Historic Vistas Open at Vladivostok and Hangzhou

by David Christie of the LaRouche PAC National Policy Committee

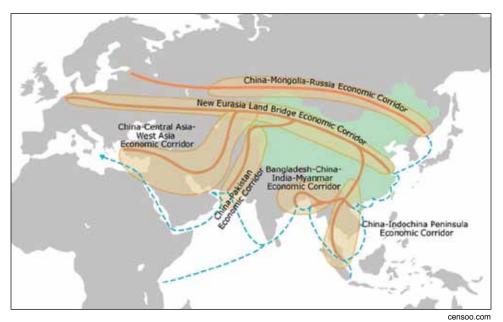
Aug. 31—If you are prepared to think and act for victory, then you will recognize that this is the week that we can begin the final dissolution of the British Empire, forever. Not only that: With it will go the whole, hoary system of empire, which is older than written history, the system rightly called the adolescence of mankind. China's President Xi Jinping is taking personal responsibility for key aspects of the upcoming G-20 Summit in Hangzhou, China, Sept. 4-5, at which the leadership of China intends to sound the death-knell of the financial oligarchy with a new financial architecture. This new architecture is coherent with the physical-economic policy already under way in China, Russia, India, and a growing roster of other key nations which are collaborating on China's "New Silk Road," which is quickly becoming the "World Landbridge" as outlined

by Lyndon and Helga La-Rouche for more than three decades.

The G-20 Summit in Hangzhou will be immediately preceded by the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, Russia, Sept. 2-3, where President Vladimir Putin of Russia will be joined by Xi Jinping of China, President Park Geun-Hye of South Korea, and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan, along with other heads of state from around the world.

Northeast Asia—where Russia, China, Japan, and the Korean Peninsula intersect—represents one of the greatest sources of economic potential in the world. And for that reason, it has been subjected to the British policy of "divide and rule" since the 19th Century. Cooperation among these nations immediately forces the issue of the inevitable Bering Strait tunnel connecting Russia to the Americas. And along with the Bering Strait tunnel, opening up the development of the Arctic should actually be seen as an integral part of an international space program, from the standpoint of both the scientific advances required to develop this vast, inhospitable area and the insights to be gained there into planet Earth's relationship to its Solar-system and Galactic environment.

At the Vladivostok Eastern Economic Forum, Dmitry Rogozin, chairman of Russian space agency Roscosmos, will address a panel on "The Space Agenda



The rapidly emerging transportation and development corridors, which are the basis for the collaboration of all nations in a new worldwide paradigm.



Russian President Vladimir Putin (left), and President of China Xi Jinping at the November 2014 APEC Economic Leaders' Meetings.

for the Asia-Pacific," along with space officials from Asian nations. While there is no panel on exploration or development of the Arctic *per se*, there is one on the integrally related Northern Sea Route. There are many more panels to discuss infrastructure and energy projects, opportunities for investors, and vehicles and instruments for supporting entrepreneurs.

The forum is expected to draw upwards of 2,400 guests from China, Japan, South Korea, India, Vietnam, Australia, the United States, and Singapore, as well as from Russia itself. According to the press office of Russia's Far East Development Ministry, 161 agreements totalling nearly 1.6 trillion rubles (\$24.5 billion) are expected to be signed. Russia's Minister of Far East Development, Alexander Galushka, told TASS that a number of these agreements will be related to creation of new production facilities in the region.

A Russia-Japan panel will have 15 speakers from the top leadership of business in both countries, including the chairmen of Mitsui, Fujitsu, and Sofbank corporations, and the Governor of Hokkaido. A Russia-South Korea panel will include the presidents of Hyundai Engineering and Construction, and of Samsung Electronics. According to Yonhap News Agency, South Korea and Russia "also agreed to seek a free trade agreement between South Korea and the Russialed Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), which has Kazakhstan, Belarus, Armenia, and Kyrgyzstan as members." Russia and South Korea are also discussing railway development. At Vladivostok, there will also be a panel for Russia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with highlevel representation. There will also be a Russia-Germany panel, but the only German there will be the chairman of the Russian-German Chamber of Commerce, because German Chancellor Angela Merkel has succumbed to Barack Obama's anti-Russian agenda.

Were Japan and South Korea to consolidate their shift towards the expanding conception of China's New Silk Road and fully integrate themselves into this new Eurasian perspective, the implications would be tectonic. The forces of the British Empire have em-

broiled this region in geopolitical manipulations for more than a century, and now, through their control of the U.S. Presidency of Barack Obama, they are putting heavy pressure on Japan and South Korea to keep them obedient.

Nevertheless, there have been breaks in this situation. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, who is also an important political figure in South Korea, has made statements in support of China's initiatives in connection with the G-20 Summit in Hangzhou. Ban may be a factor in the upcoming presidential elections there. And while China has taken the initiative to put the new financial architecture on the agenda at the G-20, in light of the worsening financial breakdown of the trans-Atlantic system of the City of London and Wall Street, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan, on his part, has made clear statements on the danger of the unfolding collapse, and has warned that the world economy faces the risk of another 2008 "Lehman shock" if appropriate action is not taken.

Abe had intended that a mention of this financial danger be inserted into the final communiqué of the G-7 meeting earlier this year. He has said that the present problems cannot be solved by monetary policy alone. Unlike Obama and his British masters, Prime Minister Abe understands that physical economic growth is required.



kremlin.ru

Russia President Putin (center right), hosting Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and high-level members of their respective staffs, in Sochi, Russia, on March 6, 2016.

Tectonic Shifts

Never forget that the world is undergoing a massive strategic recalibration. People and institutions which may not have been on the side of humanity—which may not have encouraged its development, or even actively engaged in genocidal actions against their fellows—*can change*, even if not always for the most noble reasons.

Take for example a recent article by Gal Luft in *Foreign Affairs*, the journal of the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations. In "<u>China's Infrastructure Play: Why Washington Should Accept the New Silk Road</u>," Luft extols the virtues of China's Silk Road program. Or take the case of the Chairman of the Munich Security Conference, Wolfgang Ischinger, who now says "the Turkish about-face on Assad is comprehensible," and urges the West to "find it comprehensible." Ischinger notes, furthermore, that those who demanded that Assad leave office as a starting point, had "a failed plan."

A Damascus Road conversion? *Realpolitik*? Or just plain opportunism? Whatever the reason, or however long it lasts in an individual case, it shows that something is in the air. With this potential for change, it is now incumbent upon those of us in the trans-Atlantic area who understand the absolute necessity for urgent change, to move for victory.

It is in this context that the strategic implications of Japan's and South Korea's shifting towards the New Paradigm are so immense. President Park of South Korea went to China in 2015 for the 70th anniversary celebration of the end of World War II in the Pacific. She sat next to Putin and Xi in an important and significant gesture. Later, however, she yielded to the excruciating pressure that Barack Obama brought down upon her and consented to the placement of the Terminal High Altitude Aerial Defense (THAAD) system in Korea, which has caused both Russia and China to register grave concerns that the strategic balance is being upset.

But at the same time, in the lead-up to the Vladivo-

stok forum, Russia and Japan are working out the details for a long-delayed peace treaty which will formally end World War II between them. Abe has apparently referred to a "new approach," but it remains to be determined what that approach actually is.

In reality, the war that must be ended in that region goes back much further than World War II—it even goes back further than World War I,— back to the British-instigated wars along geopolitical fault lines on the Korean Peninsula and the adjacent area formerly known as Manchuria, at the intersection of Russia, China, and Korea. These were wars designed to stop the spread of Hamilton's "American System," which had taken root in Japan at the time of the Meiji Restoration in the 1860s.

World War II Goes Back Centuries

Halford Mackinder is generally considered the godfather of British Geopolitics, and was the Director of the London School of Economics and Political Science at the time he wrote his seminal paper, "The Geographical Pivot of History," which was presented to an audience at the Royal Geographical Society in 1904 and published in its journal. The Russo-Japanese War began in the same year (Feb. 8, 1904 to Sept. 5, 1905), that is, about a decade after the first Sino-Japanese War (Aug. 1, 1894 to April 17, 1895). The second Sino-Japanese War (1937-1945) was part of World War II, which then flowed into the Cold War, and has now brought us into the anteroom of the *end of war*, one way or the other either through the thermonuclear annihilation of civilization or even of mankind,—or else the end of war through the policy of mutual benefit, represented by the New Silk Road of China.

Mackinder and his accomplices were not passive observers of these wars, but were actively organizing the "divide and conquer" strategy on behalf of the British Monarchy and its global enforcement program formerly known as the British East India Company. Following this strategy, they manipulated populations along ethnic and religious lines on the Eurasian landmass; simultaneously controlled they commerce on the seas and the related usurious banking and insurance operations. Mackinder was

fairly frank about his mission as he outlined it in "The Geographical Pivot of History," particularly about his concern lest Russia become a bridge between Europe and Asia.

On the opposing, humanist side, the great German philosopher and founder of physical economy, Wilhelm Gottfried Leibniz (1646-1716), had considered that since Russia shared in both Asian and European culture, it was uniquely positioned to act as a bridge between Christian Europe and Confucian China.

As that bridge between Asia and Europe began to take literal, physical form as the Trans-Siberian Railway (built 1891-1916), Mackinder expressed his concern:

The Russian railways have a clear run of 6,000 miles from Wirballen in the west to Vladivostok in the east. The Russian army in Manchuria is as significant evidence of mobile landpower as the British army in South Africa was of sea-power. True, that the Trans-Siberian railway is still a single and precarious line of communication, but the century will not be old before all Asia is covered with railways. The spaces within the



Halford Mackinder, the godfather of British Empire geopolitics.

Russian Empire and Mongolia are so vast, and their potentialities in population, wheat, cotton, fuel, and metals so incalculably great, that it is inevitable that a vast economic world, more or less apart, will there develop inaccessible to oceanic commerce.

The Trans-Siberian Railroad was an echo of Abraham Lincoln's Trans-Continental Railroad. After the Civil War, the United States had emerged as the greatest economic power in the world by employing the principles of Alexander Hamilton—by raising the productive powers of labor through access to infrastructure and em-

ploying a credit system in the form of "Greenbacks." Lincoln's economic adviser, Henry C. Carey, had unleashed a global revolution of Hamilton's "American System" against the "British System" of debt slavery—as well as literal slavery. One of Carey's students, Erasmus Peshine Smith, became an adviser to Japan's Emperor Meiji, while another, Friedrich List of Germany, proposed "The Railway Line from Ostende [Belgium] to Bombay." Sergei Witte, the Russian Tsar's Finance Minister who greatly accelerated

> the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railroad, based his own policies on those of List.

> Mackinder knew that Germany, in collaboration with a Russia acting as a bridge between Europe and Asia, would be the end of the British Empire. This mantra from Mackinder's 1919 book, *Democratic Ideals and Reality*, expresses his geopolitical outlook:

Who rules East Europe commands the Heartland [the territory of Russia at that time].

Who rules the Heartland commands the World-Island [Eurasia and Africa].

Who rules the World-Island commands the world.



First Viscount Alfred Milner. Lord Milner played a leading role in implementing the domination of the world by the British Empire.

The subversive British Imperial operations were extensive in their attempt to prevent development by fostering chaos in the eastern part of Europe—such as the Balkans, which was the center of Friedrich List's proposal for the Berlin to Baghdad rail line. However, the British fear that the extensive railroad development plan of Chinese independence leader Sun Yat-sen might merge with the Trans-Siberian Railroad was just as intense as their fear of development in the eastern part of Europe. So they set their sights on blowing up the Korean Peninsula and the adjacent area then known as Manchuria. Charles Addis of the Hong Kong



Leopold Amery was a protégé of Lord Milner.

and Shanghai Bank and Thomas Lamont of J.P. Morgan created a consortium that prevented loans from being made for the development plans of Sun Yat-sen, while at the same time Lamont organized U.S. financial support for Japan's invasion of Manchuria.

Thus Manchuria and the Korean peninsula were embroiled in the Russo-Japanese War and the Sino-Japanese Wars, rather than becoming a nexus-point for Sun Yat-sen's extensive railroad grid linking Asia to Europe through the Trans-Siberian Railroad. That would have used the economic potential of Japan under the Meiji Restoration to develop all of the nations surrounding the Korean Peninsula. Instead, Japan was brought into Mackinder's vision of the encirclement of Eurasia, to prevent nations from collaborating through development corridors.

"Britain, Canada, the United States, South Africa, Australia, and Japan are now a ring of outer and insular bases of sea-power and commerce, inaccessible to the land-power of Euro-Asia," Mackinder wrote.

But Is It True?

Mackinder's geopolitical theory would continue to be implemented through one of his followers, Karl Haushofer, the geopolitical theorist for the Nazis. The Nazis continued to unfold that British Empire-directed Hell, which essentially continues down to today, with the same targets and the same underlying misconception of the nature of humanity. But do any of his followers actually believe Mackinder's theory? Did Mackinder even believe his own theory? Some of the quotes from the "Geographical Pivot of History" give an insight into the method of the British Empire, but they do not necessarily indicate Mackinder's sense of causality. As the name implies, Mackinder's "geopolitics" incorporates the belief that geography and the condition of the land have the determining role in shaping the political economy of a society.

But is that how history is shaped? Was the history of Europe, and its civilization and culture, defined by the invasions of the Mongol hordes, or by the marauding Vikings, as Mackinder implies here?

For a thousand years a series of horse-riding peoples emerged from Asia through the broad interval between the Ural Mountains and the Caspian Sea, rode through the open spaces of southern Russia, and struck home into Hungary in the very heart of the European peninsula, shaping by the necessity of opposing them the history of each of the great peoples around—the Russians, the Germans, the French, the Italians, and the Byzantine Greeks. That they stimulated healthy and powerful reaction, instead of crushing opposition under a widespread despotism, was due to the fact that the mobility of their power was conditioned by the steppes, and necessarily ceased in the surrounding forests and mountains.

A rival mobility of power was that of the Vikings in their boats. Descending from Scandinavia both upon the northern and the southern shores of Europe, they penetrated inland by the river ways. But the scope of their action was limited, for, broadly speaking, their power was effective only in the neighborhood of the water.

Mackinder even tries to suggest that it was the pressure of these invading hordes from the Steppes of Russia and Mongolia by land, and by the Vikings from the sea, that created the great bond between France and England. What bunk!

In truth, it doesn't matter whether Mackinder actu-



One of the projects for which financing will be sought at the Sept. 2-3 Eastern Economic Forum is

the construction of a transport corridor that will link Khabarovsk, on the Trans-Siberian Railroad,

more directly to the Pacific Ocean. The port (above) will be expanded to a universal sea port.

as a power to defeat all others. Unfortunately, the policy-makers of the British Empire did not conclude from this that it would be in their interest to promote creativity among all of their subjects. Instead, the Empire has always sought to beat that creativity out of everyone on the planet, to make the hegemony of its own leadership unassailable

The Empire's approach is not working very well, and a neverending series of potential upshifts for humanity is now on the horizon. No-

ally believed this or not. What it represents is something that is a common affliction for many people—the obsessive belief that there is some external factor that shapes the development of humanity other than human creativity. Mackinder's theory that geography defines the development of humanity is not really unlike the dogma of those who think that an economy is, or should be, shaped by an alleged "free market."

The Failure of Empire

After Mackinder read his paper to the Geographical Society, Leo Amery responded in an interesting way. Amery was a protégé of Lord Alfred Milner, and both would play a crucial role in shaping the policy of the British Empire over the next decades. Amery clearly didn't buy Mackinder's "Heartland" argument. Instead, he revealed what any empire must crush—the mind.

The successful powers will be those who have the greatest industrial basis. It will not matter whether they are in the center of a continent or on an island; those people who have the industrial power and the power of invention and of science will be able to defeat all others.

Amery views the world from the vantage point of an imperial foot-soldier: Rather than seeing the power of science and invention to advance all humanity, he sees it where is that potential more alive than in the far east of Eurasia. The principal nations represented at the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok this weekend— China, Russia, Japan, and Korea—represent some of the greatest scientific power on the planet. The Vladivostok meeting is nominally about the development of the Far East, which immediately puts the Bering Strait tunnel implicitly on the agenda. The mineral and energy wealth of Siberia could never be accessed without development corridors, and the same is true for Alaska and northern Canada—and therefore a commitment to that development opens the door for the Bering Strait connection.

However, the development of the Arctic regions of Siberia and North America can only be accomplished if it is seen as subset of an international space program. The conditions there are extremely harsh, even brutal. There is therefore a need to explore options for providing semi-artificial conditions akin to living in space or on other planets. Moreover, the psychological implications of living in semi-artificial environments and the effects of the fluctuations in light exposure in the far North can be studied to gain insights useful for longer term space exploration. And, while we know that the Aurora Borealis is extremely beautiful, we have more to learn about its reason for existence. We assume it speaks to us of the relations of our Earth with the Solar system, the Galaxy, and our Universe beyond.

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