to Beijing to renew ties between the Vatican and the People’s Republic of China (reproduced in this issue of *EIR*), come at a time in which the Pope is playing a crucial role in the campaign to build an ecumenical alliance among the nations of Europe and Asia, as the only alternative to the descent into depression and war now threatening mankind. He chose to make this historic call in the name of Father Matteo Ricci, the Jesuit missionary who opened the first sustained Christian mission in China in 1581. The Pope described Father Ricci as “a precious connecting link between West and East, between European Renaissance culture and Chinese culture, and between the ancient and magnificent Chinese civilization and the world of Europe.”

As I shall briefly report here, Ricci’s role was not limited to his own lifetime; rather, his ideas have been at the center of every subsequent effort to build a true alliance between the people of Europe and those of Asia, based on the principle of reason. As U.S. Democratic 2004 Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche said in his address to the Italian Institute for Asia, in Rome, on Oct. 16, an effort to build a world alliance among sovereign nations can never succeed if it is based on the mutual acceptance of each other’s opinions, but only through a dialogue based upon a fundamental agreement on an *idea*—an idea of man distinguished from the beasts through the cognitive power of reason. Ricci lived by this principle, which flourished in China until, a hundred years after Ricci’s death, a Venetian faction in the Church succeeded in turning the Vatican against his ideas. I shall also review this dark page of history, known as the Rites Controversy, to help our readers understand why Pope John Paul II felt it necessary to extend an apology in regard to certain “theological disputes.”

It is most appropriate that this particular Pope, who profoundly understands the importance of his personal mission in the current crisis of civilization, reaches back to Ricci as the universal figure representing the dialogue of cultures so necessary today.

1. This article expands on earlier work by the author, including, for example, “Toward The Ecumenical Unity Of East And West: The Renaissances Of Confucian China and Christian Europe,” *Fidelio*, Summer 1993.

Ricci And The Jesuits

The 16th-Century arrival of the Jesuits in China was certainly not the first contact between China and Europe, which goes back thousands of years. In the Middle Ages, Europeans, Persians, and Arabs traversed the famous Silk Road, many taking up permanent residence in China. The Muslims, in particular, contributed their scientific knowledge to the Chinese, becoming the primary astronomers to the court. During the 13th-Century reign of the Kubla Khan over China, Franciscan missionaries from the West had followed the Venetian trader Marco Polo to Cathay, establishing close contacts with the ruling Khan and extensive networks among the Chinese population. But the Franciscans appear to have made little attempt to learn the Chinese Classics—in fact, they appear to have been primarily a “foreign mission,” serving Europeans who came in following the Mongol conquests. With the end of the Mongol reign, the mission collapsed without a trace.

Three hundred years later, St. Francis Xavier, one of the founders of the Society of Jesus, travelled to Asia. After a period in Japan, he determined that the Japanese respect for and deferment to China on philosophical issues necessitated the conversion of China first. He died before reaching the Middle Kingdom, however, and the opening of China fell to another Jesuit, Matteo Ricci.

Ricci arrived in 1581, and developed the policies that guided the mission through the next two centuries. He had received extensive training at the Roman College under the direction of the German Christopher Clavius, who was an associate and friend of the astronomer Johannes Kepler and later of Galileo. Ricci spent four years with Clavius studying geometry, geography, and astronomy, including the construction of astronomical and musical instruments.

What Ricci discovered in China was totally unlike the conditions that prevailed in the Americas, Africa, or India at that time. The Jesuits’ reports to Europe described a country with a civilization which surpassed in many respects that of the West, with a greater knowledge of its own antiquity. A century later, Europe’s greatest philosopher, scientist, and statesman, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, reflecting on the reports from Ricci and those who followed him, reported:

There is in China in certain regards an admirable public morality conjoined to a philosophical doctrine, or rather



Father Matteo Ricci, whom Pope John Paul II described as “a precious connecting link between West and East, between European Renaissance culture and Chinese culture, and between the ancient and magnificent Chinese civilization and the world of Europe.”

a doctrine of natural theology, venerable by its antiquity, established and authorized for about 3,000 years, long before the philosophy of the Greeks.

Recorded Chinese history preceded the generally accepted date for The Flood. The question was posed for Europeans: How could an advanced civilization, outside of the Biblical history of God’s interaction with man, be explained? To Leibniz and to Ricci, China’s history and culture stood as a monument to the truth of One God: that the mind reflects the perfect creation, and thus must lead through reason to the concept of the Creator. Leibniz recognized that China, by far the most populous nation on Earth, and enjoying a highly ordered civil structure, must have achieved that population and that order through some identifiable means. He even suggested that “Chinese missionaries should be sent to teach in the aim and practice of natural theology, as we send missionaries to instruct them in revealed theology.”

Confucianism Is Consistent With Christianity

Ricci quickly determined that Confucianism was not a religion, but more like an academy which existed for the good of society. Confucius was not worshipped, but the Chinese would “praise him for the good teachings he left in his books . . . without, however, reciting any prayers nor asking for any

favor.” According to Leibniz, the Masters, and one’s own ancestors, were honored in rites whose goal was “to display the gratitude of the living as they cherish the rewards of Heaven, and to excite men to perform actions which render them worthy of the recognition of posterity.”

Ricci was not hesitant to challenge the popular opinion in Chinese society, especially among the literati whom he was trying to convert. After years of studying and translating the Confucian Classics, he recognized that the attempt to syncretize Confucianism with Buddhism and Daoism—a pantheistic conception of “Three Religions” which had been particularly espoused during the Mongol reign across Eurasia in the 13th and 14th Centuries—had greatly compromised the teachings of the Masters of antiquity. The teachings of Confucius and Mencius, he showed, were consistent with the Christian idea of a First Cause, God the Creator, Who created man according to His own nature; but they were totally inconsistent with the “All is One” animism of the Buddhist and Daoist sects.

Ricci wrote: “The commonest opinion held here among those who consider themselves the most wise, is to say that all three sects come together as one, and that you can hold them all at once. In this they deceive themselves and others, and lead to great disorder by its appearing to them that as far as religion is concerned, the more ways of talking about religion there are, all the more benefit will that bring to the kingdom.”

Nonetheless, Ricci befriended and debated a number of Buddhist and Daoist scholars, while consistently arguing against the acceptance of the syncretic “Three Religions” dogma. He concluded that if the Chinese would reject Buddhism and Daoism, and also reject polygamy and a few other relatively minor rites, they “could certainly become Christians, since the essence of their doctrine contains nothing contrary to the essence of the Catholic faith, nor would the Catholic faith hinder them in any way, but would indeed aid in that attainment of the quiet and peace of the republic which their books claim as their goal.”

Ricci translated the primary Chinese Classics into Latin, and wrote several tracts in Chinese that won him great respect and fame among the literati. These included a dialogue between a Western scholar and a Chinese scholar called *The True Idea of the Lord of Heaven*, and several translations, including Euclid’s *Elements* and scientific studies.

Working with Ricci on the Euclid translation was the remarkable Hsü Kuang-ch’i, known as Paul after his conversion to Christianity in Nanjing in 1600, under Father Ricci. Father Hsü was also a leading Confucian scholar and official, and was granted the highest honors as a scholar in 1604 at the famous Hanlin Academy in Beijing. He studied further with Ricci in Beijing from 1604 to 1607. Besides his philosophical and theological writings, he wrote a book on geometry, *Similarity And Difference In Mensuration*, looking at the Pythagorean method as developed in Greece and in China. At his death in 1633 he was considered the leading statesman in



Emperor Kang Hsi. Leibniz referred to him as a monarch “who almost exceeds human heights of greatness, being a god-like mortal, ruling by a nod of his head, who, however, is educated to virtue and wisdom . . . thereby earning the right to rule.”

China other than the Emperor himself.

Ricci believed that his knowledge of Renaissance science was inseparable from his knowledge of the Christian faith. He insisted that the leap in scientific progress in Renaissance Europe was not a “secret” of the West, but was the patrimony of all mankind. The same was true of the emerging Classical tradition of music in Europe—Ricci presented the court with a harpsichord, and wrote contrapuntal songs which he taught court officials to play and sing.

Just as Ricci found the Chinese of a moral disposition to embrace Christianity, so were they willing and anxious to enhance their own rich scientific and cultural heritage with the scientific ideas and methods which Ricci and some of the later Jesuits had mastered. Ricci understood that the central issue was the power of cognition as the basis for *knowing* things rather than just *learning* things. He wrote to the Chinese: “Investigation using reason can lead to scientific knowledge, while someone else’s opinions lead only to my own new opinion. Scientific knowledge is absence of doubt; opinion is always accompanied by doubt.”

Emperor Kang Hsi

Ricci died in 1610 without ever meeting the Emperor. His successors, however, established themselves as the official court astronomers and headed the government engineering bureaus. These positions were generally unaffected by the fall of the Ming Dynasty and the founding of the Qing Dynasty under the Manchu in 1644. The first Manchu emperor, in fact,

placed his son under the tutelage of the Jesuit fathers for training in both the physical and moral sciences.

This son was to become the Emperor Kang Hsi, whom Leibniz referred to as a monarch “who almost exceeds human heights of greatness, being a god-like mortal, ruling by a nod of his head, who, however, is educated to virtue and wisdom . . . thereby earning the right to rule.”

While Kang Hsi was receiving this training in Christian theology and Renaissance science, he also immersed himself in a study of the Confucian Classics, with daily debates over conceptual issues reflected in his diaries. This commitment eventually convinced the Chinese literati that they could support Kang Hsi as Emperor, despite his foreign Manchu heritage. After a series of rebellions in the south were militarily put down, the empire lived in relative peace throughout his long reign (1661-1722), and China’s first international treaty was signed, establishing the borders with Russia, negotiated in Latin, with Jesuits as intermediaries.

In 1692, with Kang Hsi established as a “sage ruler” and the Jesuits holding all leading positions in the astronomy and engineering bureaus, the Emperor issued an edict granting all Christians the right to teach, preach, and convert throughout the empire, subject only to the Ricci policy that scholars—i.e., civil servants—must maintain moral allegiance to the Confucian principles and continue to perform the rites and ceremonies connected to their offices. The eruption of the “Rites Controversy” thus disrupted an extraordinary potential to achieve what Ricci had identified as his greatest goal: the “universal conversion of the whole kingdom.”

The Rites Controversy

The conflict that led to the complete severing of relations between China and the West was a debate that took place almost entirely in Europe, and played a crucial role in the Reformation/Counter-Reformation conflicts that shook Europe and undermined the ecumenical efforts identified with Leibniz at the beginning of the 18th Century. The public issues arose from accusations that the Jesuits had condoned “pagan” practices and (perhaps intentionally) misinterpreted crucial Chinese terms relative to Confucian views of God. But the actual target of the attack was the Grand Design which Leibniz and his allies were creating to break the power of the Anglo-Venetian oligarchy, which vigorously opposed the dissemination of Renaissance science.

The opposition to Ricci’s policies emerged from a faction among the missionaries composed of Franciscans, Dominicans, and a few Jesuits. The Jesuit João Rodrigues from the Japan mission visited China in 1616 with the intent of imposing a prohibition against missionaries teaching mathematics or science! Rodrigues denounced Ricci’s collaboration with China’s literati, insisting that the method used by missionaries in Japan (insistence on total renunciation of all “pagan beliefs and rituals” for Christian converts) must be applied to China and Confucianism as well. His argument that this “hard line” was not only *necessary* theologically, but also *successful*, was

undermined when the Japanese began severe persecution of the Christians the following year.

Franciscans and Dominicans arrived in China in the 1630s, from Japan, the Philippines, Europe, and the missions in the Americas. The leading opponent of Ricci, and the major target of Leibniz's published defense of Ricci on the issue of the Rites (*Discourse on the Natural Theology of the Chinese*), was the Franciscan Antonio de St. Marie. The Chinese have the "gigantic presumption" to regard their sciences and "their so-absurd philosophy" as the only one in the world, he charged. "So the Fathers of the Society [the Jesuits] have gone to great pains to hide their errors under the cloak and guise of words with a heavenly tinge, whereas in reality beneath is concealed the pallor of hell." On Chinese history, he wrote: "What does it matter to our mission whether the ancient Chinese knew God, or didn't know Him, whether they named Him in one way or another? The question is completely indifferent. We have come here to announce the Holy Gospel, and not to be apostles of Confucius."

St. Marie had arrived in China in 1633 from the Philippines, spending only three years in China before returning to Rome to argue against the Jesuits. It should be noted that the Franciscans and Dominicans pointed to their success in the Americas in the conversion of whole cultures as proof of their method, demanding total renunciation of native pagan beliefs by all converts. That this could be true precisely because the native beliefs were pagan, but that Confucianism was not, was dismissed as heresy. One exception among the Dominicans, perhaps the only one, was the Dominican Bishop Gregory Lopez (Lo Wen-tsao), the only native Chinese Christian prelate of the 17th and 18th Centuries. He agreed totally with Ricci.

Venetian Efforts Go Into High Gear

The controversy remained largely a matter of theological debate throughout the 17th Century. Efforts of several opponents to draw the Pope into the controversy were side-stepped by the Pontiff. But soon after Kang Hsi issued the edict in 1692 granting full rights to Christian proselytizing, Venetian efforts to crush the mission went into high gear. In France, the great statesman and nation-builder Jean-Baptiste Colbert had initiated policies that resulted in a group of French Jesuits joining the China mission in the 1680s. But by the end of the century, an inquisitional investigation of a book published by one of the returning missionaries, Father Louis Le Comte, was launched at the Sorbonne.

The inquest was run by members of the Jansenist sect, followers of Cornelius Otto Jansen, a nominal Catholic whose "predestination" dogma echoed that of Calvin. They preached that all men were evil, with redemption only available through the grace of Christ, and only to a small number, "chosen in advance and destined to enter the Kingdom of Heaven." The Renaissance was their primary target, because, they claimed, it had alienated Christians from Jesus.

The Jansenists had become extremely powerful at the Sor-

bonne, and to a lesser extent in Rome. They led a general assault against the Jesuits, with the China issue playing a central role. The inquest of the book about the China mission resulted in the condemnation of several central aspects of Ricci's view on the Chinese conception of God and morality. The Jesuit author, Father Le Comte, in response to the charge that the Chinese were pagans who had no knowledge of the true God, asked how it could be that "in an empire so vast, so enlightened, established so solidly, and so flourishing . . . in number of inhabitants and in invention of almost all the arts, the Divinity has never been acknowledged? What of the reasoning of the Fathers of the Church, who, to prove the existence of God, have drawn on the agreement of all peoples, arguing that Nature has impressed the idea on them so deeply that nothing can efface it?"

As the fight in Europe intensified, the mission in China recognized that serious countermeasures were necessary. They decided to propose to Emperor Kang Hsi that he issue an edict in his own name clarifying the meaning of the terms in question and the meaning of the rites honoring ancestors. His response was unambiguous, especially on the two crucial issues: There was, in Chinese philosophy, an omnipotent deity who created and rules over the universe; and the rites of ancestor worship were signs of respect, without any superstitious beliefs in spirits existing in the stone tablets. As we shall see, even the authority of the sage Emperor did not deter the opponents of ecumenical peace and development.

The agitation in Europe finally succeeded in persuading Pope Clement XI, in 1704, to issue a Bull against Christian adherence to Confucian beliefs and rites, and a papal legate was sent to China to further investigate. The legate was at first somewhat reasonable, and in a meeting with Kang Hsi was nearly convinced of the Emperor's position. However, in a second meeting, he was joined by Msgr. Charles Maigrot, the Vicar Apostolic in Fukien, of the French Foreign Missions, who fanatically despised China's culture, its literati, and the Jesuits. Maigrot had learned little about the Chinese or their language, yet, in his meeting with Emperor Kang Hsi, he challenged the Emperor's knowledge of the meaning of Chinese terms. Kang Hsi was disgusted, and made clear that "the Doctrine of Confucius was the teaching of the empire, and it could not be touched if one wished that the missionaries remain in China." Maigrot was banished for his insolence.

When Kang Hsi later read the Papal Bull, he wrote: "On reading this proclamation, I can only conclude that Westerners are small-minded. . . . Now I have seen the Legate's proclamation, and it is just the same as Buddhist and Daoist heresies and superstitions. I have never seen such nonsense as this."

The demand that the Chinese denounce Confucianism in order to become Christian meant that no scholar in any official position—including teachers—could become a Christian without renouncing his position, and no Christian could become an official of any sort. To the Emperor, such a demand

was tantamount to insisting that his officials no longer be accountable to the moral code that had guided the nation for thousands of years—the “constitutional” foundation of society. Adopting the new, higher moral standards of Christianity posed no difficulty—in fact, it was encouraged—but that could in no way be interpreted as being a rejection of the natural law precepts of the Masters.

‘The Devil Leads Men Astray’

Kang Hsi banned Christianity after his meeting with Maigrot, but softened his position and tried for years to negotiate a solution. However, reaction had seized control of the process. A year after Leibniz’s death in 1714, a new Papal Bull reiterated the ban. Kang Hsi, dumbfounded, asked the missionaries if they had failed to convey his views to the Pope: “You have corrupted your teachings and disrupted the efforts of the former Westerners. This is definitely not the will of your God, for He leads men to good deeds. I have often heard from you Westerners that the devil leads men astray—this must be it.”

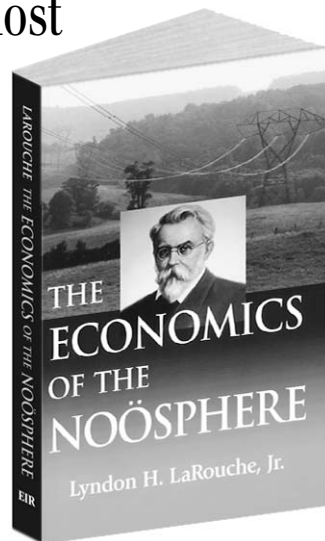
As late as 1720, the Emperor called a conference of all the missionaries and reiterated that for nearly 200 years the Christians had preached “without violating any laws of China.” He asked, how could Maigrot, “who did not even recognize the characters, presume to discuss the truth or falsehood of Chinese laws and principles?” But in 1721, after a

second papal legation made no concessions, Kang Hsi changed his perspective. His writings began to identify irreconcilable distinctions between East and West. By 1742, with yet another Papal Bull, any hope for saving the alliance was finished. Christianity was banned, Westerners expelled, and China was cut off from Western science and technology. The Papal Bull was not to be lifted until the 1940s.

The emperors who followed, after Kang Hsi’s death in 1722, maintained a few Jesuits in the court, but they were reduced to the status of advisers, with little hope of reopening the teaching and conversion process of either the literati or the masses. Both China and Europe were significantly set back. One hundred years later, a weakened China was prey to an evil, drug-running British Empire, which had emerged from the defeat of the republican forces in Europe. The infamous Opium Wars unleashed a century of wars and foreign colonial conquest. The Church, while renewing in some respects the effort to forge ecumenical peace in the search for truth among cultures, often played a role in facilitating the colonial policies which devastated China for more than 100 years, for which the current apology of Pope John Paul II is most appropriate.

Today, if the kind of Grand Design envisioned by Leibniz and Ricci is to succeed, the model of the ecumenical dialogue of cultures between East and West must be reborn, in the spirit of Christian *agapē* and Confucian *ren*.

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Breakaway Ally: How Reagan's 1982 Peace Was Drowned In Blood

by Michele Steinberg

On Oct. 12, 2001, when Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's spokesmen attacked President George W. Bush for speaking of a "vision" of a Palestinian state, they were implicitly warning that the radical forces in Israel's military will massacre civilians by the hundreds, if that's what it takes to stop a U.S. peace initiative.

However implicit the threat, that is exactly what Sharon Cabinet Minister Dan Nevaah meant when he said that Israel will not accept "ideas which include at their core the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. . . . *All history shows that when the Americans put a plan on the table, like the famous Reagan plan, the programs did not achieve their aims*" (emphasis added). The same day, Raanan Gissin, Sharon's spokesman and ardent defender of the "preventive assassination" program, added: "Jerusalem will remain the capital of the Jewish people. . . . The United States will never submit to Israel, by surprise, a plan for resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The United States has never imposed a plan that both sides have not accepted." Sharon has demanded to clear any U.S. plans in advance.

A retired U.S. diplomat confirmed to *EIR* that there was a Ronald Reagan peace plan issued in September 1982, which had been worked out primarily in discussions between the Reagan Administration and Arab leaders, including Jordan's King Hussein. On Sept. 1, 1982, in a national address, President Reagan presented the plan to the American public without having allowed the Israelis to "censor" what they didn't like.

According to Washington sources, because Reagan violated this "rule," the plan was "Dead on Arrival," with Gen. Ariel Sharon's massacre of 800 Palestinian civilian men, women, and children at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps

in Lebanon weeks afterward—Sept. 18, 1982. According to another high-level U.S. source, who has spent two decades working on a Middle East peace initiative, it was the bombing of the U.S. Marines barracks in Beirut in October 1983, in which over 200 Marines were killed, that was the "final nail in the coffin" for the Reagan peace initiative. By March 30, 1984, under intense Congressional pressure, Reagan pulled the United States out of the UN multinational force that he had helped create.

Without these specific war and terrorist actions, said this source, a peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians could well have been finalized a decade ago.

This story—the 1982 "breakaway ally scenario"—should be a bitter reminder to Washington officials and others, that the right-wing pro-Likud party faction in Washington, especially among the "Wolfowitz cabal" (named for Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz) lie when they try to link Ariel Sharon to the "Reagan tradition," to manipulate President Bush and Republicans.

The LaRouche Factor

The bloody attacks on the Reagan peace plan are a chilling parallel with today's events, a parallel which has been uniquely identified by Lyndon LaRouche, the 2004 Democratic Presidential pre-candidate. Specifically, the Oct. 17, 2001 assassination of Israeli Minister of Tourism Rehavam Ze'evi, and the June 1982 attempt on the life of Israeli Ambassador to London Shlomo Argov, served as identical ruses, used by right-wing forces in the Israeli military to stop any peace initiative.

On June 8, 1982, LaRouche—who had been a 1980 Democratic Presidential contender—announced that "Israeli and



Many remember the destruction of Beirut and massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila camps there; both results of then-Defense Minister Ariel Sharon's Israeli invasion of June 1982. Few remember that it was President Ronald Reagan's Mideast peace initiative, that Sharon was out to kill with this Israeli "breakaway ally" atrocity.

other sources" had provided corroborated intelligence to him indicating that "British intelligence services orchestrated the Abu Nidal gang's assassination attack" against Argov. LaRouche noted that Argov's "security screen" was dropped in London "precisely at the time the attack was deployed," and that the British government had "stripped" Argov of his security forces prior to the attack. LaRouche exposed that then-Defense Minister Ariel Sharon — who promptly used the attack on Argov to invade Lebanon — had "secret agreements" with controllers of the Abu Nidal organization to facilitate Israel's occupying Lebanon. Most importantly, LaRouche revealed that "Prime Minister Menachem Begin had been attempting to prevent an Israeli military invasion of Lebanon" under agreements with Reagan, while "Sharon and U.S. Secretary of State [Alexander] Haig, London and Paris have been conniving behind the backs" of Reagan and Begin to get their invasion.

To stop the impending disaster that began with Sharon's green light to invade Lebanon on June 8, 1982, LaRouche said that Reagan, then on a "useless protracted junket" arranged by Haig, "must come home immediately, fire Haig, [Defense Secretary] Weinberger, [Fed Chairman Paul] Volcker, and a few others, and for the first time since he became President, actually begin to take charge of the situation." In fact, Haig was ousted as Secretary of State in short order, due to a combination of his secret deal with Sharon over invading Lebanon, and his collusion with British Foreign Secretary Lord Peter

Carrington's preparations, in early 1982, for the British war with Argentina over the Malvinas.

But the bloodletting in Lebanon was fully under way, and would get even worse, as Reagan failed to unconditionally defeat Sharon's "breakaway ally scenario" in Lebanon, or its authors in London and Washington.

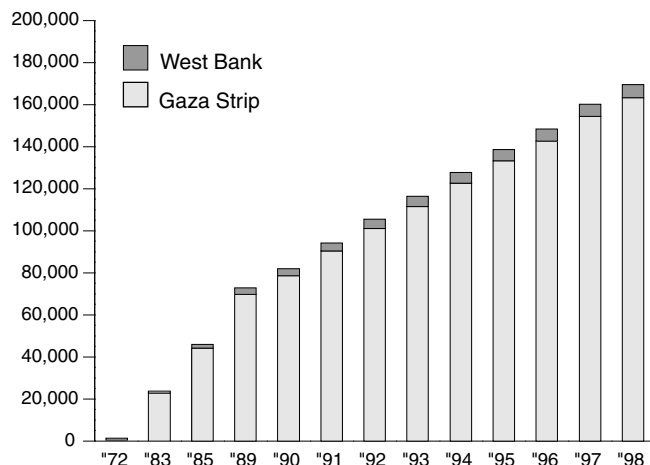
Precursor To A Palestinian State

But on Sept. 1, 1982, despite the months of bloody battles in Lebanon after the Israeli invasion, and despite the attempt by the Israelis and the Lebanese Phalangist militias to wipe out the Palestine Liberation Organization, headed by Yasser Arafat, Reagan deployed U.S. Marines to protect the PLO fighters evacuating Lebanon for Tunisia. It was not the finest strategy, but it was clear that Reagan intended that the place for Palestinians to be was not Lebanon, Jordan, or some other country — but Palestine; and he had been vigorously discussing this option with leaders in the Middle East and Washington.

In Reagan's Sept. 1, 1982 national address, he said, quoting Scripture, that it was "time to follow after the things which make for peace," and laid out an "initiative for a far-reaching peace effort." "The war in Lebanon," said the President, "has demonstrated many things, but two consequences are key to the peace process. First, the military losses of the PLO have not diminished the yearning of the Palestinian people for a just solution of their claims; and second, while Israel's military

FIGURE 1

Settler Population In The West Bank And Gaza Strip, 1972-98



As long ago as 1982, President Ronald Reagan identified the growth of Israeli settlements in the Occupied Territories, as a primary obstacle to American peace efforts. Twenty years later, when the Mitchell Commission emphasized the same point, the settlements had grown by almost ten times.

successes in Lebanon have demonstrated that its armed forces are second to none in the region, they alone cannot bring just and lasting peace to Israel and her neighbors.”

Reagan said the evacuation from Lebanon “dramatizes more than ever the homelessness of the Palestinians”; the Palestinians’ “legitimate rights” and “just requirements” must be resolved “at the negotiating table” in the framework of Camp David, where the return of the Sinai to Egypt had just been effected in April 1982, by Begin and Egypt’s President Hosni Mubarak. In his speech, Reagan revealed that it was the Israeli invasion of Lebanon that had stymied taking the Camp David process between Egypt and Israel to his intended next step: Israel and Palestine.

The main points of Reagan’s five-page speech are much in accord with the proposals of the Mitchell Commission of 2001; especially, on the question of Israeli settlements. Reagan specified:

- Palestinian inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza must have “full autonomy over their own affairs . . . [with] due consideration to the principle of self government”;
- “A five-year period of transition, which would begin after free elections for a self-governing Palestinian authority”: This would prove that “Palestinian autonomy poses no threat to Israel’s security”;
- “The United States will not support the use of any additional land for the purpose of [Israeli] settlements during the

transitional [five-year] period. Indeed, the immediate adoption of a settlement freeze by Israel, more than any other action, could create the confidence needed”;

- “Further settlement activity is in no way necessary for the security of Israel,” but in fact diminishes the confidence needed for negotiations.

The President explicitly said that he was *not* supporting a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, but also that he “will not support annexation or permanent control by Israel” of those territories. Rather, said Reagan, he envisioned “self-government by the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan,” and the full adherence by Israel to the “withdrawal provision of UN Security Council resolution 242” as it applies to “all fronts, including the West Bank and Gaza.”

He proudly announced that the preparation of this proposal had been accomplished “for once” with “no premature leaks” as U.S. “Ambassadors in Israel, Egypt, Jordan, and Saudia Arabia . . . presented to their host governments the proposals in full detail.” He also called for direct negotiations between the Palestinians and Israelis, and said that the “final status” of Jerusalem “should be decided through negotiation.”

The proposal was greeted with enthusiasm by Lebanese leaders, and by the Mayor of Bethlehem, a Palestinian. But, secretly, the Begin government went into fits, special meetings, and sabotage. By Sept. 18, the hoped-for the peace initiative was killed. The White House issued a terse sentence that accompanied an official Presidential statement. “On Sept. 17, hundreds of Palestinian men, women, and children had been murdered in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps south of Beirut,” noted the White House.

President Reagan’s statement was very strong. “I was horrified to learn this morning of the killing of Palestinians which has taken place in Beirut,” he said. “All people of decency must share our outrage and revulsion of the murders, which included women and children. . . . During the negotiations leading to the PLO withdrawal from Beirut, we were assured that Israeli forces would not enter West Beirut. We also understood that following withdrawal, Lebanese Army units would establish control over that city. We were thwarted in this effort by the Israeli occupation that took place beginning on Wednesday [Sept. 14]. We strongly opposed Israel’s move into West Beirut following the assassination of . . . President Bashir Gemayel, both because we believed it wrong in principle, and for fear that it would provoke further fighting. Israel . . . in military control of Beirut, claimed that its moves would prevent the kind of tragedy which has now occurred.”

The United States had “summoned the Israeli Ambassador,” said Reagan, “to demand that the Israeli government immediately withdraw its forces from West Beirut.” He added that Israel must “commence serious negotiations which will, first, lead to the earliest possible disengagement of Israeli forces from Beirut and, second, to an agreed frame-

work for the early withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.”

In response to the Sabra and Shatila tragedy, Reagan pledged to vigorously pursue his peace initiative of Sept. 1, and to take “full account of the needs of the Palestinian people.” But, the fanatic forces inside the Israeli military and religious right, in parallel with the terrorist counterparts among anti-American Islamic groups, began a series of operations to drive the United States out of Lebanon. Israel did not withdraw from Lebanon until 1999, when Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak ordered the withdrawal in conjunction with attempts to reach an Israeli-Palestinian peace accord.

Pre-Meditated Massacre

To understand the violence of the Sharon government’s response to reports that Bush and U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell had been planning—prior to Sept. 11, 2001—to launch a peace initiative including plans for finalizing a Palestinian state, the reader must look back 20 years to the right-wing Likudniks’ attempts to stop peace accords—at any cost.

During this time, the “breakaway ally” moves have become almost a standard tactic in so-called Israeli “diplomacy.” Two of the most notorious Israeli war crimes fit this category: the November 1981 bombing of the Osirak nuclear energy facility in Iraq; and the June 1982 invasion of Lebanon, ordered by Sharon after the assassination attempt on Shlomo Argov.

When Prime Minister Begin ordered the Israeli air strikes on the Iraqi nuclear power plant, in November 1981, it was only weeks after the Oct. 6 assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. With Sadat’s Egypt having been the first Arab country since the 1967 war to reach a peace agreement with Israel, his murder by Muslim extremists, could have finished off any hopes for a peace process. As Arab leaders, especially incoming Egyptian President Mubarak, struggled to prevent the outbreak of new wars with Israel, Begin went forward with the attack on Iraq, thereby inflaming the Arab world against Israel—and against the United States, which had pledged to uphold Israeli “security.” The Reagan Administration took extraordinary care to rescue the Egypt-Israel accord by ensuring that the Israeli-occupied Sinai would be returned to Egypt on schedule, *despite* the killing of Sadat.

But U.S. equivocation after the unprovoked Israeli attack on Iraq, was a signal to the forces led by General Sharon that they could, literally, “get away with murder.” Prime Minister Begin had resisted the pressure to bring in Ariel Sharon, already an accused war criminal for his attacks on defenseless Palestinians, as Defense Minister. By Spring 1982, Sharon had won the appointment, and began his Lebanon scheme.

According to Ze’ev Schiff, in his book, *The War In Lebanon*, Sharon operated a virtual “government within a government” from the Defense Ministry, through his networks in the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF). Schiff, who is now the military

correspondent for the Israeli newspaper *Ha’aretz*, reported that Sharon’s inner circle had detailed, multi-layered war plans for taking over Lebanon. Sharon had figured, wrote Schiff, that until all the Muslims were removed from political power in the Lebanese Parliament, and replaced with the Christians in the Phalange, Israel would never be safe.

After months of secret meetings by Sharon and his IDF loyalists with the various warlord leaders of the Phalange militias, Sharon fashioned a military deal. The Christians would fight the Palestinians and Syrians in Beirut, when Israel invaded Lebanon. However, in Spring 1982, Sharon’s plan received a serious setback when his Washington contact, Secretary of State Haig, who had written a letter giving a green light to Sharon’s Lebanon scheme, was overruled by the White House.

In fact, instead of a Washington okay for invading Lebanon, there were talks between Begin and Reagan to pursue a peace strategy. But, on June 4, 1982, with the shooting of Argov, any “restraints” from Washington evaporated. Though the alleged perpetrator, Abu Nidal, was an enemy of Arafat and the PLO, and though there was ample evidence of Israeli and British intelligence involvement in the shooting, Argov’s bloody shirt became the pretext for the deep invasion and permanent occupation of Lebanon.

On June 17, 2001, British Broadcasting Corporation’s television show “Panorama,” reopened the issue of the Lebanon war, and particularly the Sabra and Shatila massacres, pointing the finger at current Prime Minister Sharon in a broadcast entitled “The Accused.” Witnesses from the United States, Israel, and Lebanon made clear that Sharon knew that the Phalange militia were going to conduct “revenge” murders of civilians—the Israelis had told the Americans as much one day before the massacre. Morris Draper, the U.S. envoy to Lebanon, told BBC’s reporter Fergal Keane, that there was more at play than just Sharon’s brutality.

Draper told BBC, “America said that the women and children and others left behind [when the PLO evacuated] would be able to live in peace, as long as they obeyed the law and Lebanese jurisdiction. It was as simple as that—a very simple document. I wrote it.” Israel signed it, and then violated the promise to President Reagan.

President Bush should be armed with the real history of Reagan’s peace effort—not with the lies from the Sharon gang in Israel, and the treasonous Wolfowitz cabal in Washington.

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Britain's Blair Launches 'New Empire' Offensive

by Mark Burdman

British Prime Minister Tony Blair's 10 Downing Street Cabinet Office and the British Foreign Office have launched an unabashed public campaign, for Great Britain to be at the helm of a re-shaped Anglo-American world empire. The British monarchy's Prime Minister and his entourage are shamelessly exploiting the terror atrocities of Sept. 11 in New York and Washington, to reintroduce the worst features of the heyday of the Victorian-era British Empire. As stated by the architects of the policy, the aim, is to eliminate the institution of the sovereign nation-state, and to return humanity to the bestial feudal state of affairs that prevailed before the 15th-Century Renaissance.

The immediate focal point of the neo-imperial offensive, is to further crush, and then occupy as colonies, nations—such as Afghanistan—that the Blairites and their American collaborators declare to be “failed states.” In all cases, as for Afghanistan, these so-called “failed states” have been driven into desperation by wars fostered primarily by the Anglo-American and Israeli intelligence services, and by the austerity “conditionalities” policies of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The chief public advocate for this neo-imperial campaign is senior British diplomat Robert Cooper, Blair's chief foreign policy guru, at the Cabinet Office. In mid-October, Cooper was seconded to the Foreign Office, on a special mission. This was revealed by Foreign Secretary Jack Straw, in an Oct. 22 speech entitled “Order Out Of Chaos: The Future Of Afghanistan,” to the International Institute of Strategic Studies in London. Straw announced that “we have now appointed a senior Foreign Office official, Robert Cooper, . . . to develop our thinking, and to work, with the United States, and other international partners, on a consensus.” Straw praised Cooper as an “author and thinker on post-modern states.”

Prior to this announcement, Cooper had authored a “signal” policy piece, for the October edition of the British establishment magazine *Prospect*, entitled “The Next Empire,” in which he argued for imposing what is announced in the headline. According to British sources, the piece was written before the atrocities of Sept. 11 and published soon thereafter. Several observers wonder if this sequence of events lends credibility to suspicions that there was a substantial British hand in what happened on Sept. 11, and that plans were already in motion to exploit events such as those that occurred on that date, to create the conditions for realizing this strategy.

'Blairzymandias'

Cooper and his imperial propaganda have received extensive hype in the British press. On Oct. 10, the London *Financial Times*' leading “free trade” propagandist, Martin Wolf, wrote a piece entitled “The Need For A New Imperialism,” in which he hailed Blair's desire to “reorder the world,” centered around “a transformation in our approach to national sovereignty.” Wolf favorably cited a 1996 piece by Cooper, re-issued in 2000, entitled “The Postmodern State And The World Order,” written for two preeminent Blair-era think-tanks, Demos and the Foreign Policy Centre. In it, Cooper had called for a “defensive imperialism” against “pre-modern states.”

On Oct. 25, the London *Daily Telegraph*, owned by arch-imperialist Hollinger Corp. chief executive Conrad Black, published an article entitled “Whitehall Prophet Of The New Imperialism.” It revealed that Blair has been reading Rudyard Kipling, and is telling people that he, Blair, is working on a modern version of Kipling's “white man's burden,” the which would be an attempt by “the West” to “create a new kind of empire.” The *Telegraph* affirmed that “there is much thinking going on in Downing Street and the Foreign Office about how ‘empire’ should be re-invented,” and that the “key adviser” on this is Cooper.

The Oct. 28 London *Sunday Times* reprinted a chunk of Cooper's *Prospect* article, under the title, “Dawn Chorus For The New Age Of Empire.”

On Oct. 31, the London *Guardian* published a commentary by Oxford University Professor of History Niall Ferguson, entitled “Welcome The New Imperialism.” While not specifically referring to Cooper's writings, Ferguson was on the same wavelength, saying that what is needed now is “international colonial rule,” and calling upon the United States to step forward as a “formal empire,” a “self-confident imperial power” that could operate as the “global hegemon.”

This campaign is being greeted with a “thumbs down” by numbers of British strategists opposed to Blair, as *EIR* has learned from recent discussions. Their voice was expressed by a cartoon by Steve Bell in the *Guardian*, right next to the Ferguson piece. It depicted a giant statue of Blair's face, in the desert, sinking into the sand, with the caption, “Blairzymandias.” This is a play on the famous poem “Ozymandias,” by Percy Bysshe Shelley, on how the grand imperial designs of an Egyptian Pharaoh, to whom Shelley gave the name Ozymandias, crumbled into dust. That poem has been cited by Lyndon LaRouche, as a metaphor, for the fate awaiting today's would-be imperial masters of the planet.

Reversing The Renaissance

Early on in his “The Next Empire” article, Cooper wrote: “Empire is indeed history. Almost all that we know of history, from Sumeria through Babylon, Egypt, the Assyrian empire, through Persia, Greece, Rome, Byzantium, through the Chinese dynasties, the Carolingian empire, the Holy Roman Em-

pire, the Mongol empire, the Habsburg empire, the Spanish, Portuguese, British, French, Dutch, and German empires to the Soviet empire, plus many that we have forgotten, all of this suggests that the history of the world is the history of empire.”

Soon thereafter, he got to the crux of the matter, that what he is proposing, is an attack on the nation-state institution that grew out of the 15th Century’s Italy-centered Golden Renaissance. As LaRouche has stressed, the nation-state was created, as uniquely capable of realizing the general welfare for the entire population, and of transcending the era when masses of humans were treated as cattle. Cooper and his ilk prefer a return to the system of imperial Rome and pre-Renaissance feudalism.

Cooper wrote: “Compared with empire, the nation-state is a new concept; the small state began to emerge with the Renaissance and the nation became a major political factor only in the 19th Century. For most of the period since, the nation-state has been confined to a limited part of the globe. Not by accident, this has also been the most dynamic part. The non-existence of empire, however, is historically without precedent. The question is whether this can last. There are both theoretical and practical reasons for thinking that it won’t. . . .

“The practical problem with a world of nation-states is that many of the post-colonial states have weak national identities, weak political institutions, and weak economies. Some of these—especially in Africa—are near collapse. Others, in Central Asia, Southeast Asia, or the South Pacific do not look healthy. In many cases one would have to say that self-government and self-determination have failed. . . .

“The weak states of the post-imperial world are disastrous for those who live in them and are bad for the rest of us. . . . The risks for neighbors are especially important. The domino theory was false for communism, but it may be true for chaos. . . .

“All the conditions seem to be there for a new imperialism. There are countries which need an outside force to create stability (recently in Sierra Leone a rally called for the return of British rule). . . . And though there are fewer missionaries today, there is a new class of imperial auxiliaries in the form of NGOs [non-governmental organizations] trying to help people who need it and preaching human rights—the secular religion of today’s world . . . a system in which the strong protect the weak, in which the efficient and well governed export stability and liberty, in which the world is open for investment and growth—all of these seem eminently desirable. If empire has not often been like that, it has frequently been better than the chaos and barbarism that it replaced.”

IMF, Globalization: The New Forms Of Empire

Such verbiage is self-serving, hypocritical sophistry. Typical of the doctor whose cure is designed to kill the patient, Cooper praised the IMF and globalization, as exemplary of

the “imperialist” policies he is recommending! This polemic has the perverse usefulness of confirming *EIR*’s warning, that IMF policies and globalization are just re-treaded forms of imperialism. But the “weak economies, chaos and barbarism” in the “weak states,” are a direct consequence of the imposition of policies typified by the IMF and “globalization.”

Cooper lauded the policies of the IMF and its “interference in domestic affairs,” as fostering “good governance” and creating the conditions for foreign investments. He commented: “How different is this from what Lord Cromer and others did in Egypt?” This is a reference to the Anglo-French control of Egyptian finances, beginning in 1875, the which, Cooper wrote, “sounds remarkably like a rather strict IMF program.” This IMF-focussed system, Cooper asserted, is the core of what he calls “the imperialism of globalization.”

(In his article, Oxford’s Ferguson wrote that “Globalization is a fancy word for imperialism. . . . However you dress it up, whatever rhetoric you may use, it is not very different in practice to what Great Britain did in the 19th Century.”)

Cooper concluded by recommending that the European Union evolve into a new structure called “cooperative empire,” an alternative name for which could be “Commonwealth”—as in the Queen’s British Commonwealth. He wrote, “Like Rome, this Europe would provide its citizens with some laws, some coins, and the occasional road.” This would be “a noble dream”—or, better said, the dream of a degraded lackey of nobility.

Cooper has had a heavy travel itinerary, in an attempt to implement his proposed policy. After Straw announced Cooper’s new coordinating role on Oct. 22, Cooper headed off to the crisis zone, making his first stops in Iran and Pakistan. Supposedly, he is trying to concoct a scheme for a UN protectorate for a “post-Taliban Afghanistan.”

During the week of Oct. 22, Blair met Prince Charles, to discuss the Royal Heir’s role in mobilizing Muslim support for the war in Afghanistan.

Beginning the week of Oct. 22, a virtual brigade of British government officials has been in Washington, including Straw, Defense Minister Geoff Hoon, and Blair’s chief “spin doctor,” Alastair Campbell, recently upgraded to be 10 Downing Street director of strategy and communications. Blair himself is on the latest of several post-Sept. 11 international tours, taking him, this time, to Syria, Israel, Palestine, and Saudi Arabia.

Blair’s freneticism has earned him some new nicknames, from those not pleased by his arrogant profiling. Maverick British writer John Laughland, in the Oct. 27 *Spectator* magazine, dubbed Blair “the Groupie of the New World Order.” Meanwhile, the more frenetic he gets, the more the support, in Britain, for the war in Afghanistan and related adventures, wanes, according to polls released on Oct. 30. And, the more vocal the opposition to Blair becomes, typified by a piece in the Oct. 29 *Daily Mirror* entitled, “This War Is A Fraud.”

Blairzymandias, anyone?

Israeli Activist Lobbies U.S. Congress For Peace

by Suzanne Rose

Israeli activist Uri Avnery, at a press conference on Capitol Hill on Oct. 25, announced support for a renewed peace effort between Palestinians and Israelis. Avnery represents the Israeli peace group Gush Shalom. A longtime political activist who fought in the Jewish underground against the British occupation of Palestine, and an author, Avnery founded the political party Haolem Hazeh, and won a seat in the Knesset (parliament). There, he advocated peaceful coexistence with the Palestinians. In 1974, he secretly met with Palestine Liberation Organization officials, and in July 1982 he held an historic meeting in Beirut with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-Ga.) convened the press conference with the support of Reps. Mel Watt (D-N.C.), John Dingell (D-Mich.), John Conyers (D-Mich.), and others. Several American pro-peace Jewish organizations also participated and are sponsoring Avnery's tour of the United States.

Avnery's appearance on Capitol Hill is strategically important, because discussion there of the Arab-Israeli conflict has been dominated by the most rabid anti-peace elements of the Zionist lobby. Outspoken opponents of peace at International Relations Committee hearings on the Sept. 11 attacks, Reps. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), Gary Ackerman (D-N.Y.), Robert Wexler (D-Fla.), have been demanding of U.S. officials that the Palestine Authority be declared a terrorist organization that deserves the "final solution." At hearings with Secretary of State Colin Powell on Oct. 24, the discussion was dominated by the rantings of this group. Lantos told Powell, "If a U.S. pilot killed bin Laden, he would be given the Congressional medal. If Israel targets assassins, they are condemned. It is hypocrisy to criticize our allies for actions we engage in. Israel is a democratic ally and a friend. Are they entitled to pursue terrorists against them?" None of these Congressmen raised the issue of a Mideast peace plan at this or other hearings.

Avnery told Congress that peace supporters among Israeli and American Jews are alive and well. He praised the statements of President George Bush and Powell in support of a Palestinian state. His four-point program—to end Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, support a Palestinian state in the Occupied Territories, establish the right of return for refugees, and support Jerusalem as a shared capital—injects rationality into the discussion. He said that now is the opportune time for the administration to step forward

with a clear peace initiative. Without it, the region is headed toward a bloodbath. "We need a massive intervention to stop the blood from flowing," he said, clearly recognizing that the Israeli military is on the verge of a new, perhaps catastrophic escalation.

'An Obstruction To Peace'

Avnery gave the lie to the common wisdom that the Israeli population no longer supports peace. He said that they are demoralized by the failure of the recent talks, but would support a serious proposal from the outside. According to Avnery, his views are endorsed by a large segment of American Jewish public opinion. However, he does not find this sentiment in the leadership of the major Jewish organizations or the Jewish lobby in Congress, which he called an "obstruction to peace." He said that their blank check to the Israeli government of Ariel Sharon is not improving stability.

Avnery said he was amazed by the welcome he has received in his U.S. tour so far. "Something has changed in the Jewish community in the U.S. People realize that automatic support for the Israeli government policy is mistaken. People who love and support Israel have a duty to tell them what is right and what is wrong."

There are growing anti-American and anti-Israeli emotions in the Mideast because of the violence, Avnery said, in motivating a renewed peace effort as in the interest of America and Israel. "The daily bloodletting in our conflict with the Palestinians creates terrible rage against the U.S. . . . It is ineffectual to bomb and pursue Osama bin Laden, while daily, things are happening to create new rage."

Avnery had come to Capitol Hill to attempt to tell Congress—which has been passing one-sided anti-Palestinian resolutions because of the perceived power of the Zionist lobby—not to clip the wings of a new peace effort. "Don't be afraid of Sharon. If the Israelis elected the horse of Caligula, the American Jewish community would support him," he said.

Statements of support were issued by Watt and Dingell. Watt said, "The voice of Israel is not monolithic. The voice of America is not a monolith. I encourage the public to be cognizant of a growing need to listen to a variety of views. It is of grave international importance to get to a resolution in the Middle East. We have to hear the voices of peace and justice and understand those voices will prevail."

Dingell released the text of a floor statement he had made that morning, endorsing the Mitchell Commission Report, which, earlier this year, outlined steps needed to achieve a Middle East peace. He introduced a resolution backed by the administration and 25 colleagues in support of the report. Criticizing the Israeli moves into Palestinian cities, he said, "Mr. Speaker, as we wage war on terrorism, we must be careful to remember that while we have many allies, we must not allow any single country to use this conflict to justify any and all actions they take in their national interest."

Bin Laden Puppetmasters Smoked Out In Balkans

by Umberto Pascali

The mid-October revelations that an Osama bin Laden terrorist training camp is operating in the U.S.-controlled zone of Kosovo, are only the tip of the iceberg. Now, in a sort of “Operation Truth,” Macedonian and other sources have begun to reveal publicly what until now had been known to only a relatively small group of people, about the narco-terrorist connections between the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) and the Taliban, and between these two groups and high-level U.S. and British intelligence agencies. Operation Truth is now affecting the strategic domain, provoking a reevaluation of the conventional way of viewing “international terrorism.” The path leads to those strategists who have used terrorism as a weapon of irregular warfare.

The story of bin Laden’s right-hand man, Ayman “The Doctor” Zawahiri, and the Balkan activities of the latter’s brother, have shocked a large number of people. How is it possible that such a high-level official of the bin Laden gang is able to run a training camp for the KLA near the Kosovo village of Ropotovo, in the middle of an area controlled by the United States? How is it possible that Zawahiri’s brother, as reliable sources report, was (and still reportedly is) in charge of KLA operations in the KLA-occupied area of neighboring Macedonia? How is it possible that the Zawahiri-led gang of international mercenaries could move, without any hindrance, from NATO-controlled Kosovo into Macedonia?

Bin Laden And The Albanian Mafia

“A group of 50 mujahideen has reportedly entered Macedonia via Kosovo and taken up positions in the mountains of Skopaska Crna Gora nearby Skopje. They are digging trenches and preparing the terrain,” according to the Macedonian daily *Dnevnik*, which quoted intelligence sources. “An Egyptian national, the younger brother of Ayman al-Zawahiri—the commander of al-Qaeda responsible for the Balkan operations—is in charge of the terrorist groups that recently entered Macedonia.” Intelligence sources said that Zawahiri intends to expand the al-Qaeda struggle in the Balkans, while his younger brother Mohamed has been charged with recruiting Islamic fundamentalists, to be trained for terrorist suicide actions.

“The mujahideen gang of the [KLA’s] 113 Brigade,

named Ismet Jashari, comprised of 25 to 30 people, and the rapid intervention unit called Baruti entered the Macedonian village of Matejce on Oct. 18 and prevented a convoy of displaced persons from entering the village. The terrorists had been stationed at a Kosovo training camp near the village of Ropotovo in the U.S.-run sector [Multinational Brigade East]. Zawahiri was in charge of the terrorist training camp.”

Interpol Discovers Mafia-Terror Links

As shocking as these revelations are, they are only the beginning. Macedonian sources have confirmed what *EIR* has detailed concerning the drug connection between Afghanistan’s Taliban and the “Albania mafia.” On Oct. 23, Gwen McClure of Interpol’s Criminal Subdivision officially informed a group of parliamentarians from NATO countries that Interpol has evidence that bin Laden is linked to Albanian gangs which have taken over the growing web of crime across Europe. Their investigations have also shown that bin Laden deployed one of his top military commanders for an elite KLA unit during the NATO war in Kosovo.

The Interpol confirmation of the direct collaboration between bin Laden networks and the NATO-KLA operations during the bombing of Yugoslavia in 1999, is further confirmed by an article in the Swiss financial daily *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, on Oct. 25: “According to Egyptian and French intelligence services, in the late 1990s, bin Laden brought 500 Arab mujahideen to Tirana [Albania]. They are reported to have fought side by side with the KLA and to have been involved in the most brutal acts of revenge against Serbian civilians.”

McClure also stated that a meeting took place in Albania, in the presence of bin Laden, according to Albanian police. Several Algerian terrorists were present at the meeting. “It was during this meeting,” she stressed, “that many structures and networks were established for propaganda and fundraising activities and for providing the Algerian armed groups with logistical support.” During and immediately after the Kosovo war, when the KLA took over the province, heroin and weapons trafficking exploded unchecked. The so-called “Albanian mafia” ended up controlling 80% of the heroin distribution in Western Europe, when Kosovo had become a NATO protectorate.

The criminal and the terrorist networks have become an indistinguishable entity, with a multiplying destructive effect. “These crime syndicates have formed alliances of convenience and are willing to cooperate or make business arrangements with other organized crime groups,” McClure told the parliamentarians. She also said that Interpol has evidence of the involvement of anti-Russia Chechnya separatists in the crime/terrorist ring.

Al-Zawahiri’s brother is most likely right now inside Macedonia leading a gang of ideological mercenaries in another major KLA assault against the country. Al-Zawahiri was in Albania participating in the KLA offensive against



The NATO command in Kosovo. All the ethnic Albanian guerrilla groups in Kosovo and in Macedonia turn out to be connected to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda; yet these groups have been continuously supported and favored by U.S., British, and NATO forces there, against the moderate, mass-based ethnic Albanian political leadership inside Kosovo.

Yugoslavia in 1999. According to the Arabic daily *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* of April 16, 1999, "Sources close to the fundamentalist tendency in London have revealed that Ayman al-Zawahiri, leader of the [Egyptian] 'Armed Jihad' organization, is currently" in Albania. One source reported, "Al-Zawahiri and Abu-al-Faraj travelled to Albania some weeks ago, heading a company of Arab mujahideen." The sources quoted by the newspaper said that al-Zawahiri was living "in tragic conditions in Albania" because Albania "is now in the grip of U.S. intelligence." Al-Zawahiri was tried *in absentia* in a military court in Cairo as a prime suspect in the case of the "returnees from Albania," a group of Egyptian terrorists who had been active in Albania.

'The Afghan Trap'

However, despite the "grip of U.S. intelligence," al-Zawahiri was not arrested while "under siege" in Albania. He was able to return to Afghanistan. Why?

Observers call attention to a short article which appeared from the Egyptian Mideast News Agency on Sept. 8, 1996, entitled "Al-Jihad Terrorist Claims Strong CIA Terror Ties." It read: "An important cadre in the al-Jihad organization, who has returned from Afghanistan, has disclosed that there are strong relations between the CIA and British intelligence on one side, and terrorist leaders in Egypt and the Arab countries. Ahmad Rashid, the former ideologue of the Jihad, said that *Ayman al-Zawahiri, the military commander of the Jihad organization, had asked the CIA for \$50 million early in the 1990s to stage a coup in Egypt*" (emphasis added).

Other reports say that it was actually a man called al-Amriki ("the American" in Arabic) who made the offer. The \$50 million offer was accompanied with the assurance that the United States would not interfere with an "Islamist" takeover of Egypt, and allegedly proposed a *modus vivendi* between U.S. forces and the "Islamists" in the Balkans.

Reportedly, al-Amriki was known among Islamist circles as a CIA go-between to various militant groups especially connected to the Afghan Jihad. And, connections among the CIA, British intelligence, and Afghan "fighters" are nothing secret or surprising, given that Western agencies provided support, training, logistics, and financing for those who were willing to fight against the Soviets in Afghanistan.

In January 1998, in an interview with the French journal *Le Nouvel Observateur*, former U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, an advocate of a "Clash of Civilizations" between the West and Islam, confirmed that, indeed, secret CIA support to the mujahideen started six months before the date given officially. The secret support was intended as a provocation to the Russians, to lure them into the "Afghan trap." Brzezinski stated: "According to the official version of history, CIA aid to the mujahideen began during 1980, that is to say, after the Soviet army invaded Afghanistan, on Dec. 24, 1979. But the reality, secretly guarded until now, is completely the opposite: Indeed, it was July 3, 1979 that President Carter signed the first directive for secret aid to the opponents of the pro-Soviet regime in Kabul. And that very day, I wrote a note to the President in which I explained to him that in my opinion this aid was going to induce a Soviet military intervention."

When asked if he regretted that provocation today, Brzezinski replied, "Regret what? That secret operation was an excellent idea. It had the effect of drawing the Russians into the Afghan trap—the day that the Soviets officially crossed the border, I wrote to President Carter: 'We now have the opportunity of giving to the U.S.S.R. its Vietnam War.' Indeed, for almost ten years, Moscow had to carry on a war that was unsustainable by the government, a conflict that brought about the demoralization and finally the breakup of the Soviet empire. What is most important to the history of the world? The Taliban or the collapse of the Soviet empire? Some whipped-up Muslims or the liberation of Central Europe and the end of the Cold War?"

The Strange Saga Of 'Mohamed The American'

So, it is not hard to see why the "Islamists" would have an open channel with Western agencies including the CIA. The man who reportedly presented to al-Zawahiri the \$50 million proposal and the encouragement to destabilize Egypt, is known as Abu Mohamed al-Amriki, "Mohamed the American."

An Egyptian military man, al-Amriki joined the Jihad organization in 1981, the year that the Jihad claimed credit for the Oct. 6, 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat. Among the persons arrested for that assassination was Ayman al-Zawahiri, charged with illegal weapons possession.

The stories of al-Amriki and al-Zawahiri tend to intersect not only in Afghanistan and Egypt, but also in the United States. It was al-Amriki who organized the visit of al-Zawahiri to New York, California, and Texas, to collect money, officially, for the families of the Afghan war victims. In reality, part of the money, according to the courtroom testimony of Khalid Abu-al-Dhahab in Cairo in 1999, was used to finance the bombing of the Egyptian Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Al-Amriki reportedly began his career as the elusive "American" in 1981, when he first arrived in the United States immediately after having joined the Jihad organization, and was enlisted in a U.S. Special Forces school for foreign officers at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In 1985, after leaving the Egyptian Army, he came to California and married. In 1986, he joined the U.S. Army. As a sergeant, he was stationed again at Fort Bragg's Special Warfare center, and in the late 1980s he popped up at an Afghan refugee center in Brooklyn, New York. There he gave combat training to Afghan and Muslim recruits who were to be sent back to Afghanistan to fight the Russians. Al-Amriki in 1992 went to Pakistan and Afghanistan to train the bin Laden men, providing especially "military and basic explosives training," according to U.S. court records.

Al-Amriki's terrorist career took off from there, putting him in contact and in a position of leadership with virtually every major Islamist terrorist organization.

Macedonians Told, 'Hands Off!'

Based on just the short background outlined here, it is not surprising that the Macedonians pursuing the al-Zawahiri track have come under strong pressure not to investigate. However, sources have told *EIR* that the track will not be abandoned; quite the contrary. A deputy director in Macedonian intelligence was even quoted in an interview in the Canadian *Halifax Herald*, stressing: "We have already provided a substantial dossier to the CIA, and obtaining further proof [of the link between bin Laden and the KLA] is our ministry's number-one priority."

The intelligence official revealed that the Macedonian forces had contained the KLA assault in May, despite the KLA's superior armaments, because Ukraine supplied helicopter gunships. However, the KLA was able to neutralize this Macedonian advantage. He said, "Shortly after that, our helicopter pilots reported being targeted by sophisticated [U.S.-made] Stinger [anti-aircraft] missiles. It is our information that the [KLA] received these Stingers from their mujahideen connections in Afghanistan."

Despite the information supplied by the Macedonians to the CIA, they haven't received so much as a "thank you." Instead, the Macedonian intelligence officials say that the major obstacle to their investigation comes exactly from NATO, including direct interference from the United States.

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New Revelations Are Warning Bush: Go Back!

by Muriel Mirak-Weissbach

On Sept. 11 at 9:15 a.m. EDT, hours before the U.S. media began shouting “bin Laden” and “Afghanistan,” Lyndon LaRouche in a radio interview warned against precisely this cover story; LaRouche pointed to a dangerous move by “the other side,” those circles who wanted to drive the United States into religious warfare against the Islamic world. LaRouche immediately characterized the deadly attacks as beginning a “covert strategic operation” against the United States. As he warned, the destabilized Bush Administration was then pushed into a war campaign against Afghanistan which is failing; and is now being urged toward “flight forward” attacks on Iraq, Syria, Iran, etc. with an out-of-control Israeli “breakaway ally.”

In late October, in an attempt to push the White House back from the brink, worried European circles have now caused major revelations, challenging this “cover story,” to appear in the press there. They came after LaRouche’s warnings had become known and discussed worldwide, and when LaRouche himself was publicly telling the President to quit Afghanistan and rebuild the “home front”—fix the economy, order a public health mobilization, resolve the Israeli-Palestinian war.

The succession of “bombshell” articles in Europe have pointed toward fundamental contradictions in the cover story of Sept. 11:

- That the deadly war actions of Sept. 11, not to mention the following anthrax attacks, exceeded the capabilities of the terrorist networks that have been charged with them;
- That the names and activities of the terrorists seem clearly to have been known to the FBI and other intelligence agencies long before the attacks;
- That United States intelligence and security agencies not only knew the al-Qaeda networks, but were—and still are—providing them cover and support for their operations in the Balkans, inside the Kosovo Liberation Army and other “ethnic Albanian guerrilla formations”;
- Most shockingly, in the report that U.S. intelligence agencies remained in contact with the notorious Osama bin Laden himself, only weeks prior to Sept. 11.

The importance of these explosive, now widely publicized leaks, is more than the ostensible “new facts” themselves. They express the fear among the United States’ Euro-

pean allies: that the connections between U.S., British, and Israeli security agencies and the al-Qaeda and other “Afghansi” terrorists, point to Sept. 11 itself as the opening action of a coup d’état by rogue forces within the United States, in the midst of a spreading worldwide economic collapse.

As the failing war in Afghanistan entered its fourth week, it was clear to leading European, including Russian, elites, that the operation was heading toward catastrophe, militarily and politically. It was at this point that leading European circles arranged to leak crucial material into the establishment press, throwing a monkey wrench into the operation.

Bin Laden And The CIA

On Oct. 31, the French Radio France Internationale, and the leading daily, *Le Figaro*, reported that bin Laden himself had been contacted by an agent of the CIA in July, while undergoing treatment for a kidney ailment, in the American Hospital in Dubai. The report by *Le Figaro*, under the banner headline, “July 2001: Bin Laden Meets The CIA In Dubai,” said that the man who had become “public enemy number one” had arrived in Dubai from Quetta, Pakistan on July 4, and been taken directly to the hospital. He was “accompanied by his personal physician and loyal lieutenant, who would have been the Egyptian Ayman al-Zawahari, four bodyguards, as well as an Algerian nurse.” While there, he reportedly received visits from family members, and, the “local CIA agent,” whom Radio France Internationale the following day identified as one Larry Mitchell. Mitchell visited him on July 12, boasted about the encounter to friends, and then was recalled to Washington on July 15, one day after bin Laden’s departure from Dubai.

Le Figaro went on: “Fifteen days later, the U.A.E. [United Arab Emirates] customs officials arrested a Franco-Algerian Islamist activist, at the Dubai airport, named Djamel Beghal. The French and American authorities were alerted. Interrogated in Abu Dhabi, Beghal said that he had been summoned to Afghanistan at the end of 2000, by Abu Zoubeida—a military official of the bin Laden organization, al-Qaeda. Beghal’s mission: to blow up the American Embassy in Paris.” Citing “Arab diplomatic sources, and French intelligence services,” *Le Figaro* said, “Very precise information was communicated to the CIA, regarding terrorist attacks against American interests in the world and in the States. A report from the DST [French intelligence agency] of Sept. 7, collected this information, specifying that the order to act would come from Afghanistan.”

In an accompanying piece, *Le Figaro* summarized the history of contacts between bin Laden and the CIA, from 1979. Most significant was detailed information, that the FBI, “investigating the August 1998 attacks against the U.S. Embassies in Nairobi [Kenya] and Dar es Salaam [Tanzania],” had “discovered that the traces left by the explosions came from a military explosive of the U.S. Army, and that this

explosive had been delivered three years earlier to Arab Afghans, the famous international volunteer brigades, engaged with Osama bin Laden during the Afghan war against the Soviet army.” *Le Figaro* noted, “Following their investigations, the FBI discovered ‘structures’ that the CIA had developed with its ‘Islamist friends’ for years. The meeting in Dubai, therefore, is nothing but the logical followup of a ‘certain American policy.’ ”

This news reverberated Oct. 31 throughout the European media, despite a ritual denial by the CIA (“utter nonsense”) and by the American Hospital in Dubai. A Trilateral Commission source told *EIR* the revelations were not just a French, but a continental European message to the Anglo-Americans, about the anger and frustration over the ongoing war in Afghanistan; and, more broadly, over the entire pattern of Anglo-American actions before and after Sept. 11. The *Le Figaro* articles, which were causing “a big sensation in France,” he said, were “not an isolated event.” He referred to the European Union foreign ministers’ meeting “where questions were raised, about how this campaign is being led,” about the entire cover story about bin Laden, and about what really occurred on Sept. 11.

One Leak Leads To Another

Le Figaro’s intervention was the high point, thus far, of a subtle campaign orchestrated through the press, to pull the cover story apart, piece by piece. On Oct. 23, the Danish paper *Ekstra Bladet* ran an article by Kenan Seeberg, reporting that it had accidentally obtained a confidential list of 370 persons whom the FBI suspects of complicity in the Sept. 11 attacks. These names and the included information—pseudonyms, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses—the paper showed to former U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) agent Wayne Madsen. Madsen judged that some of the individuals had to have been under long-term surveillance by security agencies, which knew a significant amount about their activities. He noted that there were indeed clues and leads, but these leads were not followed up; most probably, they were suppressed. *Ekstra Bladet* also interviewed Fred Stock, from the former Canadian Communications Security Establishment (CSE), the Canadian counterpart to the National Security Agency. Stock said that a photo of alleged hijack leader Mohammad Atta, seen on CNN, had been “hanging on the wall of CSE headquarters all the way back in 1993.”

At the same time, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who had gone on record several times, questioning the credibility of the report that the alleged hijackers had piloted the planes themselves, intervened again in the week of Oct. 25-31, in an interview with the *Al Ahram* weekly. The pilots allegedly performed feats worthy of being recorded in flight history books, but had little training or qualifications. “I find it hard to believe,” said Mubarak (an experienced pilot himself), “that people who were learning to fly in Florida

could, within a year and a half, fly large commercial airliners and accurately hit the towers of the World Trade Center which would appear, to the pilot from the air, the size of a pencil. Only a professional pilot could carry out this mission, not someone who learned to fly over 18 months in Florida. For your information, a license to fly commercial planes has many conditions, in terms of study and training. Many hours of flying are needed to qualify as a co-pilot, let alone a pilot, of such planes.”

Mubarak also lashed out at countries harboring terrorists, singling out Britain. “I told Western leaders: If you protect terrorists who escape from their own countries, the day will come when they will turn against you. The West had thought that the problem of terrorism was limited to Egypt and Algeria. I called repeatedly for an international conference to combat terrorism, but those calls fell on deaf ears. Some Western capitals continued to grant asylum to terrorists under the pretext of upholding human rights.” Mubarak confirmed to the interviewer that he referred to London above all.

The question of U.S. and U.K. complicity with the bin Laden networks, was featured in an Oct. 25 article in the Swiss financial daily, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*. The newspaper reported on the many activities of al-Qaeda activists, in, among other places, the United Kingdom and NATO-occupied Kosovo. After reviewing the early history of the Egyptian “Jihad” branch of al-Qaeda, which organized the Oct. 6, 1981 murder of Egypt’s President Anwar Sadat, and the “career” of a brother of bin Laden’s lieutenant, Ayman al-Zawahiri, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* wrote: “According to Egyptian and French secret services, bin Laden, who has been a guest of the Taliban, along with many other wanted Islamists, brought, in the late 1990s, 500 Arab mujahideen to [Albania’s capital] Tirana. They are reported to have fought side by side with the KLA in Kosovo, and to have been involved in the most brutal acts of revenge against Serbian civilians.” The implication is, that al-Qaeda and NATO fought side by side in Kosovo. Many other articles throughout Europe since Oct. 20, report that this is now true in neighboring Macedonia as well. (Further details on the “Kosovo track” appear in an article in this section.)

Of Islamic terrorists’ operating in London, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* wrote: “Several Egyptian Islamists found refuge in Great Britain. Al-Zawahiri reportedly lived for a while in bin Laden’s villa in the north of London, in the 1990s. Some Islamists did not merely stay for a short time, but also asked for asylum. Between 1993 and 1999, seven of the most wanted members of Jihad and the Jamaa were granted asylum in Great Britain; . . . Yasir as-Sirri, who was sentenced to death twice in Egypt, directed, without interference, the Islamic Media Monitor Center.”

The unprecedented series of press leaks, has created a situation in which certain fundamental contradictions in the official “bin Laden” line, cannot be ignored.

Germans Growing Uneasy About Bush

by Rainer Apel

On the surface, support among the German political establishment for President George Bush's military expedition against Afghanistan, and for his measures against terrorism, is overwhelming. The government has backed Bush on every decisive step he has taken since the Sept. 11 attack. And with the exception of a handful of dissidents, the national legislature in Berlin has voted for "unconditional military solidarity" with Bush's Afghanistan intervention.

But the support for Bush is not really so sound: A lot of pressure has been exerted by the Americans to keep the Germans in line. Critics, for example, were strongly arm-twisted into accepting the "solidarity" policy before the "unconditional military solidarity" vote.

Also, the government is trying to establish a moderate version of the anti-terrorism legal package that U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft has put together for the United States. But, German investigators have been highly embarrassed at the way in which Ashcroft's people have pushed the story of "German-based Arab terrorism" allegedly being the command center and operational base for the Sept. 11 attacks. The evidence that German investigators have found on the terrorist suspects, whose names were handed over to them by the FBI, simply does not merit that conclusion. The fact that in the late 1990s, Mohammed Atta and other Arabs were students at the University of Hamburg, and had either minor contact with radical Muslims or became radicalized themselves, alone does not prove that the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon were planned out in Hamburg. The Germans have told the FBI that, but Ashcroft's people have not wanted to listen, nor have U.S., German, and other international media stopped their attacks on the German investigators for not supporting their FBI colleagues sufficiently.

The frictions between Germany and the United States broke out into the open on Oct. 23, during a visit of Interior Minister Otto Schily to Washington. When Attorney General Ashcroft spoke of "Hamburg being a center of preparations" for the Sept. 11 attacks, at a joint press conference, Schily promptly corrected him: "We have no evidence whatsoever of Hamburg being such a planning center." Schily added that the terrorist pilots, according to the FBI's own accounts, had been trained at schools in the United States, and that some of them had lived for some time in the United Kingdom, so that the blame should not be put on Germany, exclusively.

Amid mounting U.S.-German tension over the right approach in the "war on terrorism," Peter W. Schroeder, a syndicated columnist in Washington who works for numerous regional news dailies in Germany, revealed in an Oct. 24 article, that FBI field officers are pursuing U.S.-based terrorism in connection with the anthrax incidents. "We are searching for terrorists among right-wing/radical circles in our own country," FBI investigators told Schroeder. "We are not putting that out in public, in order to avoid traces being eliminated, and we also don't want to run into trouble with politicians who like putting the blame on foreign terrorists."

Political, Not Military Solution Needed

Remarks that German Assistant Foreign Minister Ludger Volmer made in a interview with the national Deutschlandfunk (DLF) radio station on Oct. 30, revealed another aspect of German uneasiness with the Bush policy course. Volmer reported that during talks in Qatar a few days earlier, he met with a lot of Arab criticism of the U.S. air war, which is killing more Afghan civilians than Taliban militias. This sentiment has to be taken "very seriously," Volmer said. "Large parts of the Islamic world will not take it any longer, when Ramadan begins, when inside the Islamic world, reconciliation even between adversaries and enemies is on the agenda."

Volmer warned that the anti-terrorism alliance will hold only if there is serious commitment to political solutions. "For that, you need the cooperation of the Western world with the Islamic world, and with other big powers such as Russia, China, and others." Hopefully, the Bush Administration would take that into account, he said.

Volmer also revealed that immediately after the Sept. 11 terror attacks, the Bush Administration had thought of "options even worse" than the Afghanistan intervention, and that, fortunately, these had been discarded, because of interventions by, among others, the Germans.

Volmer's remarks indicate that the German government would like to seek a way out of the Afghanistan quagmire at the next opportunity. The beginning of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month, on Nov. 17, is seen as such an occasion to interrupt the air war and attempt to work out an acceptable political settlement for a post-Taliban era.

However, the situation is now a military and political mess not unlike the one that the Germans had gotten into, when granting support to then-U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's war on Serbia in March 1999. Growing uneasy with the "collateral damage" of injury and death among Serbian civilians during the NATO air war, Germany began a slow withdrawal in April 1999, and German officials engaged in intense shuttle diplomacy among Germany, Russia, and China, to restore a UN framework for a Balkans cease-fire. As was the case then, the mess over Afghanistan, too, may have been avoided, had the Germans said, "No," at the start. If they say no now, that is useful nevertheless.

‘Anti-Terror Coalition’ Needs A New And Different Strategy

by Jonathan Tennenbaum

Developments of late October have shown, not only that the United States-led intervention in Afghanistan is a military and humanitarian disaster, but that the much-trumpeted “worldwide anti-terror alliance” itself is rapidly disintegrating. With respect to Afghanistan in particular, supposed “total agreement” has given way to a more and more open conflict of intentions between the United States, Britain, and Pakistan on the one side; and Russia, India, and other Asian countries on the other; while at the same time the situation in Pakistan itself threatens to spin out of control. On a deeper level, the “anti-terror alliance” was built on sand in the first place, since all sides are aware that no real proof of Osama bin Laden’s alleged authorship of the Sept. 11 attacks has been supplied, and they also suspect that the attacks could not have been carried out without the complicity of highly placed “rogue” networks within leading U.S. institutions themselves.

Thus, behind the scenes there is wide recognition in Russia and elsewhere, that the military operation in Afghanistan has little or nothing to do with fighting terrorism, but represents rather the playing out of a scenario long promoted by the Anglo-American networks represented by Zbigniew Brzezinski, Richard Perle, and Paul Wolfowitz. This is the “Clash of Civilizations” Eurasian war, to prevent the consolidation of an alliance for development among the nations of Eurasia.

Built-In Splinter Lines

Whatever the Bush Administration may think it is doing, it is this intention that is driving the Afghanistan debacle and the growing drum-beat for expanding this to attacks against other Islamic nations—Iraq, Syria, Sudan, and even Iran. Such attacks, notably being demanded by the British and U.S. backers of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in Israel, would plunge the world into a unstoppable chain-reaction of religious war. The force of this “clash of civilizations” momentum is shown further by the fact that a Saudi government official has spoken publicly of the United States and Saudi Arabia having to “consult their own separate interests;” and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has been giving blunt interviews characterizing the whole British and American approach to “terrorism” as threatening precisely the moderate Islamic governments which have been fighting it for years.

Evidence of the multiple, growing tensions and splits behind the facade of the “anti-terror coalition” has surfaced most visibly, in connection with the role of Pakistan, the conduct of the operation against the Taliban, and the composition of a future government in Afghanistan. At the simplest level, the Bush Administration is supporting—under the banner of fighting and eventually replacing the present Taliban regime—an array of forces which not only played a leading role in setting up and supporting the Taliban regime from the beginning up to the present day, but are themselves deeply involved in international drug and weapons trade, and terrorism! At the same time, the United States is building a de facto military alliance with the former Soviet Republic, Uzbekistan, which in the long run is absolutely unacceptable to Russia, just as the U.S. Pakistan-based strategy is creating an unacceptable situation for India.

On the other side, Russia and its partners are strengthening their long-standing support for forces around exiled Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani and Gen. Mohammed Fakhim in the Northern Alliance, as a counterbalance to the U.S.-Pakistani-Uzbek thrust to control the region. More broadly, however, Russian President Vladimir Putin is working in partnership with China, India, Iran, and other nations, to contain the threat of a general destabilization of Central Asia and Eurasia as a whole, calculating that the Bush Administration’s present policy course will fail and open up the possibility of an alternative.

That alternative, to replace the Brzezinskian axioms of geopolitics by real cooperation around the development of Eurasia, was put forward as an offer to the United States by Putin himself in his celebrated speech to the German parliament on Sept. 25. The offer still stands.

In several public statements, the Foreign Policy Committee Chairman of the State Duma Dmitri Rogozin, and Gen. Leonid Ivashov, head of the Russian Defense Ministry’s international relations department until earlier this year, spoke of “fundamental disagreements” between Russia and the United States. The significance of these, and a wave of similar statements and articles in the Russian press, becomes clear, when we look at the intense diplomatic activity of Russian President Putin just before, during, and after the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC) summit in Shanghai in late October.

Russia Against Central Asia Geopolitics

On Oct. 17, before leaving for that summit Putin held an extensive meeting with the top leadership of the Russian military and security services. According to reliable reports, the generals briefed Putin on the situation developing in Central Asia, and in particular, the U.S. deployment into Uzbekistan, warning about a “significant threat to Russian interests in the region.”

Putin immediately deployed the head of the Russian General Staff, Gen. Anatoli Kvashnin, to Dushanbe, for urgent consultations with the military and civilian leaders of Tajikistan, the Northern Alliance, and the Russian military, security, and intelligence forces stationed there. A central topic, reportedly, was a massive increase in Russian military and other support to the forces of the Tajik-supported General Fakhim of the Northern Alliance.

Not long thereafter, however, it became known that the Uzbekistan government was refusing to permit Russian trains with arms and other supplies to the Northern Alliance, to cross Uzbekistan territory on the way to Northern Alliance supply bases in Tajikistan. Since there is no other rail access for Russia to its close ally Tajikistan, this amounts to a very direct strategic challenge to Moscow. One should remember, that the 201st Division of the Russian Army is currently stationed in Tajikistan, mainly on the Tajik-Afghan border.

Meanwhile, at the APEC meeting, Putin met with Chinese President Jiang Zemin, in what Chinese sources characterized as an “extremely important discussion,” some of whose key content has been kept secret. After the meeting, Putin’s spokesman Aleksei Gromov declared that Jiang and Putin had, among other things, discussed the activation of the Shanghai Coordination Organization (SCO), consisting of the Central Asian nations, Russia, and China. In addition, “the two leaders want an end to the military phase [of the U.S. intervention] and a move to a political settlement as soon as possible.” Furthermore they “agreed to help form the kind of regime in Afghanistan which would guarantee the peaceful development of the country, create no threat to neighboring states, and not support international terrorists”—an implicit reference to Pakistan’s long-term support of the Taliban, as well as terrorist groups in Kashmir and elsewhere.

On the way back from APEC, Putin made a highly unusual stopover in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, for top-level meetings running throughout the night and involving a very significant part of the Russian leadership as well as the leaders of Tajikistan and the Northern Alliance. Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov, General Staff head Kvashnin, Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, Federal Security Service Chief Nikolai Patrushev, and Emergency Minister Rushailo were all present.

In this context, Putin conducted a “summit meeting” with Tajikistan President Imomali Rakhmanov and Rabbani, the President of the “Islamic State of Afghanistan” which was overthrown by the Taliban in 1996, but is still recognized by the UN as the legitimate government. Putin emerged

from this meeting to declare to a press conference, that Russia was giving its complete political and military support to Rabbani, and that there could be no role for the Taliban in a coming new government of Afghanistan. When a journalist brought up the fact, that the United States was supporting the idea of including so-called “moderate Taliban elements” in such a government, and asked about his reaction, Putin responded sharply: “You should ask the American leaders this question.”

The Pakistan Debacle

The difficulty of using Pakistan as a key “ally” against the Taliban, was highlighted by an Oct. 23 article in the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*. The Swiss financial daily revealed, that on the weekend of Oct. 21-22, as the United States was carrying out aerial bombardments and other operations aimed at destroying the Taliban’s military forces and government, Jalaluddin Haqqini, the Commander of the Taliban Army, was received in Islamabad by the Pakistani government. Pakistan still maintains full diplomatic relations with the Taliban regime! Haqqini was effusively praised by the Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman as a “hero,” who had contributed to the “final downfall of the Soviet Union and liberation of Central Asia” from Soviet domination in the 1980s.

Pakistan’s reliability took yet another beating when a former Afghan mujahideen commander and a favorite of some in the CIA, Abdul Haq, was captured and executed inside Afghanistan on Oct. 26. Haq went in ostensibly to woo some of the small tribal warlords near his hometown, offering them money. Washington believes that Pakistani intelligence had informed the Taliban about his entry into Afghanistan.

Demands are growing within Pakistan, as elsewhere in the world, to stop the bombing of Afghanistan. Thousands of Pakistani tribesmen took control of the Karakorum Highway, closing it to China-Pakistan traffic for five days. The blockade was lifted after President Musharraf intervened personally.

But 2,000 armed students continue to occupy the northern Pakistan airstrip of Chilas. Although not of great strategic significance, Chilas’ capture shows what to expect in coming days. The Washington-Islamabad alliance is tenuous, and the continued bombing is making it very fragile. President Musharraf and Finance Minister Shaukat Aziz, both good friends of the United States, have made public statements that the bombing must stop before the Muslim holy month of Ramadan begins on Nov. 17. If Washington does not follow this advice, it is likely the United States will have to deal with two enemies—the Taliban, and Pakistan.

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India Launches Strategic Satellites

by Ramtanu Maitra

On Oct. 22, the Indian space program reached a significant milestone, when the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) put three satellites on a Sun-synchronous orbit. One of the satellites is the Technology Experiment Satellite (TES), widely acknowledged as the forerunner to the military spy satellite which India is in the process of developing.

The other two satellites put into orbit were the Bispectral and Infrared Remote Detection (BIRD) of Germany, and Project for On-Board Autonomy (PROBA) of Belgium. By placing the PROBA in an elliptical orbit of 638 kilometers apogee (farthest from the Earth), after the other two were placed in the circular orbit of 568 km, the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has displayed its newly acquired capability of a multiple-orbit injection of multiple payloads.

ISRO, the keeper of India's space program, hopes to eventually use the PSLV launch vehicle to place satellites weighing more than 3,000 kilograms into low Earth orbit (400 km), and 1,000 kg satellites into geo-synchronous transfer orbit. With the expected indigenous development of cryogenic engines, giving India the capability of geo-synchronous satellite launch, India would rank among the nations on the front line of space development.

The PSLV C3 launch with the TES payload could not have been better timed. Present strategic conditions require not just an Indian presence in space, but an independent capability for high-resolution imaging. This is what the TES, a 1,108 kg satellite, aims to achieve. Technically, the TES should be able to provide images of vital strategic importance. The TES is important for India on two counts: better preparedness through reliable surveillance, and innumerable benefits for domestic planning and development. The economic gains of this technological advance should also translate into additional income from the sale of satellite photographic data. In addition to the high-resolution imaging capabilities, the space technology improvements that have gone into the program are considerable.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the launch is the Indian payload. The TES has a panchromatic camera capable of producing images of one-meter resolution, meaning that two objects on the Earth, separated only by a distance of one meter, could be distinguished in the images produced from orbit by the camera. Apart from use in various remote-sensing civilian applications, it gives for the first time an independent

capability of high-quality imagery intelligence, a vital input in assessing strategic threats from hostile powers. With two of India's neighbors possessing nuclear and missile capabilities, such intelligence, obtainable almost on a real-time basis (not older than three days), would be value added. A one-meter resolution would give the capability to detect vehicles and surface-to-surface missiles (SSMs) and surface-to-air missiles (SAMs).

Ensuring simplified designs and low-weight spacecraft, the solid-state recorder installed within the TES helps in downloading data captured by the satellite when it is not in visible range of the Indian ground stations. The Phased Array antenna with X band brings out the possibility of weather and daylight-independent imaging of desired regions. The revisit capability of this satellite, which would normally be around 20 days, could be reduced to three days by the satellite-tilting technology. It has a "step and stay" capability to look at the same spot for longer duration.

Broader Objective

India's space program in general, and its satellite imagery capabilities in particular, have a broader objective. India's top rocket scientist, and the mainstay in India's burgeoning missile program, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, speaking at a conference earlier this year, said: "India is contemplating a move to send its first satellite mission to the Moon. We have placed several satellites on orbit successfully. I think we will do it [sending satellite to moon] also."

Referring to *Millennium Vision 2020*, a book he has co-authored, Dr. Abdul Kalam said that the time is not far off when India will also become a developed nation. "Dream, dream, dream, dream transfers into thought. And thoughts result in action," the father of India's missile program said. He said that more than 500 experts from all over the country are working to complete an "action-oriented plan" to place India in the category of the developed nations in the next two years.

India is now also looking seriously at developing a national missile defense system. India and Russia recently tested a jointly developed, state-of-the-art supersonic cruise missile, which may be unrivalled in the region. With a range of 280 km, the missile "is the first of its kind in the world," and will be simultaneously inducted into Indian and Russian arsenals, likely within the next two years, after several additional tests. One of its features is that it can be launched from land by a mobile launcher, or from a ship, submarine, or aircraft, to target warships at very long distances.

India is also in negotiations with Russia to purchase a missile defense system. Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee is scheduled to visit Russia on Nov. 4-7, to discuss enhancing Indo-Russian cooperation. It is almost certain that the missile defense system will be discussed. In October, Russian President Vladimir Putin made it known that Russia is willing to provide India with a defensive system against incoming missiles.

National Defense Against Germ Warfare

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

The following was released by LaRouche's campaign committee for the 2004 Democratic Presidential nomination.

October 28, 2001

War costs a lot of money, and more; but, losing a war to an attacking adversary costs infinitely more. That is the lesson to be learned from the wave of anthrax attacks launched from inside the U.S.A. The question posed by these attacks is, "What is coming next?"

The qualifications of the authors of these attacks are now not only fairly well known; even much of the U.S. mass media is beginning to come close to the truth on some important features of these attacks. The immediate, urgent problem is that of developing and deploying a well-coordinated homeland defense on the biological warfare front. This must be deployed not only against the anthrax attacks presently reported, but against whatever might be the weapon and strategy used by the enemy next.

This means, that we must now quickly end all confusion and cross-purposes among those agencies which must function effectively as a coordinated team of various governmental and private agencies. To that end, it is important that we develop a consensus on the approach to be taken, and the nature of the actions to be taken, whatever they may cost, in making those actions effective. On this particular subject, it is important that I intervene to contribute personally, publicly, to stress the following points.

National Defense As Sanitation

The most important principles of national defense against bacteriological and related forms of warfare, were consolidated as knowledge in the experience of World War II and the war in Korea. Those lessons were featured in the adoption and implementation of the Hill-Burton legislation adopted

shortly after the close of World War II.

From the related experience our nation, and others, have accumulated over the centuries, we must not limit the idea of defense against germ warfare and related attacks, to the role of medical practice. We must situate the role of the medical profession, both in care for the sick and in other ways, as an essential, subsumed feature of public sanitation.

I explain this extremely important distinction to be made at this point of our national defense requirements. It is to the degree that we have taken down much of the national-defense protection provided by public and related measures of sanitation, during the recent three decades, that our nation's vulnerabilities to the presently ongoing germ-warfare attacks were created as the opportunities they presently represent to the advantage of our enemies.

National biological defense means, chiefly, those measures of sanitation which are essential to improving and defending the life-expectancies and well-being of the population as a whole. This includes those measures and institutionalized practice which modern society has come to consider public sanitation. This includes not only safe water, but also improved supplies of energy, per capita and per square kilometer, this at declining relative costs to communities, industries, and the general public. It includes improved public transportation.

It also includes the practice of the medical professions generally. The pivotal feature of the medical profession's role, is the general hospital, provided as a public institution which is not only a teaching institution, but which serves those sections of the population which are relatively indigent, and are therefore the most likely radiators of infectious diseases. The public teaching hospital of this type, which is also integrated with the teaching and research functions of a university, is among the most valuable such facilities.

The feature of medical practice to be emphasized in deal-

ing with the actuality and threats of biological warfare, as now, is the ability of the medical profession to respond effectively by producing, rapidly, appropriate forms of non-standard treatment for diseases of a non-standard quality. In such circumstances, we must deal not merely with the apparent “ingenuity” of infectious organisms, but with an enemy, like H.G. Wells’ fictional “Dr. Moreau,” whose satanic impulses are employed to make infectious agents more deadly than such diseases could become by so-called natural means.

However, without lessening emphasis on the importance of medical counter-intelligence practice, it is public sanitation which remains the first line of defense of the population against both normal epidemic disease, and also biological warfare attacks. We require a coordinated, “crash program” sort of attack on both fronts, combined.

This means that we must move quickly, not only to restore the indispensable Washington, D.C. General Hospital, but to restore those medical and infrastructural defenses which were taken down, piece by piece, during the approximate quarter-century since the enactment of the original HMO legislation. If we do not do that, whatever might happen to you and your family as a result of biological warfare attacks should be considered now as virtually “a done deal.”

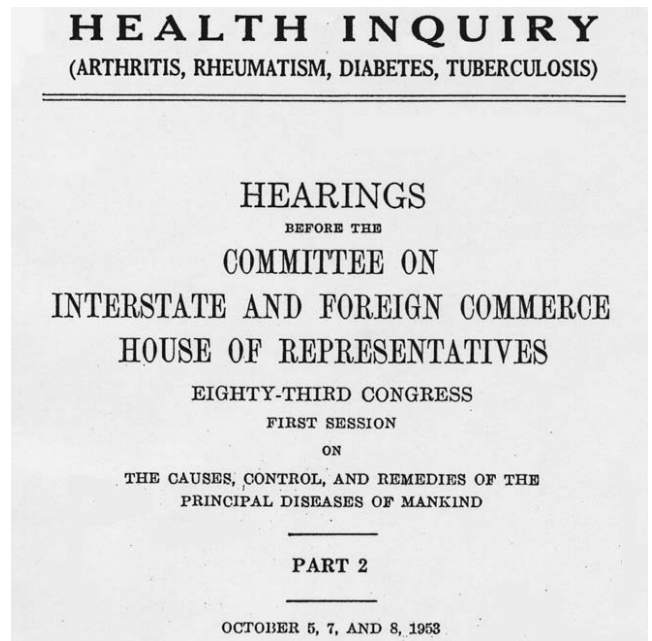
The Usual Snafu

Homeland defense has been launched with the usual snafu. It came to the surface as a suddenly improvised new agency, without adequate measures to integrate the effort with the work of other, pre-existing agencies operating in the same general area of responsibility. So far, even in dealing with the anthrax problems in the Washington, D.C. general area, citizens are literally being killed by “red tape.”

Fortunately, senior figures with inside knowledge of former national “crash programs,” such as the Manhattan Project and NASA, are invaluable advisors on such topics as “Don’t make the mistakes we made” issues, especially in coordination among military specialists, scientists, and the general bureaucratic, legislative, and lobbying influences which are most prone to ruin the implementation of what had been excellent missions. Science, economics-driven policy-making for application of science, and military precision of deployment must be integrated into a single mission-orientation, and this must be backed with a general “whatever it takes directive” from the President himself.

There is now no reason to doubt, that there is some functional connection between what happened on Sept. 11th and the anthrax attacks. Exactly what that connection might be, we either do not know, or those who know are not telling us. Know, or not, the connection exists, and it is presently a functionally interconnected operation.

So far, the character of the attacks has been psychological warfare, primarily. The thousands of deaths in New York and Washington of Sept. 11, are mass-effects for the families and friends of those who died, but from the standpoint of the enemy who planned and perpetrated those attacks, the intent



When Congress took public health seriously. “The most important principles of national defense against bacteriological . . . warfare, were consolidated as knowledge in the experience of World War II and the war in Korea, and featured in the adoption and implementation of the Hill-Burton legislation. . . .”

was psychological warfare. So, it has been, so far, with the germ-warfare attacks. However, we also know, that, although the effects of the attacks express the intention to terrify the U.S. population, the enemy behind these attacks intends to break the will of the U.S. population; that enemy is prepared “to go for broke,” just as in a coup d’état in which plotters, if defeated and caught, are as good as dead. There is no assurance that the plotters will limit themselves to the kind of limited-mission terror-attacks experienced so far.

We must therefore prepare for the worst, but aim for the best. That must be the mission of the overall warfare, and also the specific mission of the biological elements of homeland defense.

We must also include the danger of correlated attacks of a somewhat different form. Deadly riots, with disruptive political effects, such as those which had been planned to occur in the Washington, D.C. area for late September, are to be expected from the kind of command-structure which implicitly deployed the attacks experienced thus far. Destruction of crucial economic elements of infrastructure, industry, and food supplies, must be expected from a still-unknown adversary who has revealed that character of his capabilities and intentions. This is not a war like World War II, for example; but it has the characteristics of warfare in effects upon the population of both the U.S.A. and any other nation targeted by the same adversary.

Gentlemen: get your act together quickly. Bring the snafu quickly to an end.

Mayors, Counties Demand Local Health And Infrastructure Buildup

by Carl Osgood

Two recent meetings in Washington, D.C.—an emergency summit of the U.S. Conference of Mayors on Oct. 24-25, and a meeting of the National Association of Counties' Task Force on Homeland Security on Oct. 26—highlighted the role that municipal and county police, fire, emergency, and public health services play in responding to any incident of terrorism on U.S. soil. Local police, fire, and emergency services respond first to any incident, and local jurisdictions expect and want to be in charge no matter the type or magnitude of the incident. This was the case at the Pentagon on Sept. 11, where the Arlington County, Virginia Fire Department remained in overall command of the fire fighting, and rescue and recovery efforts, for 11 days, even though it was a Federal building owned by the Defense Department, and assistance came from state and Federal agencies, and all of the surrounding jurisdictions.

Both meetings had the purpose of bringing to the attention of Federal officials, the difficulties cities and counties are facing in dealing with the increased threats to public health and safety since the attacks of Sept. 11 and the anthrax spread that has developed since then. Carefully planned city and county budgets, already under strain because of economic conditions, have been made irrelevant by increasing costs for security and public health.

The mayors and the counties presented lists of demands for help to the Federal officials, including to Homeland Security Chief Tom Ridge, who spoke to them. Underlying their concerns is the economic collapse, which has only accelerated since Sept. 11. The common areas of concern of the mayors' and counties' organizations include physical security of infrastructure, Federal-local law enforcement cooperation, and public health. In addition, the mayors meeting demanded a real economic stimulus program for recovery from the worsening fiscal, unemployment, and infrastructure situation of the cities.

Law Enforcement Secrecy Ranks

One important issue for local officials is intelligence-sharing with the Federal government. The mayors' action plan calls for a "new protocol governing the coordination of Federal and local law enforcement," which would establish a new system of communication among all Federal public safety and local law enforcement agencies, "with much more

detailed intelligence being provided to local law enforcement."

The mayors' task force that developed the recommendations relating to law enforcement issues, was co-chaired by Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley. During Oct. 5 testimony to the House, O'Malley blasted the FBI for its failure to cooperate with local police. "The disconnect in criminal intelligence is the biggest threat right now and the most dangerous one," he said. Baltimore Police Commissioner Edward Norris added, "We have to know what the FBI knows about threats, tips, and even rumors." Norris explained that his department has hundreds of informants and is therefore much closer to the ground than is the FBI; the police have access to much more information about what is going on in the streets and in the neighborhoods, but the FBI does not provide them sufficient information to make use of their informants. After the Sept. 11 attacks, all the FBI gave his department was a "watch list" with hundreds of names, without even photographs or aliases to aid local police.

FBI Director Robert Mueller addressed the mayors' meeting, and promised to improve intelligence-sharing between the FBI and local law enforcement. Mueller noted that one of the most persistent complaints he'd been hearing since taking office on Sept. 4 is that, while the FBI is always calling on local police to track down information for the Bureau, it often withholds information from those same police agencies. He told the mayors that the watch list has been added to the National Crime Information Center list, but "we often do not have much more than names or aliases." He promised that photos and other information will be included as it becomes available.

Deputy Attorney General Larry D. Thompson addressed the counties meeting. He made the same vague promises as Mueller had to the mayors. He also made the same excuses about the lack of specificity of the information in the Department of Justice's possession. That didn't stop the counties from calling on the Department of Justice to grant access to *classified information* to at least two people in every county police department.

Strengthen Public Health

The first line of defense against a biological weapons attack will be the public health system. This goes far beyond



The National Conference of Mayors demanded a buildup of local public health capabilities, and real economic recovery. Conference president Marc Morial of New Orleans asked Congress for “a comprehensive plan that includes tax relief, benefits for the unemployed, and strategic infrastructure investment to create jobs.”

simply hospitals and hospital beds, to include infectious disease surveillance and control, and safety and security of public water supplies. Both meetings focussed on the topic of biological terrorism, and the role of public health infrastructure to respond to it.

The mayors’ meeting included a panel on biological terrorism, moderated by Boston Mayor Tom Menino, which heard from Dr. Tara O’Toole, of the Johns Hopkins University Center for Biodefense Studies. The mayors also heard from Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tommy Thompson, who described the emergency response capabilities in his department, including the 50-ton stockpiles of medical supplies, known as PUSH packages, that are deployable within hours to any point in the United States.

The mayors’ action plan calls, first and foremost, for resources to strengthen local public health infrastructure. It also asks that HHS coordinate training efforts for public and private sector health care personnel and develop for adequate and secure communication and data analysis systems, to ensure coordinated implementation of public health disaster preparedness plans. The plan also calls for adequate stockpiles of vaccines and drugs, and a testing system that allows for rapid identification of biological agents.

The counties were more explicit in calling for the rebuilding of local public health systems. Patrick Libbey, the director of public health for Thurston County, Washington, and also president of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), highlighted the fact that most public health departments have a very small resource base on which to operate. He noted that the key role of the public health system is the “timely detection and investigation of unusual clusters of illnesses consistent with a biological weapons attack,” and “rapid investigation once an outbreak

is detected.” Key to any such investigation is “rapid access to laboratory services.”

He warned that because of the incubation period of many of the pathogens expected to be used as weapons, the time factor is critical to containing an outbreak. “We cannot wait,” he said, “to import a Federal team to do that initial work.” He called for a “much more robust surveillance and epidemiological capacity than what we have in place currently.”

While the mayors approved of Thompson’s plan to increase the number of PUSH packages, the counties clearly did not. Libbey said that one of NACCHO’s concerns about the Bush Administration’s proposals is that “they tend to emphasize bringing in Federal resources and tend not to emphasize the development of the local capacity.” He said that what the Federal government is proposing is needed, but by itself, “it will not help us to move quickly to detect and contain” an outbreak.” He concluded, “If we correctly build our capacity to deal with bioterrorism, it will actually go way beyond dealing with a terrorist issue. It will re-enable the public health system in this country to much more effectively deal with those kinds of threats to our health on an ongoing basis,” such as *E. coli*, food-borne illness, or safe drinking water.

Lyndon LaRouche’s call for “national defense against germ warfare” (see lead article this section) emphasizes the same fundamental relation between a “wartime” mobilization of public health functions, and protection of citizens’ general welfare.

Mayors Back Reid’s Infrastructure Plan

The mayors’ meeting also called for infrastructure investment as a way of stimulating the economy. New Orleans Mayor Marc Morial, the president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, urged that Congress should put together “a compre-

hensive plan that includes tax relief, benefits for the unemployed, and strategic infrastructure investment to create jobs.” Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley chimed in that Congress should adopt a plan that “will put people back to work as quickly as possible.” The action plan adopted by the mayors calls for investments in local infrastructure projects “that are already planned and can be started quickly.” These would include road and bridge improvements, transit and high-speed rail projects, and water security development projects.

The mayors heartily endorsed the proposal of Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.) which calls for almost \$40 billion in Federal investment in transportation improvements (see *EIR*, Oct. 19, 2001). Reid praised the mayors for beginning their conference on security, with a discussion on the economic stimulus package. “You understand more than anyone else,” he said, “that economic strength translates into security.” He told the mayors, “All across our nation, there are literally billions [actually, trillions — ed.] of dollars of unmet needs, for roads, waste water and drinking water systems, bridges, trains and transit

programs. . . . If we’re to accomplish the goal of promoting a strong national economy, the economic stimulus package must focus on the infrastructure work that is ready — ready right now.”

The key issue is the real economy. Senator Reid told the mayors that “while tax cuts are important, they do little for an American out of work. [Congress needs] to hear that extending unemployment benefits, while very important, is a bridge to nowhere if there isn’t a job at the other end.” Reid’s proposal points in the right direction, compared to the tax cuts pushed by Congressional Republicans and the White House. Only new job creation will generate the revenues that cities and counties need to provide the resources to defend the general welfare. However, the effectiveness of such a program will be limited by the degree to which it tries to function within the existing collapsing financial system. Only a complete bankruptcy-style reorganization of the entire economy will address the long-term problem that Reid and the mayors are facing.

Senator Reid To Mayors: Build Infrastructure, Now

Here are excerpts from the remarks of Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.) to the Oct. 24-25 emergency meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

I appreciate your support for my proposal to make transportation and water infrastructure investments a fundamental part of any stimulus package. All across our great nation there are literally billions of dollars in critical but unmet needs — for roads, waste water and drinking water systems, bridges, trains and transit programs. All of these projects are worthy. But if we’re to accomplish the goal of promoting a strong national economy, the economic stimulus package must focus on the infrastructure work that is ready — ready right now. To jump-start our economic engine, we must act on projects that are ready now, today. These projects need to be taken off the shelf, to begin construction and job creation immediately. Such projects need to be genuinely stimulative, fiscally responsible, and temporary, in order to meet the goals of this economic stimulus package.

Every mayor in this room knows these projects are out there. But we knew that prior to Sept. 11. One example: rural water assistance. The United States Department of Agriculture has a backlog of \$3.5 billion in approved, ready-to-go drinking water and waste water projects. They’re ready now. They were ready yesterday. Local fi-

nancing, environmental, and other requirements have been met on these projects. Again, all these projects lack is money — money to get them going now, certainly this year.

Examples like this exist for every major infrastructure segment of our economy. Many of these short-term projects would also provide the dual benefits of enhanced security and enhanced public health. Investment, for example, to convert drinking water facilities from chlorine gas — a chemical which could pose dangers to neighboring communities if released — to safer alternatives is just one example of the dual benefits offered by infrastructure investment. It would also confer public health benefits by decreasing harmful drinking water contaminants.

Infrastructure projects like these will get us the biggest bang for our buck. A dollar invested is a dollar spent. For every billion dollars we spend, we create roughly 42,000 jobs. Forty-two thousand people paying taxes, buying cars, buying refrigerators, buying homes. That’s why this infrastructure package is so important.

And as every mayor knows, you can’t import a road or water project. And as every mayor knows, these jobs are for American workers, which will invest in the safety of America’s infrastructure. And as every mayor knows, a system which supports all forms of commerce and which has been neglected for far too long. And as every mayor knows and as I know, most of the tax proposals now under consideration in Congress would get us little short-term benefit and would come at a huge long-term cost. And as every mayor knows, at a time when we can’t predict what the economy will be a year from now, we shouldn’t be mortgaging our future.

Wartime Measures

Reopen Closed Hospitals, Our National Assets

by Marcia Merry Baker

Four important public hospitals stand closed and vacant within a stretch of 50 miles, from Washington, through Arlington and Leesburg out to the northern Virginia city of Winchester. They include (pictured below) the famous District of Columbia General Hospital, the 194-year-old top-flight community facility, where Washington postal workers lined up for anthrax treatment, though Congress had closed it in May; the seven-story former Frederick County hospital in Winchester, strategically located with capacity for over 400 licensed beds, but closed in the 1990s; and in Leesburg, the former hospital facility for Loudoun County, with a capacity for 112 beds, but standing empty since 1997, except for a clinic. This hospital, like Frederick County's, stood on a route which was

part of the "outer perimeter" defense lines of Washington.

The HMO-privatization policy which closed them is suicidal for the nation. The community hospital is the vanguard of public health and defense against germ warfare or natural diseases and catastrophe. A crash program can restore the now decrepit U.S. hospital system, beginning with a rapid county-by-county survey, and then proceeding with resources to re-open closed hospitals, operate interim facilities, and build new capacity to quickly provide the required ratio of beds per 1,000 population.

Besides numbers, all the specific functions of full-service hospitals must be brought up to standard. The American Hospital Association's (AHA) Nov. 1 report summarizes the needs of its 4,900 member hospitals to get up to required levels in eight areas: communications, disease surveillance, reporting and laboratory identification, personal protective equipment, facility, dedicated decontamination facilities, medical/surgical and pharmaceutical supplies, training and drills, and mental health resources. The total cost of the package is about \$11.3 billion, and the AHA is working with members of Congress to design some sort of legislation to make these resources available, in the form of a grant program for hospitals. Dr. Jim Bentley, the AHA's senior vice president of strategic planning, said their working assumption is that in any terrorism or major disaster incident, hospitals are going to be on





sponsors. After the war, the Hill-Burton Act mandated that *every county* must have a community hospital, and ratios of beds must be available in the range of 4-5 per 1,000 persons. This was accomplished by the 1970s (while Jim Crow practices of separate white and black hospitals were done away with); then, thrown away in the 1980s and 1990s, when nearly 1,000 hospitals were closed by the takeover of “shareholder values.”

Rebuilding Local Public Health

City and county public health departments, the backbone for detection and response to a biological attack or disease outbreak, are unprepared for such events in large parts of the country.

The number of public health workers per 100,000 people nationwide today is about 156 (Federal, state, and local), when in the 1970s it was over 200. In the Midwest and parts of the South, the ratio is only 80 health workers per 100,000. Many counties have only a single nurse. Some have no computers, no statewide communication system, and certainly no “disease detectives.”

Public health testing laboratories, like the one shown above, have been cut back, or farmed out. Few have staff on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Public health veterinarians, critical for surveillance of disease transmitted from animals to humans, such as bubonic plague, are almost non-existent. According to Dr. Tom Milne, Executive Director of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), 180 out of 3,000 counties nationwide,

their own for 24 to 48 hours, in terms of resources, so the assessment estimates are based on that contingency.

The current hospital deficit is the direct result of the last 30 years of HMO-era deregulation of hospitals, during which time the United States went from some 7,000 community hospitals in the 1970s, down to under 5,000 today. The average ratio of beds-per-1,000 persons went from close to 5 in the 1970s, down to under 3 today. In many counties and urban areas, it is 0.5 or nothing. The Department of Veterans Affairs could provide 3,300 beds on short notice, but spread out across 130 VA centers. The Veterans’ and military base hospitals have been severely cut back as well, over the last 20 years. The prestigious Walter Reed Army Medical Center, for example, was designed to treat 1,260 patients; it now has 240 beds, with 400 more in storage for which there are no staff or equipment.

It is now estimated that the United States has an immediate shortage of 126,000 registered hospital nurses. By simple linear projection to 2020, it is estimated that the nurse workforce will be 20% lower than what is needed. Shortages in other hospital staff, including anesthesiologists, pharmacists, X-ray technicians, among others, are now growing. A national mobilization is required.

This “de-structuring” followed a period of deliberate build up of the U.S. hospital system from 1947 to the early 1970s, mandated by the 1946 Hospital Survey and Construction Act—called “Hill-Burton” after its bipartisan co-



have no presence of any kind of state or local public health center.

Right now, the capacities of state labs are not even based on the population density of a region, and have been taxed to the breaking point. The Executive Director of the American Public Health Association, Mohammed N. Akhter, MD, said in October, that “the demands to investigate these latest anthrax cases are rapidly outpacing our ability to act.” At various labs, some 1,200 environmental samples were being tested per day for possible anthrax. Dr. Akhter was blunt: “If they [terrorists] use a contagious agent like smallpox, we will not have isolation facilities to quarantine people. *If there’s a major attack that would require more than 500 beds, no community has that number of extra beds available*” (emphasis added).

Even Federally, the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is sited in 55-year-old facilities meant to be replaced 40 years ago. In October, an electricity outage from old wiring delayed CDC anthrax sample analysis by hours. The CDC was overtaxed even by the small outbreak of West Nile virus cases. It needs to be put on war footing, with expansion of both lab capacity and specialists.

Dangerous Concentration Of Food Processing

A public health threat has been created over the past 30 years, by the increasing “free” (rigged) trade cartelization in the food supply business, bringing both huge volumes of imports through more than 100 ports of entry, and also a pattern of “factory farms,” and concentrations of food processing. The photo (p. 64) shows a giant Iowa corn sweetener plant run by Archer Daniels Midland (ADM), the world’s largest soybean and corn processor, operating mega-factories. Pathogens can easily enter the extended food chain “naturally,” and be dispersed rapidly over wide areas, instead of being confined regionally. There have been recalls, for example, of millions of pounds of meat product contaminated by *E. coli* bacteria; and listeria has been found in dairy foods. The potential impact of bioterrorism is amplified by such a system.

Huge factory-farms of hog, cattle, dairy, and poultry operations make any livestock disease outbreak—or veterinary terrorism, into an automatic catastrophe. The latest estimates of concentration of meat processing are: Five firms account for over 80% of all beef processed in the United States (IBP, ConAgra, Excel/Cargill, Farmland National, and Packerland); six firms account for over 80% of the pork (Smithfield, IBP, ConAgra, Excel/Cargill, Farmland Industries, and Hormel). The same situation prevails in dairy and cereals.

As a national sanitation defense measure, localization of farming and food processing can be restored through the restoration of traditional farm product parity pricing, and related anti-trust executive action.

To Win War On Terror, Shut Down Dope, Inc.

by Jeffrey Steinberg

In response to the Sept. 11 irregular warfare attacks against the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, President George W. Bush declared war against international terrorism—all international terrorism. The overwhelming majority of nations of the world—led, from day one, by Russia—endorsed the President’s declaration of war, and vowed to collaborate in the campaign to rid the planet of the scourge of terrorism.

Some 60 days into the war, and 30 days into American and British military operations inside Afghanistan, the entire venture may be running aground. Within the Muslim world, there is growing fear that a protracted Anglo-American military operation against the Taliban regime and Osama bin Laden’s al-Qaeda organization, will trigger a backlash against moderate Arab governments. The “breakaway ally” regime of Ariel Sharon in Israel is threatening military action against a range of regional targets—from the Palestinian Authority, to the Hezbollah inside Lebanon, to Syria, Iraq, and even Saudi Arabia. Any such action by Israel, particularly in the context of the ongoing U.S. and British military actions in Afghanistan, would detonate the “Clash of Civilizations” demanded by such lunatic geopoliticians as Samuel Huntington, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Bernard Lewis, and Henry Kissinger.

Such events would constitute a decisive defeat of the war against terrorism, and would engulf the entire planet in decades of brutality and chaos—far more lethal than the hideous attacks of Sept. 11 and the ongoing biological warfare attacks against the United States.

To prevent this ruinous turn of events, it is imperative that the Bush Administration abandon its present course of action, and launch a genuine war against terrorism that proceeds from an entirely different set of axioms. These axioms have been stated and restated by Lyndon LaRouche since the moment the Sept. 11 attacks began.

An Enemy Within

In a live radio interview with Salt Lake City talk show host Jack Stockwell, which began just moments after the first hijacked plane crashed into the Trade Center tower, LaRouche predicted that there would be a media-led stampede to blame the irregular warfare assault on Osama bin Laden—even though it was transparently clear that bin Laden could not have carried out such a sophisticated military-precision attack. LaRouche never ruled out that assets from the Afghansi mujahideen apparatus were employed in the Sept. 11 attacks. He insisted that the control over the attacks—and

the anticipated follow-on attacks—came from within rogue elements of the U.S. and Anglo-American military and national security structures; and that no effective counterattack could be mounted without targeting this high-level “enemy within” command component of the terrorist machine. (See *EIR*, Sept. 21, for the text of the interview.)

The anthrax attacks, which all qualified military and scientific specialists have said could not have originated with al-Qaeda or Iraq, confirmed the accuracy of LaRouche’s assessment. The actions of Sharon and command circles in the Israeli Defense Forces, further corroborated LaRouche’s evaluation. And the behavior of British Prime Minister Tony Blair—whose Great Britain has been the world’s number-one safe-haven for international terrorists (including “Osama bin London”), but who now professes to co-lead the coalition against terror under the banner of a new imperialism—further proves the case.

With as little fanfare as possible, President Bush should extricate the U.S. military from the Afghanistan quagmire and U.S. policymaking from the even more dangerous embrace of Tony Blair. Instead: Hit the global terrorist apparatus on its most vulnerable and exposed flank. Launch an all-out war on drugs. Take out the global underground economy of drugs, illegal weapons, and other criminal commodities. At long last, take down the global money-laundering infrastructure—with no exceptions.

By taking such action now, President Bush would restore the moral high ground that was established after the murderous sneak attacks of Sept. 11. The escalating danger of the United States being drawn into the “Clash of Civilizations” trap, would be instantly averted. The U.S.–Russian cooperation—the cornerstone of any successful war on terrorism—would be greatly advanced. As *EIR* reported in its Oct. 12 issue, in a speech delivered before his National Security Council, Russian President Vladimir Putin called for an assault against the international narco-terrorist apparatus. Both President Putin and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration chief Asa Hutchinson publicly reported that 80% of the heroin trafficked in Eurasia comes from the opium poppy fields of Afghanistan. In the Western Hemisphere, the largest source of heroin and cocaine is Colombia, and the largest drug cartel in Colombia is the narco-terrorist FARC.

How Big Is Dope, Inc.?

The most accurate and comprehensive recent study of the global illegal drug trade appeared in the pages of *EIR* on July 26, 1996 (“Britain’s Dope, Inc. Grows To A \$521 Billion Business”). Taken in conjunction with *EIR*’s three-part dossier on the new international terrorism, which was first published in Oct.–Nov. 1995, and was recently reprinted as part of a LaRouche in 2004 Presidential Campaign White Paper on “How to Defeat Global Irregular Warfare,” the Dope, Inc. survey provides all of the information and method required to mount and win a war against the narco-terrorist international.

In 1995, *EIR* analysts documented that the international drug trade generated \$521 billion in annual revenue. A recent review of the National Drug Threat Assessment 2001 report of the Justice Department’s National Drug Intelligence Center, confirms that Dope, Inc. continues to grow at rates well above the most successful legal corporations of national economies. Combined with illegal weapons trafficking, the black market in guns and drugs—the financial base of the new international terrorism—converges on \$1 trillion annually.

Can Dope, Inc. Be Busted?

The answer is “yes.” In March 1985, in a speech delivered to an anti-drug conference in Mexico City, Lyndon LaRouche outlined a 15-point Western Hemispheric War on Drugs plan (see *EIR*, Oct. 5, 2001 for re-publication), to be carried out by precisely the kind of coalition of sovereign nation-states now committed to the war against terrorism. As the LaRouche 15-point plan and the updated July 1996 *EIR* drug survey reported, NASA and other agencies possess the satellite technology to identify every opium, coca, and marijuana field on the surface of the Earth. Precision-targeted herbicides have been developed and field-tested that can eradicate the illicit crops, with no environmental damage. Military field operations can supplement the herbicides.

Drugs en route to principal markets in North America, Europe, the states of the former Soviet Union, and Asia, can be interdicted through precisely the kinds of strict border security and related measures that have already been in force as the result of Sept. 11 and the anthrax attacks. Effective intelligence and counterintelligence measures can give governments committed to such a strike against the heart of the narco-terrorist logistics and infrastructure, a decisive advantage over the drug and gun cartels, but only if the citizens-above-suspicion, formerly exempt from law enforcement and intelligence scrutiny, are sighted on the same radar screen.

The most important element of a serious war on the narco-terror infrastructure is the takedown of the money-laundering apparatus—which begins at the top of the globalized, deregulated commercial banking system, including the commercial banks’ derivatives-trading private banking units and correspondent banking arrangements.

Such a three-front assault against Dope, Inc. is not only a winner. The truth is, no strategy against terrorism that evades such action can possibly succeed.

Richard Grasso, president of the New York Stock Exchange, who made his peace with the Colombian FARC, must be told, in no uncertain terms, that his dream of bailing out Wall Street through ever larger infusions of narco-dollars, is over. George Soros, the godfather of Dope, Inc.’s offshore money havens, should find himself facing prosecutors.

In short, hit the terrorists on the flank that they least expect. To defeat a coup, like the coup now being staged against the U.S. government, creative, flanking warfare is the key to success.

Anti-Money-Laundering Bill Passes Congress

by Suzanne Rose

The Sept. 11 attacks have been seen by members of Congress, law enforcement, and government agencies as the opportunity for passing anti-money-laundering legislation which has otherwise been languishing. As former Japanese Deputy Finance Minister Eisuke Sakakibara told the Malaysian daily *New Strait Times* of Oct. 20, before the attacks the U.S. government *opposed* international efforts to impose sanctions on tax havens that refused to share information with U.S. authorities on money laundering. Since Sept. 11, he said, there has been a sea change.

During the week of Oct. 22, both Houses of the U.S. Congress passed H.R. 3162, the "Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act." In this anti-terrorism legislation, there is a section which treats money laundering in an unprecedented way.

The money-laundering sections of H.R. 3162 are an amalgam of previous bills sponsored by Sens. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) and John Kerry (D-Mass.), and Rep. John LaFalce (D-N.Y.), plus recommendations of the Bush Administration.

The Act incorporates recommendations which came out of Senator Levin's extensive 1999 hearings on money laundering in the Senate Permanent Investigations Subcommittee, which dealt with, especially, the use of "private banks" for money laundering. Private banks are off-the-record accounts maintained by special personnel, for customers who deposit \$1 million or more. The 1999 hearings dealt exhaustively with the case of Raúl Salinas, brother of former Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who, some say, laundered in excess of \$200 million in drug-related funds through his "private bank" at Citibank. No one from Citibank has yet been prosecuted in this case, which dates to 1993, although it has been demonstrated that the highest-level bank officers were aware of Salinas' account.

U.S. Banks Addicted To Money Laundering

The Salinas case points up one of the major conceptual problems with the new bill; it assumes that the problem centers on *foreign accounts*, from foreign locations which are "of money-laundering concern." The Salinas case, among others, lifted the curtain on the degree to which *U.S. banks* are addicted to money-laundering flows, especially from drug trafficking.

That said, the bill authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to take special measures against foreign countries or financial institutions or accounts deemed "primary money-laundering concerns." The Treasury Secretary could include offshore havens, such as the notorious Cayman Islands; and British Crown Colonies, such as the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, long the center of money laundering. Among its findings, the bill states that "certain jurisdictions outside of the United States that offer 'offshore' banking and related facili-



The "new" anti-money-laundering legislation was really largely drafted in 1999, after hearings on Citibank money-laundering. It was opposed by Greenspan and the banks then, and still has a huge loophole: "The enforcement can be waived if the financial community wishes."

ties designed to provide anonymity, coupled with weak financial supervisory and enforcement regimes, provide essential tools to disguise ownership and movement of criminal funds, derived from, or used to commit, offenses ranging from narcotics trafficking, terrorism, arms smuggling, and trafficking in human beings, to financial frauds that prey on law abiding citizens.”

Heightened reporting requirements, beyond the current requirement under the Bank Secrecy Act to report every cash transaction of more than \$10,000, will be mandated in instances where the account, or the country of a bank’s location, or a bank, is considered a money-laundering concern by the Treasury Secretary. Private banks, and banks which maintain correspondent accounts for foreign banks which fall under the category of concern, will be required to maintain records of the identities and other information concerning their customers, and to share it with law enforcement. The new regulations not only require banks to carry out more stringent reporting and to have more knowledge of their customers; the Treasury Secretary can also prohibit a bank from doing business in the United States. Banks which use concentration accounts for their foreign customers (where money from different accounts is co-mingled in wire transfers, so that the owner of a particular transaction is concealed) will be subject to regulations preventing this. “Shell banks” in offshore money-laundering havens which do not conduct business in their geographical area, can no longer have correspondent accounts with U.S. banks.

An Enormous Loophole

An enormous loophole was included in the legislation, signalling the fact that it was passed in the midst of the biggest financial and monetary crisis in modern history. The bill reads, “The Secretary of the Treasury may require domestic financial institutions and agencies to take one or more of the special measures described in subsection (b), if the Secretary finds that reasonable grounds exist for concluding that (such institutions or classes of transactions, or types of accounts) is of primary money laundering concern.” In selecting the special measures, the Federal Reserve or other appropriate agencies shall be consulted, and shall consider whether the imposition would create a competitive disadvantage or undue cost or burden for U.S. banks, and whether the action or timing would have a significant adverse systemic impact on the international payment, clearance, and settlement system, or on legitimate business activities involving the particular jurisdiction, institution, or class of transactions.”

In other words, if enforcing anti-money-laundering provisions would threaten the solvency of a bank, or impose too big a cost burden, the enforcement can be waived if the financial community wishes. This loophole raises the issue of the insolvency of the entire financial system, which has been masked for years by large-scale illegal financial flows, especially of drug money. The need to eliminate these financial

flows as the source of funding for terrorist activities, begs the question of the solvency of the banking system. That must be addressed through a bankruptcy reorganization, or New Bretton Woods plan, proposed by economist Lyndon LaRouche.

The financial community and their Congressional representatives fiercely opposed other aspects of the bill, and succeeded in further compromising it. House Majority Leader Dick Armey (R-Tex.) opposed efforts to regulate flows from offshore centers, citing the fact that people do business in these places to avoid taxes—which, he claimed, is a sound economic policy! Others objected to the inclusion of an amendment barring gambling on the Internet with credit cards, and it was subsequently excluded.

Another major omission from the legislation is the hedge funds, which are completely unregulated, and provide unique opportunities for laundering of drug money. Former Deputy Finance Minister Sakakibara pointed to hedge funds as the “pirates of modern finance,” and charged that they include funds for terrorists. Sen. Jon Corzine (D-N.J.), in hearings considering the legislation, demanded that unregulated money managers (hedge fund operators) who can conceal the identity of those who own the account, be included under the legislation. But, in the final version, hedge funds were not included.

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Is the U.S. Realizing Its Mistake On Colombia's Narco-Terrorist FARC?

by Valerie Rush

How do you defeat the Western Hemisphere's most dangerous narco-terrorist organization? Until recently, U.S. State Department policy toward the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) was to endorse "peace negotiations" between Colombian President Andrés Pastrana and the FARC leadership. After nearly four years of negotiations, the government of Colombia has surrendered its territorial and political sovereignty to these murderous narco-terrorists, kidnapping has become the country's most lucrative "industry" and cocaine and heroin its most lucrative "exports," and the entire Andean region of South America now faces a drug-financed terrorist insurgency on the Colombia model. The security of the United States itself is directly threatened on its southern flank.

The shocking events of Sept. 11 have apparently served as a wake-up call, and saner voices have finally begun to be heard in official Washington. On Oct. 10, for example, at hearings of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee of the House Committee on International Relations, State Department counterterrorism director Frances Taylor stated, "Today, the most dangerous international terrorist group based in this hemisphere is the FARC," an admission that would have been unthinkable just a short time ago.

And on Oct. 24, speaking at a Pan-American seminar on money laundering, held in the Caribbean resort city of Cartagena, U.S. Ambassador to Colombia Anne Patterson declared that the FARC and its fellow terrorist groups in Colombia—the National Liberation Army (ELN) and the paramilitary AUC—"are all three deeply involved in the drug trade in Colombia. I want to emphasize that attacking the finances of these groups is not going to be easy, but our commitment is to reduce the money flow from illegal activities." Patterson suggested that top leaders of these terrorist organizations might be indicted in the United States, on money-laundering and drug-trafficking charges, and their extradition sought.

For years, the State Department has promoted the lie that the FARC were political "rebels with a cause," and has resisted all attempts to label them as "narco-terrorist." Indeed, long after being forced to put the FARC on State's list of international terrorist organizations, and despite overwhelming evidence of FARC involvement in the drug trade, officials

from the U.S. State Department had silently pursued negotiations with these drug-trafficking kidnapers and assassins.

Reality is now beginning to assert itself, but the question still remains: How does one defeat the most dangerous terrorist threat in the Western Hemisphere? This subject has been repeatedly addressed by *EIR*, and its founder and 2004 Democratic Presidential pre-candidate, Lyndon LaRouche: You have to go for the head. In the case of the FARC, the head is not hiding out in the cocaine jungles of Colombia, but on Wall Street and the City of London. It can properly be called, "The Grasso Factor."

Evolution Of The FARC Cartel

The FARC started out in the 1950s as a gang of peasant bandits, picked up and financed in the 1960s by the then-powerful Communist Party of Colombia. It was not until the late 1970s and 1980s that links began to be established with the drug trade. First operating as security for the cartels' drug laboratories and clandestine airstrips, the FARC soon discovered the benefits of tapping into the weapons- and drug-smuggling routes established by the cartels. By the mid-1980s, it is estimated that the FARC was already bringing in some \$40 million a year in protection money paid by the drug cartels.

Using that money to expand its forces, the FARC was soon able to challenge the cartels' control of the drug plantations, and then their cocaine labs and smuggling routes. Bloody warfare led to a definite break in FARC relations with the Medellín Cartel. By the late 1980s, the FARC was setting up its own contacts with dealers in Colombia and abroad, and a special "Financial Front" was established to manage the vast new flows of drug money, under the leadership of Luis Edgar Devia Silva, a.k.a. "Raúl Reyes." The FARC Cartel was born.

Wall Street was involved from the outset, and used various "human rights" non-governmental organizations to run a protection racket for the FARC. Even while raking in an estimated \$1 billion per year in combined drug revenues, extortion, and kidnap ransoms, the FARC seemed to be leading a charmed life. The international human rights lobby had shackled the Colombian Armed Forces, and successive governments in Bogotá were bending over backward to lure the FARC into power-sharing "peace talks." Even the U.S. gov-

ernment was turning a blind eye, refusing to heed the warnings of its own anti-drug official, Gen. Barry McCaffrey (ret.), that the FARC was financing its dramatic growth with drug money.

Once President Pastrana granted the FARC its own “demilitarized zone,” which the FARC itself describes as a “state within a state,” the Wall Street connection went public. In June 1999, New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) President Richard Grasso flew down to FARClândia, as the FARC-controlled “demilitarized zone” has been dubbed, where he met with FARC financial czar Raúl Reyes. Afterwards, Grasso hailed the FARC leadership as “extraordinary,” and Reyes as “very sophisticated, despite what his appearance may have been, given his jungle fatigues and his M-16.” Grasso said they had discussed a “mutual exchange of capitals,” and announced that he had invited the FARC leadership to “walk the trading floor with me” at the NYSE. Specifically, Grasso described his trip as part of the NYSE’s strategy of being “very aggressive in trying to pursue international markets and opportunities,” and he said he hoped his visit “will mark the beginning of a new relationship between the FARC and the United States.”

Translating for Grasso at the meeting in FARClândia was then-Colombian Finance Minister Juan Camilo Restrepo, who was conducting meetings with an International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission in Bogotá at the same time. Just weeks before the Grasso visit, the Colombian statistical agency DANE had issued a press release, which revealed that Colombian Gross National Product calculations in the future would include “illicit crops in agricultural production,” as per the explicit instructions of the IMF.

The Legalization Drive

The IMF had dictated the first major step toward legalizing Colombia’s drug economy. Grasso was now taking the second. Indeed, following his visit in search of new “investment opportunities,” the financial world’s pilgrimages to Colombia came thick and fast.

In January 2000, “thirteen of the world’s leading financial and business heavyweights,” according to the news media, descended on Bogotá to meet with Colombian President Pastrana and his finance minister. These magnates, dubbing themselves “the Millennium Group,” included Grasso, America OnLine founder Jim Kimsey, and corporate and banking representatives from a number of other countries. The day-long conclave was dedicated to mapping out an “investment” strategy for Colombia. In a press conference after the meeting, AOL’s Kimsey gushed that Colombia was a land bursting with opportunities, and that all it really needed was “an image boost.”

Orchestrating the Millennium meeting was “mover-and-shaker” Violy McCausland, a former partner of World Bank President James Wolfensohn, and an expert in “private capital raising, restructuring, privatizations, and project financing.”

McCausland is Colombian by birth, but makes her home in New York. Her firm is considered one of the top ten advisory firms in Ibero-America.

A few weeks after the Millennium gathering, six top FARC leaders, including Raúl Reyes and former banker-turned-terrorist Simón Trinidad, left FARClândia and, together with delegated representatives of the Pastrana government, went on a high-profile month-long tour of a half-dozen European countries, including those where McCausland has her networks. Much of the discussion, as with the Millennium meeting, involved European “investment” in the peace process, including financing “alternative development” programs in Colombia’s cocaine heartland. It was later revealed that the FARC Euro-tour had been planned back in June 1999, not coincidentally the same period of Grasso’s visit to FARClândia.

In early March, Kimsey and his cohort Joseph Robert, a millionaire real estate baron, flew down to FARClândia to meet with FARC chieftain Manuel Marulanda. In a *Washington Post* commentary written a year later, Kimsey and Robert suggested that the next step was for FARC leaders to come to the United States, to speak “directly to the U.S. Congress and the American people. . . . We do believe our leaders should listen to them.”

What does the FARC have to say, which U.S. leaders should listen to? Perhaps Kimsey had in mind the open letter written by the FARC to the U.S. government, and released to the media just weeks after his departure from Colombia, in which the narco-terrorists called for global drug legalization. The FARC proposed that U.S. congressional delegations be sent to Colombia, to speak with FARC leaders, tour the country’s vast cocaine plantations, and talk directly to Colombia’s coca-farmers about their “crops.”

Today, the FARC is reputed to be 20,000 strong. It directly controls a swathe of land the size of Switzerland, in Colombia’s southern cocaine heartland. Apart from the 90,000 inhabitants of the area who are now enslaved to FARC tyranny, FARClândia serves as a holding pen for kidnap victims and military/police “prisoners of war.” International terrorists are smuggled into FARClândia to provide FARC forces with weapons and explosives training. Military surveillance overflights report that coca plantations cover one-third to one-half of the area inside FARClândia’s borders. FARClândia also serves as a staging area for terrorist assaults outside its borders, and as a refuge into which Colombia’s military may not enter in pursuit. FARClândia is gradually being expanded, as more and more towns outside its borders are absorbed under threat of terrorist retaliation.

The FARC, and the “Grasso Factor” which controls it, is a perfect place for the U.S. government to begin a serious war against narco-terrorism, by going after the international financial networks that sponsor it, while providing the Colombian military the equipment, training, and intelligence it needs to handle the problem within its own borders.

Economic Stimulus Debate Opens Partisan Fissures

On Oct. 24, the House took up what GOP leaders insisted was an economic stimulus bill, and immediately shattered the carefully cultivated show of bipartisan unity that was put in place after Sept. 11.

The bill focusses entirely on tax cuts, and includes among its provisions the repeal of the corporate alternative minimum tax (AMT), retroactive to 1986. The bill accelerates the reduction of individual tax rates that was passed earlier this year, and it extends a number of provisions that were set to expire this year. The bill also provides refunds to certain low-income taxpayers who were not eligible for the first round of rebates, and provides additional money for block grants to states to extend health insurance benefits to the unemployed. The entire package, which passed by a narrow vote of 216-214, is designed more to prop up the stock market than it is to actually stimulate the economy.

Democrats justifiably ridiculed the bill. Martin Frost (D-Tex.) said that it "is so partisan, so unfair to laid-off workers, and so fiscally irresponsible that there is little doubt about the harm it would do to the economy, to Social Security and Medicare, and to public health and other homeland security problems."

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Thomas (R-Calif.) didn't deny that the bulk of the bill's benefits go to large corporations. Instead, he claimed that these corporations need the tax breaks because they are "job-creation machines." Jim McDermott (D-Wash.) replied that these corporations "are not job-creating machines. They are money-making machines for stockholders," and suggested that the money these companies get back in the AMT tax rebate is likely to go out in the form of dividends to stockholders.

The Senate is still crafting a stimulus bill, and where the negotiations with Republicans and the White House will go on that remains to be seen. On Oct. 30, Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) vowed that "there can be no economic stimulus unless there is assistance for the unemployed, unless there is help for those who have no health insurance. We will not even consider a bill unless it has those components."

House Prepares To Vote On Aviation Security

The House leadership is preparing to bring its own aviation security bill to the floor, but amid signals that it may not have the votes to beat a Senate-passed bill that Federalizes the passenger- and baggage-screening process. The Senate bill passed on Oct. 11 by a vote of 100-0. The House bill, sponsored by Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Don Young (R-Ak.), would strengthen Federal oversight of security companies that provide airport screeners, but would leave the workforce in the private sector.

House GOP leaders have been adamantly opposed to creating a new Federal workforce of 28,000 people, with civil service protections and likely union representation. The Bush Administration has declared in support of the GOP bill, but on Oct. 28 White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card said that if the Senate-passed bill were to make it to President George Bush's desk, he would sign it, because "he wants airline security."

The House GOP leadership is now in the position where that might happen, if they allow up-or-down votes on both versions. On Oct. 30, Majority Leader Dick Armey (R-Tex.) declared that the Young bill would prevail, but he acknowledged that the Senate bill

has a number of House Republican co-sponsors, including Greg Ganske (Iowa), who introduced the bill into the House, Lindsay Graham (S.C.), Chris Shays (Conn.), Charles Norwood (Ga.), Chris Smith (N.J.), and Tom Davis (Va.). Armey promised that Ganske and the Democrats, who also support the bill, will get a vote, but he and Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-Tex.) have, in the past, shown a propensity for refusing to bring up legislation that they oppose and that might have the votes to pass anyway.

Appropriations Bills Get Through One Logjam

Republicans declared victory when the Senate confirmed four judicial nominees on Oct. 23. Republicans had successfully stalled appropriations bills, notably the Foreign Operations appropriations bill, for three weeks, before the nominations were taken up.

Judiciary Committee Chairman Pat Leahy (D-Vt.) complained that the Republicans were not very helpful in getting the nominees through the committee. He described how he held an ad hoc hearing on the four nominees on Oct. 4, in the office of Robert Byrd (D-W.V.), and only one GOP committee member showed up. (The committee used Byrd's office, because it was locked out of its own offices because of the anthrax contamination.)

Once the nominations were cleared, the GOP dropped its filibuster, and the Senate quickly passed the Foreign Operations appropriations bill on Oct. 24, and the Agriculture and Transportation bills on Oct. 25. Both Houses also passed a fourth continuing resolution to keep the government open until Nov. 16, although Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Ak.) had earlier warned that all the spending bills would have to be done by Nov. 6 if the Congress desires to adjourn by Nov. 16.

Between Good And Bad Angels

As of Nov. 1, the anti-terror strategy of bombing Afghanistan was evidently a failure, and the dangerous breed called “neo-Conservatives” were raising a drumbeat in Washington, for what is called in military parlance a “flight forward.” They were demanding that the Bush Administration stop “dithering” with Afghanistan, attack Iran, Iraq, and Syria, and issue war threats to Malaysia, Indonesia, and even Saudi Arabia. In other words, act imperially and deliberately pursue an armed “clash of civilizations.”

This flight forward, as “exit strategy” from a failed bombing campaign, was in direct opposition to the change in policy being publicly recommended by Lyndon LaRouche. LaRouche was telling the White House, urgently: Stop the Afghanistan bombing now and change course to the “home front”: Attack the flanks of international terrorism by attacking drug trafficking, gun running, and money laundering; rebuild U.S. national sanitation/public health capabilities against epidemic disease and bio-terrorism; start a determined push for Mideast peace.

At a Carnegie Endowment even in Washington on Oct. 30, Richard Perle and Robert Kagan of the neo-Conservative faction, which intersects the Israeli right-wing military factions, showed the link between this “flight forward” strategy and the attacks themselves, of Sept. 11 and following. They said they hoped the “losing” American strategy could be changed after *a second attack on the United States*, “in a hard way, in a devastating way” (Kagan); “at that point we will move very quickly . . . with an entirely new, military and other political grand strategy.” Recently Kagan, Perle, Michael Ledeen, and others of this powerful faction have been publicly calling, as well, for the radical overthrow of the Saudi royal family—a major objective of Osama bin Laden!

For Perle, the shadowiest of this crowd, this was a direct attack on the administration he belongs to: He is a director of policy planning in the Defense Department.

But more broadly, this statement of intent of those

neo-Conservatives who also want an aggressive Israeli military breakaway from U.S. restraint, shows this political faction—including its Israeli military components—to have had a strong *interest* in the events of Sept. 11 themselves. This was pointed to publicly by LaRouche on a radio interview the morning of Sept. 11, when he warned of the policy-intent of stampeding a destabilized Bush Administration into support of a religious war against the whole Islamic world, spearheaded by the Sharon-Israeli Defense Forces leadership in Israel.

The Perle crowd know quite well that their frenzied policy-advice is being directly and effectively opposed by Lyndon LaRouche. At a similar event on the previous day, Oct. 29, LaRouche associate Bill Jones of *EIR* commented from the audience to Perle and other neo-Conservative speakers that their proposals were manifestly “nuts.” They were giving indirect confirmation, Jones pointed out, that the terrorist attacks may be perpetrated for the purpose of preparing police-state measures at home, and an all-out war against Islam. Former CIA Director James Woolsey’s shouted rejoinder was revealing: “These are the views of Lyndon LaRouche! These are the views of Lyndon LaRouche, aren’t they?”

These are the two opposed alternatives before the Bush White House, in response to the growing acknowledgement that the knee-jerk bombing of Afghanistan is a failure.

The neo-Conservatives, with the Brzezinski-Kissinger “geopoliticians” lurking behind them, are demanding a “flight forward” which will very rapidly plunge the United States into a new and terrible “Hundred Years War.”

LaRouche is proposing an “exit strategy” for the President, an immediate turn from futile and destructive bombing, to attacks on the *flanks* of the enemy. It is a policy that will work, and can rapidly win the grateful support of an American population besieged by economic collapse, war, and terror at the same time. It is the President’s only sane choice.

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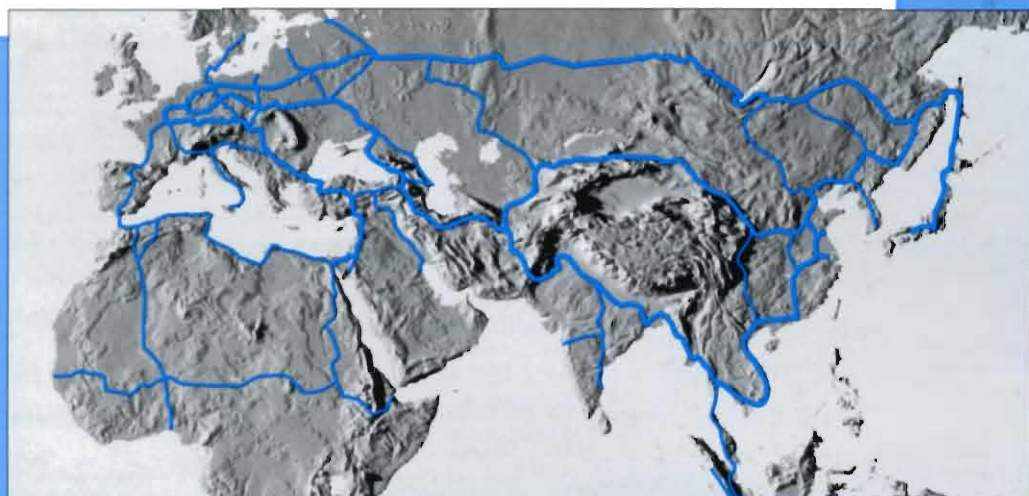
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Helga Zepp-LaRouche (right), known as "the Silk Road Lady," has played a major role in organizing worldwide support for the Eurasian Land-Bridge. She is shown here with Schiller Institute associates at Lianyungang Port in China, October 1998.



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