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This Week You Need To Know

LaRouche in Berlin Webcast:

Bring Back the Axioms of FDR

This is a transcript of Lyndon LaRouche's international webcast Sept. 6, from Berlin and Washington, D.C., sponsored by LaRouche's Political Action Committee....

...The cycle of world history which is coming to a close during the current months, began with the April 1945 death of President Franklin Roosevelt. My first prescience of the fact that this was the beginning of a new cycle of history, a break with the old cycle of history, struck me on the evening that our military unit, which was then passing through India on the way to service in northern Burma, received the news of the death of President Franklin Roosevelt. Now, during the course of that day, a number of the soldiers came to me, and asked if they would have an opportunity to discuss something with me that evening. So, after the Sun set, we went out and we met, and the question was very simple: What does the death of President Roosevelt mean for us now? Now the question came. I wasn't really surprised by the question, but I was surprised. And I heard the words coming out of my mouth, and I can still remember my reply, because it astonished me—my own reply, to the present day—and I said: "I'm really not certain. But I know that we entered this war under the leadership of a great man. And now, the country is being led by a very little man. I'm afraid for our country."

That was the beginning of a new, current cycle of world history.

More than a year later, as I was back from service in northern Burma, and I was stationed for a while in Calcutta before returning to the United States. I made the acquaintance of a large number of people, because I was simply that kind of person. I simply got the telephone directories out, looked up all the political parties in Calcutta, and made appointments to meet with leaders of these parties, in each case, to find out what really is going on in this country. And in the course of that, having met a large number of the leaders in the Bengal area, there was a case in which one morning, some people assembled in a trolley area on the north side of the Maidan, between Darma Hata and Chowringhee juncture, and some of these fellows I knew. And they were going out for a routine demonstration to the Governor General's Palace, which was down this long street, which extends from Darma Hata, and this was usually a routine demonstration, protesting for Indian independence, and so forth....

...full article, PDF

...dialogue with LaRouche

Latest From The Worldwide LaRouche Youth Movement

A Polyphonic Dialogue of Civilizations: LYM at Historic Khatami

Event

by **Matthew Odgen LaRouche Youth Movement**

On the day after Lyndon LaRouche's Berlin/Washington webcast speech Sept. 6, and five days before the fifth anniversary of Sept. 11, at a moment when Cheney, Rumsfeld, and Bush are trying to spread a renewed sense of mass hysteria through the American population to whip up support for an explosive Middle East preemptive war, former Iranian President Mohammed Khatami made an historic trip to Washington D.C. As a voice of reason, in response to the Synarchist drive for a "Clash of Civilizations," Khatami called again for a dialogue among civilizations, a call which Lyndon LaRouche, too, had intervened with in the moments following the 9/11 attacks.

LaRouche's webcast speech on the previous day was an international dialogue among leaders from Eurasia and the Americas, on the subject of the next 50 years of mankind's cooperation for the economic development of the planet. The United States must provide the leadership to make this development possible, and it is in the figure of Lyndon LaRouche that these international leaders see the possibility for the reemergence of the "real America."

So, many of the 1,300 guests attending Khatami's historic event on Thursday, mostly members of the diplomatic community and religious leaders, were very happy to see 60 members of the LaRouche Youth Movement assembled in a chorus, greeting them with beautiful music and signs calling for a "Dialogue of Civilizations." Because of the tight security, this audience was lined up all the way down Wisconsin Ave., waiting to get through the security checkpoint, and had time to be engaged in long dialogues about LaRouche's ideas for peace through economic development in Southwest Asia.

Beginning our singing with a canon in three parts, "Dona Nobis Pacem" (Grant Us Peace), we sang in very clear counterpoint against the 200-person rabid mob protesting Khatami's visit to America, and calling for regime change in Iran. With signs saying, "LaRouche: Dialogue of Civilizations," "New Treaty of Westphalia," and "Make Water, Not War: LaRouche's Oasis Plan," there was a noticeably high level of recognition among the guests, of LaRouche's historic role in the Middle East peace process, including his proposals for the development of nuclear-powered water-desalination technology as an economic driver for the entire region. This "Oasis Plan" had been a major factor in the Oslo peace agreements between Yitzak Rabin and Yasser Arafat. This was the theme of the banner we had: a big picture of the historic handshake between Arafat and Rabin, and a map of the Middle East accompanied by pictures of nuclear power, desalination, and a maglev train. The words read: LaRouche's Peace Policy—Economic Development and Sovereignty. Under the pictures was a famous quote by Rabin: "History belongs to those with the courage to change axioms."

While President Khatami was speaking, we blanketed the area with literature, both a leaflet with the text of LaRouche's response to Rumsfeld, and the text of LaRouche's previous webcast. Approaching cars that were stopped at the intersection, we met one man who said, "I know LaRouche very well, and he's known me since 1975." And another man, from the diplomatic community from the Middle East, who was overjoyed to see the youth movement at the event, recognized one of the youth organizers as the person he was sitting next to the previous day at LaRouche's webcast!

As the event let out, the chorus assembled at the corner of the two intersecting streets, along the sidewalk being used by all of the guests leaving the event. Coming out of the historic speech of Khatami, the diplomats were obviously impacted; everyone recognized the gravity of events such as this at a moment when the world is confronting a dramatic turning point. The youth organizers confronted them with the somber reality that civilization faces the choice between potential global irregular war and a new Treaty of Westphalia. The chorus sang "Jesu, meine Freude," a motet composed by Johann Sebastian Bach, appropriate for this moment, because the original chorale melody had been written in the 17th Century as a celebration of the original Peace of Westphalia which ended the Thirty Years War. This music communicated the commitment of LaRouche and the youth movement to true, lasting peace and a true dialogue of civilizations, better than anything else we could have said or done. In the minds of all of these diplomats and religious leaders, this sublime

intervention, in the aftermath of Khatami's call for dialogue and reason, will now be the image associated with the name Lyndon LaRouche.

InDepth Coverage

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Feature:

[**LaRouche in Berlin Webcast: Bring Back The Axioms of FDR**](#)

This is a transcript of Lyndon LaRouche's international webcast Sept. 6, from Berlin and Washington, D.C., sponsored by LaRouche's Political Action Committee. The meeting was chaired in Berlin by Jessica Tremblay and Jonathan Tennenbaum, and by Debra Freeman in Washington. The webcast is archived at [http:// www.larouchepac.com](http://www.larouchepac.com).

- [**Conference Dialogue With LaRouche**](#)

This transcript has been edited to group questions by topic, and to abridge the moderators' remarks and descriptions of some longer written presentations that were submitted to Mr. LaRouche for his comment. Future issues of EIR will have more coverage of these contributions. Jessica Tremblay and Jonathan Tennenbaum were the moderators in Berlin; Debra Freeman was the moderator in Washington.

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Science:

[**Culture As Science**](#)

[**by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.**](#)

September 4, 2006

It is time to follow up what I have published earlier on the issue of 'Science and Culture,' as this was posed famously by England's C.P. Snow: Is there a science of culture which corresponds to the broadly accepted, essential notions of a systematic organization of the subject-matter of physical science?

National:

[**John Train and Corruption Of Public Television**](#)

[**by Tony Papert**](#)

In early 2003, the 20th year of an aggressive campaign to compel public television to become a conduit for 'neo-conservative' a/k/a Synarchist propaganda, Pat Mitchell, president of the Congressionally established Public Broadcasting System (PBS), accepted an invitation to tea with Lynne Cheney in her residence in Washington's Naval Observatory, as Ken Auletta reported in The New Yorker on June 7, 2004. It is Lynne Cheney, with her ties to Britain's Baroness Symons and Tony Blair, who sits at the top of the Synarchist food-chain in American politics, not her blinded enforcer of a husband, the Vice President.

Strategic Studies:

LAROUCHE TO RUMSFELD

FDR Defeated the Nazis, While Bushes Collaborated

This leaflet was issued on Sept. 4, 2006 by the LaRouche Political Action Committee. Following it is extensive documentation of Prescott Bush's role in the Anglo-American 'Hitler Project.'

The Hitler Project

by Anton Chaitkin

The following is Chapter 2 from EIR's 1992 book *George Bush: The Unauthorized Biography*, by Webster Griffin Tarpley and Anton Chaitkin. The book was reprinted in 2004 by ProgressivePress.com. It can be purchased from EIR News Service.

Economics:

Jackson Hole As The 'Temple of Doom'

by the Editors

The Aug. 25 Jackson Hole Federal Reserve conference made Chairman Ben Bernanke's call for a return to Roman-style imperialism, together with the onrush of Lyndon LaRouche's forecast of Loudoun County, Virginia's 'Ground Zero'-centered collapse of the U.S. mortgage-bubble, the leading theme of relevance in the currently escalating international discussions of world policies for the immediate crisis-ridden future of the planet as a whole, LaRouche said on Aug. 26.

Entropy Runs Down-Hill

The Great Fool's Oil Swindle

by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

August 31, 2006

The spreading delusion, that the so-called petroleum-crisis can be conquered by the reduction of living plants, such as corn, to a substitute for petroleum, will go down in history with the John Law Bubble and Ponzi scheme, as one of the sorriest mass-delusions ever to plunge a modern nation into destitution and general ruin.

Senate Hearing Cheers Great Biofuels Bubble

by Marcia Merry Baker

The latest update on the impact and expansion of the Great Biofuels Bubble was presented to the Senate, at a Sept. 6 full committee oversight hearing on the 'Federal Renewable Fuels Programs,' held by the Environment and Public Works Committee. Witnesses from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Departments of Energy (DOE) and Agriculture (USDA) gave testimony, on what amounts to drastic shifts in farming, threats to the food supply, and a stampede by big money funds to get in on the action.

U.S. Census Bureau's Report on Income and Poverty Is False

by Paul Gallagher

The U.S. Census Bureau's major report of the year, the annual analysis of 'real' incomes, poverty, and health insurance in the U.S. population, was full of more—and more recent—county data than ever before this year (the calendar-year 2005 report); but it measured that data against completely fraudulent standards like the infamous Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the long out-of-date official 'poverty line.' The result was national and international media 'economic' coverage which is simply false—real wages and household incomes are continuing to fall for all but the wealthiest Americans, and household poverty is continuing to mount.

International:

Is Mexico a Nation, or A Private Looting Field?

by Nancy Spannaus

In the wake of the unprecedented blockage of outgoing Mexican President Vicente Fox's scheduled delivery of the Sept. 1 State of the Union speech, and the formal decision by the Federal Electoral Commission to confirm the fraudulent election of Felipe Caldero'n as President, the Mexican institutional crisis is taking shape around the crucial issue of economic policy. None other than Fox's State of the Union speech itself spilled the beans, by revealing in its statistical appendix that, over the six years of his Presidency, the amount of public funds pouring into the ongoing bailout of the country's foreigncontrolled private banking sector was nearly three times that which was invested into the oil industry, upon which the bulk of the revenue of the nation depends.

Fascist Netanyahu Meets Cheney for The Next Round of War Planning

by Dean Andromidas

Is history repeating itself after only four months? Benjamin 'Bibi' Netanyahu, chairman of the Israeli Likud party, met in Washington with Vice President Dick Cheney Sept. 5, and although neither has revealed what transpired between them, there is little doubt that Iran, and preparation for 'another round' against Hezbollah in Lebanon were high on the agenda.

Russian Radio Features LaRouche, Eurasian 'Great Projects'

On Aug. 29, the 'Looking for the Exit' talk show on radio Ekho Mosky (Echo of Moscow) was on the topic 'The crisis of the dollar is a crisis for Russia.' The choice of this topic for the popular, mainstream station is a sign of the times. Host Matvei Ganapolsky discussed the world financial crisis with guests Prof. Yuri Gromyko (director of the Institute for Advanced Studies), Mikhail Delyagin (director of the Institute for Problems of Globalization), and economist Mikhail Khazin, who runs the worldcrisis.ru web site.

Will Germany Welcome Killer 'Locust' Funds?

by Rainer Apel

On April 17, 2005, Franz Mu'ntefering, then-chairman of the German Social Democratic Party, sparked a broad public debate when he charged that hedge, equity, and other investment funds that were swarming into Germany, were gobbling up firms like 'locusts.' His intervention, during the parliamentary election campaign in Northrhine-Westphalia, Germany's most populous state, followed a weeks-long campaign on this issue, by the LaRouche movement and its political party, the Bu'So (Civil Rights Movement Solidarity).

Interview: G.O.M. Tasia and Charles C. Okigbo

Nigerian Professors Discuss Strategies Toward Youth With LaRouche Reps

EIR's Lawrence Freeman and Summer Shields of the LaRouche Youth Movement interviewed Professor Tasia on Aug. 3, 2006 at his office in Port Harcourt, the capital of Rivers State. Also taking part in the interview was Prof. Charles C. Okigbo, Ph.D., Department of Communication, North Dakota State University. The discussion centered largely on the moral uplifting and character development of the youth as representatives of the future United States and Nigeria.

Editorial:

Only a Westphalian Approach Will Work

In response to a question about the applicability of the Treaty of Westphalia approach to solving crises such as the Southwest Asia conflict today, Lyndon LaRouche reiterated the principles behind this policy at his Sept. 6 webcast.

U.S. Economic/Financial News

Homebuilders Feel Sting of Housing Bubble Collapse

KB Home, the sixth-largest homebuilder in the U.S., announced a 34% drop in its projected third-quarter earnings, citing slowing of placed orders, increased order cancellations, and higher costs. Beazer Homes USA and Lennar Corp also are revising their outlooks downward. Homebuilding companies led the recent stock-market slump, with the largest U.S.

mortgage provider, Countrywide Financial Corp., leading the charge.

Cost-Cutting Boeing Exec Named Bill Ford's Successor

Ford Motor Co. named Boeing Co. executive vice president Alan Mulally, as its new president and CEO, replacing Bill Ford. Ford remains as executive chairman of the automaker. Mulally, who was also elected to Ford's board of directors, had been in charge of Boeing's commercial airplanes division.

"Our turnaround effort required the additional skills of an executive who has led a major manufacturing enterprise through such challenges before," Bill Ford wrote in an e-mail to Ford employees on Sept. 5.

In December 1998, Mulally blamed the massive layoffs at Boeing—48,000 jobs (20% of its workforce)—on the economic crisis in Asia. Then, in late September 2001, following the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, Mulally announced that Boeing was shedding as many as 30,000 jobs, eliminating 20%-30% of the employees at each commercial jet plant.

No word yet on whether the Ford family, which owns 40% of Ford stock, has made a deal to give up any of its shares as part of the ouster of Bill Ford as CEO.

Ford Shakeup: 'Creative Destruction'?

In an editorial Sept. 7 on the shakeup and recent tribulations at Ford Motor Co., with the replacement of Bill Ford by Boeing's Mulally as CEO, the *Wall Street Journal* invoked economist Joseph Schumpeter's 1942 idea of "creative destruction" as the driving force for capitalism, characterizing it as the disruption and churn of a vibrant and healthy economy. The alternative is the stagnation of Western Europe's social-market democracies, where things go slowly: no new jobs, higher unemployment rates, but little "employment churn rates." In our country, says the *Journal*, this situation is found in the public sector.

Will 'Mortgage Moms' Replace Soccer Moms in 2006 Elections?

According to a study by the Federal Reserve Board, reported by the *Washington Post* Sept. 5, the ratio of financial obligations—primarily mortgage and consumer debt—to disposable personal income, rose to a modern record of 18.7% earlier this year. The amount of mortgage debt alone has more than doubled since 2000, to nearly \$9 trillion. And in July, for the 16th consecutive month, consumers in the aggregate spent all of their disposable income and dipped into savings or borrowed to finance the things they bought.

Among the most exposed are those who took out adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). Next year, \$1 trillion worth of ARMs—about 11% of all outstanding mortgage debt—is scheduled to readjust to a higher interest rate for the first time. This will come after more than \$400 billion of readjustments this year. That means millions of homeowners will either have to refinance or shoulder an increase of as much as 25% in their monthly payments.

Senators File Farm Disaster-Relief Bill; White House Opposes

On Sept. 6, a bipartisan \$6 billion farm disaster-relief bill was filed in the Senate by 12 members, led by Kent Conrad (D-ND), and Norm Coleman (R-Minn). It includes \$4 billion to deal with the devastating impact of the High Plains drought, and covers both 2005 and 2006. Conrad said they intend to attach this to some remaining legislation in the Senate. Their previous \$4 billion farm disaster-relief measure, passed by the Senate, and intended for inclusion in the Defense

Supplemental bill, was quashed in June by a House/Senate conference, at the demand of Cheney/Bush. On Sept. 6, White House spokesman Alex Conant said that the administration still opposes the farm measure, cavilling that Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns will wait until after the fall harvest to see if any such action is warranted. Backing the Senate farm relief bill are: Republicans Coleman and Jim Talent (Mo); and Democrats Conrad and Dorgan (ND), Nelson (Neb), Johnson (SD), Salazar (Colo), Baucus (Mont), Cantwell (Wash), Durbin and Obama (Ill), and Dayton (Minn).

U.S. Faces TB Threat; Breakdown in Health Infrastructure

At a just-concluded meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, health experts warned of the spread of a deadly form of TB, XDR-TB, which is resistant to all known treatments, They are calling for "dramatic improvements in tuberculosis control." (See this week's Africa Digest for details.)

Meanwhile, disease containment infrastructure is disappearing. Three U.S. examples:

Minnesota: A recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study of TB in a Minnesota community of recent immigrants from Somalia, where levels of TB were much higher than in the rest of the population (30% of Minnesota's TB cases were among Somalis), and many long-standing cases exhibited extra-pulmonary manifestations. This reflects that more and more people are migrating without screening and treatment for TB and other such contagious diseases.

Washington, D.C.: The shutdown of D.C. General Hospital in 2001 closed down one of the premier TB treatment units, including pediatric TB, on the East Coast. It has not been replaced.

Virginia: In Loudoun County, the health department has ceased requiring an annual TB skin test for all school system workers, switching instead to a questionnaire.

World Economic News

Renault To Hire Investment Banks To Advise on GM Deal

The French carmaker Renault is hiring two investment banks to advise it on a possible alliance with General Motors, according to the financial press Sept. 6. The announcement, indicating the process of further cartelization of the global auto industry, was made by a Renault spokeswoman, who declined to name the banks. The *Financial Times* said the French automaker has already selected BNP Paribas. Separately, Carlos Ghosn, CEO of Renault and Nissan, confirmed that both companies are appointing advisory banks.

United States News Digest

Clinton, Other Dems Challenge 9/11 Docudrama

Former President Bill Clinton issued a letter, dated Sept. 1, signed by other senior Clinton-era advisors, including former National Security Advisor Sandy Berger and former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, saying that ABC-TV must either pull the docudrama "Path to 9/11" or correct the inaccuracies in it. The docudrama, or miniseries, which reportedly smears the Clinton Administration as bearing primary responsibility for allowing Osama bin Laden to escape capture or killing before Sept. 11, 2001, has been screened so far only for conservative bloggers and talk-show hosts. Rush Limbaugh has seen the film, but the target of the film, the Clinton Administration, has not been permitted to review it.

The director of the film is a character by the name of David L. Cunningham, the son of the founder of the Christian fundy cult known as Youth with a Mission. Cunningham was raised in the cult, and trained in the group's film school, which has the stated purpose of producing film directors who can sneak Christian ideas into films and then take over Hollywood.

Also, late on Sept. 7, Congressional Democrats held a press conference to draw attention to the fact that ABC-TV and the children's book publisher Scholastic intended to promote a curriculum based on the miniseries in the schools. The press conference was given by Reps. Louise Slaughter (D-NY), Bill Pascrell (D-NJ), and James Moran (D-Va), who all made the point that it was the Clinton Administration that had asked for more money for counterterrorism, which was blocked by Republican budget-cutters in Congress.

Bush Policy Blocked in Congress

President Bush's national security policies ran into a growing bipartisan roadblock on Capitol Hill on Sept. 7. Four separate cases of an emerging recognition that "going along to get along" is taking us to Hell:

* A bill introduced by Senate Judiciary Committee chairman Arlen Specter (R-Pa) to grant Bush nearly full power to conduct illegal NSA warrantless wiretaps was stalled in the committee. Specter withdrew the bill, which asks only that the FISA Court approve the Bush policy as constitutional, from a scheduled vote, blaming Democrat Russ Feingold (Wisc) for "filibuster by amendment." Feingold had mocked the plan as equivalent to Bush saying: "I'll agree to let the court decide if I'm breaking the law if you pass a law first that says I'm not breaking the law." Actually, the main reason behind Specter's withdrawal of the bill was that three Republicans, Senators Larry Craig (Idaho), John Sununu (NH), and Lisa Murkowski (AK), signed a letter with Sen. Pat Leahy (D-Vt) and other Democrats demanding further hearings before a vote.

* The effort in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to ram through a vote to confirm John Bolton as U.S. Ambassador to the UN was again waylaid, this time by Republican Lincoln Chafee (RI). With only one Republican opponent needed to join with Democrats in opposition, Sen. George Voinovich (Ohio) stopped the Senate approval last year, forcing the "recess appointment." Before the August break, Voinovich said he'd back Bolton, and they tried to hold a vote, but Chuck Hagel (R-Neb) then said he was undecided. Now, Hagel has agreed to vote for Bolton, and they called another vote, but this time Chafee pulled the plug. Who's next?

* The Bush call for a rubber stamp for CIA torture camps and military kangaroo courts was challenged by the military's judge advocates general in a House hearing, and by a "JAG-friendly" bill being introduced by Republican Senators John Warner (VA), Lindsay Graham (SC), and John McCain (Ariz).

* The co-chairmen of the Senate National Guard Caucus, Patrick Leahy (D-Vt) and Kit Bond (R-Mo), released a letter supporting the nation's governors in opposing a bill to give Bush more power to nationalize the Guard. They warn that "specifying specific criteria" for invoking martial law—"including such a regularly occurring trigger as a national disaster—changes the presumption *against* invoking Federal martial law into a presumption *for* the domestic use of the military in our States and communities."

Pentagon Contradicts Bush and Abusive Interrogations

On Sept. 6, the Pentagon released two new documents governing detainee policy which officials said are in accordance with the McCain anti-torture amendment. The first of the two documents, DoD Directive 2310.01E, requires that detainees in the custody of the Department of Defense must be treated humanely regardless of status, sets minimum standards for their care and treatment, and prohibits abusive treatment. The second document, Army Field Manual 2-22.3, establishes doctrine for the military's human intelligence program, including approved methods of interrogation of detainees, and is,

according to Lt. Gen. John Kimmons, the Army's top intelligence official, in compliance with the Detainee Treatment Act, last year's McCain amendment which outlaws all forms of torture of detainees.

On the same day that President Bush was claiming that normal interrogation methods hadn't worked with various "high-value detainees" in secret prisons, but that special "alternative" techniques had yielded valuable information, the Pentagon was saying exactly the opposite.

"No good intelligence is going to come from abusive practices," General Kimmons stated. "I think history tells us that. I think the empirical evidence of the last five years, hard years, tell us that," he said. "Moreover, any piece of intelligence which is obtained under duress, under—through the use of abusive techniques—would be of questionable credibility. And additionally, it would do more harm than good when it inevitably became known that abusive practices were used." He added that the best information comes from the use of humane methods.

Is Armitage Being Set Up as Fall Guy in Plame Leak Probe?

With the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, and other establishment media calling for special counsel Patrick Fitzgerald to bring his investigation into the Valerie Plame leak to a halt, based on the "revelation" that former Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage was the initial source of the leak of the CIA officer's name to columnist Robert Novak, there is a strong stench of an all-out effort to protect the real culprits and bury a much bigger national security scandal that has just emerged. Just as the editorial pages were burning with attacks on Fitzgerald, *The Nation* magazine, dated Sept. 6, published an article by David Corn, giving some juicy tidbits from his and Michael Isikoff's just-released book, *Hubris*, which catalogues the crimes of Bush and Cheney. *The Nation* revealed that Valerie Plame was a very significant figure within the CIA's Directorate of Operations, at the time that Novak blew her cover.

According to Corn and Isikoff, Valerie Plame returned to CIA headquarters in 1997, after serving for a number of years in overseas undercover assignments, including as a non-official-cover (NOC). Back at Langley, she was put in charge of the Iraq WMD desk, which, after George W. Bush's inauguration in January 2001, became a special Iraq Task Force. Her assignment was to recruit assets inside Iraq and Iran, who could provide hard intelligence on Iraq's WMD program. By the time the Iraq invasion was launched, Plame was running a unit of 60 full-time officers, and a network of Iraqi informants. It is clear that the blowing of her identity was a significant blow to the very program that the White House had pushed since the moment Bush and Cheney came into office. Sources indicate that Plame's work was so sensitive that senior CIA officials tried to screen her from any contact with Cheney and his national security advisor Lewis "Scooter" Libby, during their frequent harassment visits to CIA headquarters.

The surfacing of the claim that Armitage was the main leaker of Plame's identity, aimed at weakening the case against Libby and Cheney, is made transparent by the new details of Plame's career. She was being brought back to CIA headquarters as part of a significant career advancement that was to lead her back to the field in a higher assignment, according to Corn-Isikoff.

EIR is assembling a detailed timeline of the Plame-Wilson case, to debunk the "Armitage did it" hoax. For one thing, this chronology begins in March 2003, with a meeting in Cheney's office to target Ambassador Joe Wilson and Valerie Plame Wilson, just after IAEA chief Mohammed ElBaradei revealed that the Niger yellowcake documents were forgeries, and Wilson appeared on CNN to assert that the White House had information in its files debunking the Niger yellowcake story months before the ElBaradei revelations. The earliest that Armitage knew anything about Valerie Plame's CIA employment was July 6, 2003—the day that the Joe Wilson *New York Times* op-ed appeared.

House GOP Split on Minimum Wage and War

Fresh from five weeks of facing constituents in their districts, several Republican Congressmen, including senior Reps. Peter King (NY) and Nancy Johnson (Conn), want party leaders to schedule another vote on the minimum wage, according to hillnews.com Sept. 6. But Majority Leader John Boehner (Ohio) says he opposes separating the minimum-wage legislation from the estate-tax giveaway for the rich. Even Rep. Deborah Pryce (R-Ohio), who chairs the GOP conference but faces a tough election fight, wants to separate the minimum-wage bill from the estate-tax issue. Other Republican incumbents, including Heather Wilson (NM), Curt Weldon (Pa), Jon Porter (Nev), and Geoff Davis (KY), are also trying to find a way to come out for the minimum wage without linking it to a giveaway for the super-rich.

On the war issue, Rep. Chris Shays (R-Conn), who faces a tough re-election fight, recently joined a small handful of Republicans who are calling for a phased withdrawal from Iraq.

Ibero-American News Digest

Argentina, Brazil Agree To Dump Dollar for Bilateral Trade

In a Sept. 1 press conference in Rio de Janeiro, Argentine Finance Minister Felisa Miceli and her Brazilian counterpart Guido Mantega announced they would present a pilot project at the December 2006 meeting of Mercosur (Common Market of the South) Presidents, by which trade between them would be conducted in their own currencies and not the dollar.

On the assumption that the Presidents approve the plan, it would go into effect by no later than mid-2007. Paraguay and Venezuela have already indicated their interest in becoming a part of the arrangement that Miceli and Mantega are calling a "new exchange-rate engineering." Other governments are expected to join the arrangement also at the Dec. 15 meeting in Brasilia. Brazil and Argentina feel strongly that trading in their own currencies will eliminate dependence on the dollar, simplify trade transactions, encourage expanded participation by small and medium-sized businesses which currently are excluded from foreign trade, and facilitate the integration process. "This is a measure that will strengthen the entire bloc," Miceli said.

Mercosur Finance Minister Denounce IMF Policies

Each of the Mercosur Finance Ministers took the microphone during the concluding press conference of a Sept. 1 meeting of Finance Ministers of the Mercosur countries, to sharply denounce the IMF's policies, and its interference in the region. This followed the announcement by Argentine Finance Minister Felisa Miceli that at the IMF/World Bank annual meeting in Singapore Sept. 15-20, Mercosur would demand that the IMF issue credit lines to nations experiencing financial emergencies, *without* any austerity conditionalities attached to them. Miceli and Brazilian Finance Minister Guido Mantega also stated that the reform of the IMF must be substantive, granting greater participation in the decision-making process to the governments of developing nations. Current participation "is not proportional to our economic importance," Mantega emphasized.

During the Finance Ministers summit in Rio de Janeiro, Uruguay's Daniel Astori did, however, request a waiver to allow his government to sign bilateral trade deals with the U.S., India, and China. But since discussion among the ministers focussed heavily on assisting Uruguay and Paraguay in accessing the full benefits of the customs union, Miceli and Mantega asked that Astori provide details on the kind of "flexibility" Uruguay is requesting, and assurances that Mercosur would not be harmed by such arrangements, before making any decision on the matter.

Hedge Fund Energy Grab in Argentina Stopped

Argentina's National Electricity Regulation Agency, ENRE, blocked the Enron-linked Eton Park hedge fund from purchasing 50% of the company that manages Argentina's national power grid. In May, EP Primrose Spain, controlled by Eton Park hedge fund, bought up the shares that the Brazilian company Petrobras owned in the Argentine generator Transener for \$54 million. But now, with the apparent blessing of Planning Minister Julio De Vido, ENRE charges that EP Primrose Spain has no experience in the energy field—it was created only two months ago. Moreover, ENRE indicated it is not prepared to leave such a strategically important company as Transener in the hands of a hedge fund, whose only interest is in short-term (i.e., speculative) investments, rather than the long-term investment that a company like Transener, which provides a crucial public service, would require.

This is a wise move. Eton Park is part of the Ashmore Investment Management hedge-fund consortium, which paid \$2.1 billion in May for all of the assets that the Enron Corp. had owned in Ibero-America, under the name of Prisma Energy. There is no indication that Eton Park would do anything other than follow Enron's model of doing "business" in managing Transener, to Argentina's detriment.

Concertacion Coalition Parties Say Chile Must 'Go Nuclear'

All of the parties belonging to Chile's ruling 'Concertacion' coalition have now come out for Chile to develop nuclear power. Leaders of the Socialist Party, the Christian Democracy, the Radical Social Democracy (PRSD), and Democracy Party have all recently publicly advocated study and development of nuclear energy, given that Argentina cannot provide the required amounts of natural gas, and Chile doesn't have sufficient hydroelectric and other resources to meet growing demand. Argentina's recent announcement that it will expand its nuclear program has provoked many leading members of Chile's scientific community, as well as legislators, to also urge the government to act quickly to start the process of building a nuclear plant.

Commenting on President Michelle Bachelet's Sept. 4 statement that she would order feasibility studies on the issue, but *not* adopt a nuclear-energy program under her administration, physicist Jose Maldifassi of the Adolfo Ibanez University warned that such an approach would mean that Chile could not have a nuclear plant ready before 2015 or 2016. If the energy crisis is bad now, given oil prices and natural gas shortages, "it will be far worse in ten years," he said. "Authorities must go with a short-term approach for nuclear development," he urged.

Dario Jinchuk, head of international relations for Argentina's Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEA), also rejected arguments from Chilean environmentalists that the country's seismic activity would make nuclear plants unsafe. Nonsense, he said. Look at Japan or California, both of which have significant seismic activity, he responded. They have adopted appropriate safeguards that only slightly increase reactors' costs, but make them perfectly safe.

Dominican Republic Turns to Argentina for Nuclear Power

Argentina's Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, Jorge Roballo, reported on the latter nation's Aeromundo show Sept. 4 that discussions are underway between the two governments for purchase of a small reactor of the kind that Argentina has already sold to Egypt and Australia, capable of generating between 25 and 100 MW. The deficit of electricity-generating infrastructure in the DR is so acute, that brownouts and blackouts occur daily, sometimes for most of the day or night, not even at predictable intervals, making life miserable.

Ambassador Roballo emphasized that his country possesses "magnificent" nuclear technology with a proven safety record, and also indicated a number of ways in which trade between the two countries could also be expanded in other areas. Rather than looking to the North, he suggested, the Dominican Republic should join the Common Market of the South (Mercosur) and strengthen its ties with those nations.

Will Argentina's De Hoz Spend His Final Days in Jail?

An Argentine Federal judge's ruling paves the way for prosecution of Synarchist Jose Martinez de Hoz, the former Finance Minister of the 1976-83 military dictatorship. On Sept. 4, Judge Norberto Oyarbide ruled unconstitutional the pardon granted in 1990 to David Rockefeller's friend De Hoz, and his butcher collaborator, Interior Minister Albano Harguindeguy. Both were implicated in the 1976 kidnapping of businessmen Fernando and Miguel Gutheim, carried out for reasons of extortion to aid De Hoz's business operations in Hong Kong. Refusing to cooperate, the two were released after five months of illegal imprisonment.

Harguindeguy had already been charged separately for his role in the Operation Condor murder apparatus, in which he was a key operative. But until now, De Hoz had escaped being charged with or prosecuted for any crime associated with the military dictatorship—despite his open support for barbaric and illegal repression. The significance of the judge's ruling goes well beyond the specific case, however. "We have to take this further," said Human Rights Undersecretary Rodolfo Mattarollo. "Here, specifically, we have the criminal participation of Martinez de Hoz." But more broadly, he said, "there were huge civilian responsibilities" in the crimes committed by the dictatorship, including horrific human rights violations. The ruling on De Hoz makes it likely that pardons granted to other criminals of the dictatorship will also be soon overturned.

Western European News Digest

Spanish Diplomacy Supports Beilin's 'Madrid II' Proposal

Upon his return from a trip to Tehran last week, former Spanish Foreign Minister Juan Gonzales (Socialist) summarized his findings, stating that he sees the threats against Iran as "useless." What is important, he said, is that there is a margin to negotiate, not only the nuclear issue, but also the participation of Iran in "regional stability." Gonzales said that before his trip, in August, he had discussed the matter with Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero. "The objective must be to establish a climate of dialogue and conversations to know if we can come to agreement on the basis of mutual confidence." He also said that there is "no historical memory about a war, provoked by Iran."

Gonzales' trip must be seen in the context of an interview that former Israeli Cabinet member Yossi Beilin gave to the Aug. 25 issue of *El Pais*, commenting upon his proposal for a Madrid II Middle East conference. Outlining that the EU would have to play a role in this effort as well, he had specifically pointed to the role of Spain, and named the Foreign Minister, in facilitating the initiative: "Sincerely I think that Miguel Angel Moratinos can be the one that begins the process, because he knows best the issues involved. Moratinos is a man of peace and if he should launch Madrid II, this would have to be taken into account."

EU Calls for New Mideast Deployment To Include Syria

Speaking in the name of the European Union, Finnish Foreign Minister Erkki Tuomioja said the EU wants to revive the so-called Road Map and the Quartet of Middle East mediators (the EU, the UN, the U.S., and Russia), according to *Ha'aretz* Sept. 2. Finland holds this semester's rotating EU presidency. Tuomioja said, "Solana has the mandate ... to move forward with the peace process and present us with the new ideas necessary." He went on to say Solana will be "in contact with all parties that are relevant," notably Syria. "It is up to Syria to choose the role it wants to play. We want it to play a constructive role." He also called for strengthening Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) and opening contacts with Hamas after it accepts the conditions by which the EU has asked it to abide.

German Officials Speak Out vs. Iran Military Action

In recent days, various German officials, including Chancellor Angela Merkel, have stated that Germany sees no military option to solve the Iran crisis. In an ARD TV interview Sept. 4, Merkel, asked about Germany's policy toward Iran replied clearly, "Diplomacy is the only solution.... A military option does not exist." She underlined that she has had recently "many discussions with Russian President Vladimir Putin." Asked about Rumsfeld's recent outburst against "Islamofascists," she avoided a direct answer, and instead reiterated, "I see no military option."

State Secretary of the Foreign Ministry Gernot Erler echoed Merkel in an interview with *Tagesspiegel*, and similarly, Henner Fuertig, a renowned Hamburg-based East Institute expert, called sanctions an "edgeless sword," and noted that there are already indications that Russia and China will not back them.

Chirac Changes Tune, Talks Bellicosely Against Iran

Speaking to the Council of Ministers at the Elysee on Aug. 30, French President Jacques Chirac took a grave tone, according to last week's *Canard Enchaîné*: "The negotiations with the Iranians can generate grave events which could have consequences worldwide," he said. "One cannot exclude an armed intervention against Iran. I ask each of you to look closely at what is happening over there." He underlined this with a tirade against "Bush's Manicheism," which "has sparked a ravaging effect in the world and could create the conditions of a major wave of terrorism." According to Chirac, issues with the Iranian authorities should have been "negotiated otherwise," with emphasis on "collaboration in the civilian nuclear field, but now it's too late."

This comes a week after the French President had called for the reconstruction of Lebanon, and a reconvening of the "Quartet" of nations to solve the Palestinian problem, in an address to the country's ambassadors (see EIW #35, Europe Digest). Chirac's eventual conclusion, that "France has an independent voice within the concert of nations, because it doesn't bend to American dictates," rings false after these statements.

Ambassador Forced Blair To Change Lebanon Policy

In what the Sept. 2 London *Times* called another blow to British Prime Minister Tony Blair's credibility, it is now being reported that during the Lebanon war, the outgoing British Ambassador to the U.S., Sir David Manning, sent Blair an impassioned letter bemoaning the failure of British policy. Manning called on Blair to end his support for the Bush Administration's hard-line policy and begin support for a ceasefire. Manning made his opinions known to Blair personally July 28, during Blair's visit to the United States. Manning advised Blair to work with moderates in the Administration such as Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and to push for a ceasefire, which Blair evidently did. Manning warned Blair that if the war continued, it could spread throughout the region with a real possibility of an Israeli attack on Syria.

Sir David has been Blair's key foreign policy advisor since 9/11. Prior to becoming Ambassador to Washington, he had been Ambassador to Israel. The *Times* apparently has a copy of his letter, but the Foreign Office threatened to take legal action if it is printed.

Bush Admission on CIA Prison Camps Draws Sharp Response

The vice chair of the European Parliamentary inquiry into the CIA detention camps, Sarah Ludford, noted that President Bush's admission, that the CIA maintains prison camps in around the world, "exposes to ridicule those arrogant government leaders in Europe who dismissed as unfounded our fears about 'extraordinary rendition.'" Hitting British Prime Minister Tony Blair in particular, she said that Blair may be loyal to Bush, but "when it suits him, Bush will turn around and pull the rug out from under his feet."

The other major investigation was carried out by the Council of Europe, headed by Swiss Senator Dick Marty. Marty released a report in June concluding that 14 European countries were complicit, despite government denials. He said that "throughout this affair, as with the war on Iraq, we have been told countless lies." He says the full truth has yet to emerge.

Anti-Blair Revolt in Labor Party Escalates

Clearly, Tony Blair is in for some turbulent weeks, indicated by a report in the *Guardian* Sept. 2, saying that Labour Members of Parliament plan a no-confidence vote soon, to drive Blair out of office. For such a motion, 72 MPs are required, and 80 Labour MPs are said to already support such a motion. The vote could come as soon as when Parliament reconvenes in early October, after the summer recess.

And, it is not "just backbenchers" who are out to force Blair's exit. Pete Willsman, a member of the party's national executive committee, sent out a letter to all constituency party secretaries, charging Blair with "the disastrous U.K. policy of following the U.S. [which] has contributed to the latest tragedy in the Middle East... The only way to change the policy is to elect a new leader," Willsman advised.

France To Supply Nuclear Fuel to India

Indian Defense Minister Pranab Mukherjee, who visited France last week, is reportedly working with his French counterpart, Michèle Aliote-Marie, on a "broad agreement" whereby France will supply nuclear reactors to India that would meet New Delhi commercial energy needs, said French Defense Ministry spokesman, Jean François. "We understand the critical energy needs of India and the process for a broad agreement on supply of nuclear reactors and fissile material is at a crucial stage," François said.

Reports indicate both countries also discussed India's requests for collaboration in high-tech weapons systems and progress in the current weapons supply projects.

Belgian Police Arrest Neo-Nazi Group in Military

The Belgian authorities arrested 17 neo-Nazis who were planning terror attacks on state buildings, embassies, and other targets. Eleven of those arrested were in the military and were active on five military bases including Leopoldberg, Belgium's largest.

The group was a breakaway faction from the Blood and Honor neo-Nazi group. It is called Bloed, Bodem, Eer, Trouw (Blood, Soil, Honor, Loyalty). At least one member was linked to the ultra-right-wing party Vlaams Belang Party which has at least 25 seats in the Belgian Parliament. The leader of the group is one Thomas Boutsen, a sergeant in the army. They had international links with the Nationale Alliantie (National Alliance) based in the Netherlands, U.S. neo-Nazis, including the National Alliance of the late William Pierce, and to Professor Robert S. Griffin of Vermont University, who has written a biography of Pierce, and is himself a self-described "white racialist."

Russia and the CIS News Digest

Lavrov Backs 'Comprehensive' Conference on SW Asia

In Israel Sept. 8, after diplomatic visits to Lebanon and Syria the previous day, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov endorsed the Arab League proposal for a conference to seek a comprehensive peace in the region. He urged Israeli Prime

Minister Ehud Olmert to call such a conference, "with the participation of all the parties." He said, "I came here from Beirut and Damascus. And today everybody wants peace more than ever.... Everyone wishes to reach a decision that would be suitable to all, certainly to Israel."

Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni rejected the idea, saying that Israel "does not believe that all issues of comprehensive settlement should be considered as a whole, which means that Israel does not support the idea of the conference," according to RIA Novosti. Livni did say, however, that there need not be any conditions placed on a meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), a shift from Vice Prime Minister Shimon Peres's statements earlier in the week, that no such meeting could be held until the Israeli soldier seized by Palestinian militants on June 25 was released.

While travelling in Africa with President Putin, Lavrov on Sept. 6 also addressed the latest developments around Iran, stating that Russia would seek "the optimal way for advancing towards the goal of non-proliferation of WMD," but that the UN Charter must be the basis for any measures that are taken. Specifically, Lavrov added, the Charter "states unequivocally that economic measures exclude the use of force."

Russia Nixes Maneuvers with U.S. Forces

Russian Defense Ministry Igor Kostyshin confirmed Sept. 5 that the "Torgau-2006" U.S.-Russian military exercises, scheduled for Sept. 21-Oct. 8 in the Nizhny Novgorod area, are now off the agenda. The official reason is "legal technicalities" concerning foreign soldiers on Russian territory. Russian commentators cite two real factors: a mobilization by Russian political forces, and anger at U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, after his recent talks with Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov. About 300 American officers and soldiers had been slated to take part.

The Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) and the Anti-Globalist Resistance denounced and demonstrated against the maneuvers. Former Defense Ministry official Gen. Leonid Ivashov, in an Aug. 28 webcast on KM.ru, said it was outrageous to name maneuvers after the town where Soviet and American forces met up on the Elbe in 1945, but to hold them on the Volga, deep inside Russia. Nizhny Novgorod city officials vowed "No second Feodosiya!"—referring to anti-NATO protests in Crimea last spring that deep-sixed the Sea Breeze-2006 NATO exercises with Ukraine—but the CPRF claims to have achieved exactly that.

Gazeta.ru on Sept. 7 quoted Alexei Arbatov, a defense expert based at the Institute of the World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), on a link between the cancellation and Russian anger at Rumsfeld. At Rumsfeld's recent meeting with Ivanov, Arbatov said, "they couldn't even reach any preliminary agreements." Inside Russia, he added, "there is an intensifying campaign against any kind of military cooperation with the USA whatsoever."

Putin in S. Africa Makes Hi-Tech, Resource Deals

Russian President Vladimir Putin made a two-day state visit to the Republic of South Africa, arriving Sept. 5 in Pretoria, with a delegation of about 100 industrial and banking leaders. At the outset, Putin and RSA President Thabo Mbeki signed cooperation agreements in several areas, among them nuclear power, health care and medical research, civilian space exploration, and the protection of intellectual property rights during military-technical cooperation. South Africa is planning to build a large nuclear-power plant to meet its near-term energy requirements. A delegation from the RSA Department of Minerals and Energy had toured Russian nuclear facilities in July, leading to discussion of Russian participation in this project. Russia already supplies enriched uranium/nuclear fuel to South Africa for its operating reactor at Koeberg. Putin announced the signing of a fuel-supply agreement, lasting till 2010.

Anatoli Perminov, head of Russia's space agency, Roskosmos, was in the delegation. Under the Agreement on Cooperation

in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes, the two countries finalized ten-year specific agreements on remote probing for minerals, monitoring the Earth from space satellites, joint R&D in space medicine and biology, space communications, and satellite navigation systems. Research and engineering firms in Cape Town will be involved in joint development and design of new space vehicles.

In addition to these state-to-state high-tech agreements, the Russian-South African economic talks involved some of the biggest international and Russian raw materials cartels. Accompanied by officials from Alrosa (Diamonds of Russia, the national monopoly), Putin met with Nicky Oppenheimer, chairman of the De Beers group. Alrosa and De Beers signed an agreement on future joint prospecting and exploration in Russia and elsewhere. Together accounting for 75% of the world diamond market, the two companies were targeted by EU anti-trust investigators five years ago.

Also with Putin was Victor Vekselberg, head of the SUAL aluminum company, who finalized a billion-dollar investment in a manganese plant in South Africa. Vekselberg is in negotiations to merge SUAL with Russia's largest aluminum company Rusal, forming a giant company in which the third partner would be Swiss-based Glencore (formerly Marc Rich & Associates).

Natural Gas, Minerals, Water Deals Between Russia, Morocco

Visiting Rabat, Morocco Sept. 7, the first state visit by a Soviet or Russian leader since 1961, President Putin signed nine government cooperation agreements. Existing joint ventures in port facilities construction, extraction and processing of minerals, sea drilling for gas, and the production and sale of agricultural machinery, were also extended. The new projects involve minerals, water supply, irrigation for farming, space research, and banking. Russia has also offered to build Morocco's first nuclear-power plant, to be operational in the middle of the next decade. The Russian Magnitogorsk Steel Works is bidding for contracts on a natural gas/liquefied gas complex in Morocco, while the North African country may also purchase Russian Kornet and Tunguska air-defense systems.

Putin Attempts To Jump-Start Black Sea-Med Pipeline

President Putin stopped in Athens Sept. 4, en route to South Africa, for a tripartite summit with the leaders of Greece and Bulgaria. The main agenda was the project to build a 285 km oil pipeline from Bulgaria's Black Sea port of Bourgas to the Greek Mediterranean port of Alexandroupolis, giving Russian oil another outlet to world markets, circumventing the Bosphorus, which is controlled by Turkey. The scheme has remained stalled for want of government agreement. According to Greek news wires, the situation in Southwest Asia was also discussed, while the Russian and Bulgarian delegations reviewed long-term guarantees for Russian nuclear fuel for Bulgaria's nuclear-power plants.

Russia Might Strip Shell of Sakhalin License

Kremlin official Igor Shuvalov has offered a "soft solution" to Royal Dutch Shell, which has a production-sharing agreement (PSA) for the Sakhalin II oil-and-gas project. If Shell will renegotiate its PSA, recent legal claims against the company for not meeting anti-pollution standards could be dropped, said Shuvalov. The implication is that a Russian company will enter the project on a significant scale. Shuvalov's statement is in line with other Russian attempts to reverse or modify the PSA concessions, including for the large Sakhalin I and II projects. These were granted in the 1990s, when the Yeltsin regime was far more free and easy with admitting foreign companies into Russian industry, than the Kremlin is today. In any event, the recently affirmed Gazprom monopoly on natural gas exports from Russia forces the foreign participants to make new arrangements, even when the PSAs are formally not changed.

Arrests in Alleged Georgian Coup Plot

On Sept. 6, the Michael Saakashvili regime in Georgia rounded up 29 opposition leaders, charging 14 of them with high treason for plotting a coup on behalf of former security chief Igor Giorgadze. The latter, wanted in connection with the 1995 assassination attempt on then-President Eduard Shevardnadze, is believed to be in Russia. Among those arrested were Maya Nikoleishvili, head of the Anti-Soros Movement; Maya Topuria, leader of the youth wing of Giorgadze's Samartlianoba (Justice) movement, which conducts high-profile street demonstrations against "Rose Revolution" poster boy Saakashvili for selling out to U.S./NATO interests; and Temur Zhorzholiani, head of the Conservative-Monarchist Party. Early reports that Irina Sarishvili-Chanturia, widow of assassinated National Democratic Party leader Giorgi Chanturia, had also been arrested, proved untrue. Sarishvili is campaigning to "free Georgia" from Saakashvili, and she heads a foundation tied to Giorgadze.

Shalva Natelashvili, chairman of the Labor Party, condemned the arrests as "political repression."

The Georgian political scene was already in an uproar, over Saakashvili's Aug. 26 decision to move up regional and municipal elections from December to October 5, leaving opposition parties barely time to register, much less campaign. Nor have tensions abated around the breakaway autonomous regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia. On Sept. 3, a helicopter carrying Defense Minister Irakli Okruashvili and senior Georgian military officers was fired on in South Ossetia, sustaining damage, but managing to land. Georgian Prime Minister Zurab Nogaideli blamed Russian military commanders.

Southwest Asia News Digest

Special Report

LaRouche: There's Enough Evidence To Impeach Bush-Cheney

Speaking from Berlin, Germany on Sept. 6, Lyndon LaRouche made clear that Democrats in the U.S. Congress have more than enough evidence to impeach the President George W. Bush on his abuse of power, and violations of the Constitution, and that Vice President Dick Cheney is a full criminal accomplice. LaRouche has emphasized that it is precisely those issues raised by the Senate Intelligence Committee (see below) that provide the basis for impeachment. LaRouche said, "Look, we have enough on this case, to bounce these two clowns out of there now! The problem is that people who don't have the guts to do it, are saying, 'Well, we don't have enough evidence.' I mean, you catch a guy committing rape! You say, 'Well, I've got to go out and get more evidence before I can stop this thing.' That's what's going on now."

On Sept. 8, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence released two sections of a report investigating the use—and misuse—of intelligence by administration officials. From these reports alone, which are posted on the U.S. Senate website at <http://intelligence.senate.gov/phaseiiaccuracy.pdf>, and <http://intelligence.senate.gov/phaseiiinc.pdf>, it is clear that LaRouche is right. The evidence is there.

U.S. Senators Accuse Bush, Cheney of Deceiving the American People on Iraq

On Sept. 8, Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) told the U.S. Senate that the Senate Intelligence Committee's "Phase II" report which was released that day, "is a devastating indictment of the Bush Administration's unrelenting, and deceptive attempts to convince the American people that Saddam Hussein was linked with al-Qaeda...." Twice, during his 28-minute floor statement, Sen. Levin used the term "indictment" when referring to the Bush Administration's misuse of intelligence. Levin took the floor after an opening statement by SSCI Vice Chairman Jay Rockefeller (D-W.V.) who detailed how the Republican chairman of the committee, Sen. Pat Roberts (R-Kan.) had shut down the Intelligence Committee, in December 2003, rather than allow an investigation into the White House role in spreading, or organizing fabricated intelligence.

The SSCI report that was released to the public is unclassified, and was substantially *rewritten* to protect the White House.

In his statement, Levin charged that a massive "coverup" is underway, and that the public must see the full report:

"The intelligence assessments contained in the Intelligence Committee's unclassified report are an indictment of the administration's unrelenting and misleading attempts to link Saddam Hussein to 9/11. But portions of the report which the intelligence community leaders have determined to keep from public view provide some of the most damaging evidence of this administration's falsehoods and distortions.

"...Among what remains classified, and therefore covered up, includes deeply disturbing information. Much of the information redacted from the public report does not jeopardize any intelligence source or method but serves effectively to cover up certain highly offensive activities."

Levin said that, "while the battle is waged" to declassify the full report for the public, "every Senator should read the classified version of the report."

This combined Rockefeller/Levin floor statement releasing the report has been poorly reported to the American public, with very few quotes. The silence of the American press is another reason that the Bush-Cheney dictatorship has been able to succeed. *EIR* provides key excerpts to our readers.

The White House 'Deceptive Strategy'

Rockefeller opened the discussion with an announcement of the release of the SSCI's "Phase II" reports, saying:

"Fundamentally, these reports are about accountability. They are about identifying the mistakes that led us to war and making sure those mistakes never happen again, so far as we can do so.

"Let me share some important excerpts from the report which reflect both my own views and the views of all of my Democratic colleagues on the committee.

"The committee's investigation into prewar intelligence on Iraq has revealed that the Bush administration's case for war in Iraq was fundamentally misleading....

"Most disturbingly, the administration, in its zeal to promote public opinion in the United States before toppling Saddam Hussein, pursued a deceptive strategy prior to the war of using intelligence reporting that the intelligence community warned was uncorroborated, unreliable, and, in critical instances, fabricated....

"Some of the false information used to support the invasion of Iraq was provided by the Iraqi National Congress, the INC....

"The committee also found the July 2002 decision by the National Security Council directing that the renewed funding of the INC contract—the Iraqi National Congress, the Chalabi operation—be put under Pentagon management was ill advised given the counterintelligence concerns of the CIA and warnings of financial mismanagement from the State Department....

"The administration's—this is key—the administration's repeated allegations of the past, present, and future relationship between al-Qaeda and Iraq exploited the deep sense of insecurity among Americans in the immediate aftermath of the

September 11 attacks, leading a large majority of Americans to believe, contrary to the intelligence assessments at the time, that Iraq had a role in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. [emphasis added]

"The administration sought and succeeded in creating the impression that al-Qaeda and Iraq worked in concert and presented a single unified threat to the United States of America. The committee's investigation revealed something completely different.

"The committee found that there was no credible information that Iraq was complicit or had foreknowledge of the September 11 attacks or any other al-Qaeda strike anywhere... [and] that Iraq did not provide chemical or biological weapons training or any material or operational support to al-Qaeda prior to the war.

"Furthermore, no evidence was found of any meeting between al-Qaeda and the Iraq regime before the war, other than a single meeting that took place years earlier in 1995, in fact, in the Sudan. That meeting was at a fairly low level, and that meeting did not lead to any operational cooperation at all. Osama was there, but the Iraqi representative was at a low level....

"During the buildup to war, the intelligence community was placed under pressure to support the administration's position that there was a link between Iraq and al-Qaeda. This is particularly distressing. This pressure took the form of policymakers repetitively tasking analysts to review, to reconsider, to revise their analytical judgments, or simply asking the same question again and again.

"The committee investigation revealed evidence that this prewar pressure to conform to administration policy demands may have led to the co-option of the intelligence community...."

'A Devastating Indictment'

After the above remarks, Rockefeller turned the floor over to Levin (the next ranking Democrat), who detailed—in their own words—how Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld, Wolfowitz, Rice, Powell, and Tenet covered up what the U.S. intelligence community had found: There was *no* connection between Iraq and al-Qaeda. Levin stated:

"President Bush said Saddam and al-Qaeda were 'allies'—his words. And that: 'You can't distinguish between al-Qaeda and Saddam when you talk about the war on terror.'

"The bipartisan report released today directly contradicts that linkage which the President has consistently made in his effort to build public support for his Iraq policy....

"Just 2 weeks ago, the President said in a press conference that Saddam Hussein 'had relations with Zarqawi.' Our Intelligence Committee report demonstrates that statement made 2 weeks ago by the President was false. The committee report discloses, for the first time, the CIA's October 2005 assessment that Saddam's regime: 'Did not have a relationship, harbor, or turn a blind eye towards Zarqawi and his associates.'

"The President's statement made just 2 weeks ago is flat out false.

"The drumbeat of misleading administration statements alleging Saddam's links to al-Qaeda was unrelenting in the lead-up to the Iraq war, which began in March, 2003...."

And the most damning evidence is against Cheney:

"The misleading statements by administration officials didn't stop there....

"On December 9, 2001, Vice President Cheney was asked about the report on 'Meet the Press.' The Vice President said: 'It has been pretty well confirmed that he—the 9/11 hijacker Mohammed Atta—did go to Prague and he did meet with a senior official with the Iraqi intelligence service in Czechoslovakia [sic] last April, several months before the attack.'

"On March 24, 2002, the Vice President told 'Meet the Press': 'We discovered, and it has since been public, the allegation that one of the lead hijackers, Mohammed Atta, had, in fact, met with Iraqi intelligence in Prague.'

"But the Intelligence Committee report released today cites a June 2002 CIA paper that said: 'Reporting is contradictory on hijacker Mohammed Atta's alleged trip to Prague and meeting with an Iraqi intelligence officer and we have not verified his travels.'

"The Intelligence Committee report released today declassifies, for the first time, a July 2002 Defense Intelligence Agency paper that said: 'Mohammed Atta reportedly was identified by an asset, not an officer, of a Czech service, only after Atta's picture was widely circulated in the media after the attacks, approximately five months after the alleged meeting occurred.'

"And that: 'There is no photographic, immigration, or other documentary evidence indicating that Atta was in the Czech Republic during the time frame of the meeting.'

"Two months later, in September 2002, the CIA published its assessment that 'evidence casts doubt' on the possibility that the meeting had occurred and that: 'The CIA and FBI have reviewed the reporting available so far and they are unable to confirm that Atta met al-Ani in Prague.'

"None of those assessments stopped the Vice President from continuing to suggest that the report of the meeting was evidence that Saddam's regime was linked to the 9/11 attack.

"On September 8, 2002, in a 'Meet the Press' interview, the Vice President said that the CIA considered the report of the meeting credible, although again, that same month, the CIA said there was evidence that cast doubt on it having occurred.

"In January 2003, the CIA published an assessment stating that: 'A CIA and FBI review of intelligence and open-source reporting *leads us to question* the information provided by the Czech service source who claimed that Atta met al-Ani.' [emphasis added]

"The January 2003 paper stated that the CIA was 'increasingly skeptical'—increasingly skeptical—that Atta traveled to Prague in 2001 or met with the IIS officer, al-Ani,' and that 'the most reliable reporting to date casts doubt on this possibility.'

"But the Vice President was undeterred by the CIA's skepticism.... 8 months after the CIA said that the most reliable reporting cast doubt on the possibility of a meeting between Atta and the Iraqi intelligence officer, Vice President Cheney was still citing as this having possibly occurred.

"On January 14, 2004, a full year after the CIA expressed serious doubts about the meeting and the fact that not a shred of evidence had been found to support the claim of a meeting, the Vice President told the *Rocky Mountain News* that the Atta

meeting was 'the one that possibly tied the two together to 9/11.' "

On June 17, 2004, Cheney was still saying that we have "never been able to knock down" the unreliable report of the Prague meeting.

As LaRouche says, it is time for the impeachment, now.

Asia News Digest

Suicide Car Bomb Near U.S. Embassy in Kabul Kills 10

A suicide car bomb killed ten people, including two American soldiers, near the U.S. embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan Sept. 9, when an American convoy came under attack. The suicide bomber jammed his car against the Humvee carrying American soldiers. One eyewitness told AP that "right after the blast, American soldiers started shooting at another car." Since the attack occurred very close to the embassy, it is evident that somewhere along the line, some people in charge of security had allowed the car to enter to make the hit.

The Kabul incident is a reflection of what is happening in rest of Afghanistan. Senlis Council, an international policy think-tank with offices in Kabul, London, Paris, and Brussels, has issued a report which found that the Taliban have regained control over the southern half of Afghanistan. "The Taliban front line now cuts halfway through the country, encompassing all of the southern provinces," says the report.

The report blamed the "U.S.-and-U.K.-led failed counternarcotics and military policies for the situation. "The subsequent rising levels of extreme poverty have created increasing support for the Taliban, who have responded to the needs of the local populations," Senlis report said.

British Casualties in Afghanistan Rising

Fourteen British military personnel were killed in the crash of a reconnaissance aircraft near Kandahar on Sept. 2, making it the worst disaster for British troops since they arrived in 2001. A total of 36 British troops have died, with most in the last few months. Six soldiers were killed in action, in August alone. The British deaths are becoming another political nail in the coffin of the tottering Tony Blair. "It is very, very difficult for Britain to sustain losses at this level, said Robert Fox, defense correspondent for the *Evening Standard* newspaper on BBC television. "It's difficult because there have been so many questions raised about this operation from the beginning. Britain has nearly 4,000 troops in Helmand provinces where most of the recent casualties have occurred.

Other NATO countries are paying a price as well. A Dutch F-16 jet went down Aug. 31 in southern Afghanistan, in what was said, like the British crash, to be an accident, killing the pilot; three Canadian soldiers were killed Sept. 2 during a NATO offensive operation west of Kandahar. An Afghan official claimed that 89 Taliban militants were also killed in the operation.

Record Opium Crop in Afghanistan This Year

A UN survey estimates that poppy cultivation has increased 59% in Afghanistan this year, producing a record 6,100 tons of opium, the *Chicago Tribune* reported Sept. 2. Antonio Maria Costa, the UN's anti-drug chief, called the crop "staggering." Afghanistan now produces 92% of the world's supply, and much of it is produced in the South, where the Taliban

insurgency has taken over a number of districts. Costa said the southern part of the country is "displaying the ominous hallmarks of incipient collapse." The UN survey shows 407,724 acres under cultivation, compared to 256,989 in 2005 and 331,360 in 2004.

India, Germany Sign Defense Cooperation Pact

India and Germany have signed a defense and security agreement to establish a strategic dialogue at the level of defense secretaries through a group called the India-Germany High Defense Committee (HDC), *India Defence* reported Sept. 8. The pact was signed during Indian Defense Minister Pranab Mukherjee's visit last week to Germany. Mukherjee said the pact would change the bilateral relationship from "buyer-seller" status to that of a "partnership."

Mukherjee's visit followed that of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to Berlin in late August. During the Indian Premier's visit, it came to light that India was seeking access to German high-tech weapons technology and to facilitate intensive interaction between the armed forces of the two countries.

The agreement will open the doors of German technology transfer to India and provide the framework for holding joint naval exercises.

Indian Prime Minister Fears More Terrorist Attacks

Addressing the state chief ministers Sept. 5, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said India faces "a wide array of complex internal security problems and threats." He said that "left-wing extremism and terrorism" are the main threats, while it is of equal importance "to assuage feelings of insecurity among our minorities, especially Muslims."

Expressing deep concerns about the increasing threats posed by the Naxalites in the economically most deprived states of India, Manmohan Singh said: "My approach to the Naxalite position is that we need a blend of firm, but sophisticated handling of Naxalite violence with sensitive handling of the developmental aspects. It is in the most neglected areas of the country that left-wing extremism thrives today. These are also the main recruiting grounds for Naxalite outfits."

As if on a cue, soon after Friday prayers Sept. 1, on the eve of the holy Muslim festival Shab-e-barat, two bombs went off in Malegaon in the Indian state of Maharashtra. Malegaon, located near Mumbai (formerly known in the West as Bombay), has seen Hindu-Muslim riots before. First reports indicate that more than 50 were killed and more than 125 were seriously injured. Most of those died are estimated to be Muslims.

Although not official yet, observers believe that the explosion was directly linked to the series of train bombs in Mumbai last July which killed more than 200 people. The objective of these terrorist attacks is an attempt to trigger communal violence in India between Hindus and Muslims, observers say.

Pakistan Reaches Agreement with Taliban/al-Qaeda

On Sept. 5, Azad Khan, a representative of the local Taliban, and North Waziristan's chief administrator Fakhar e-Alam, in the presence of Pakistani Army commander, Maj-Gen. Azhar Ali Shah, signed an agreement whereby the local Pakistani Taliban accepted the government demand not to indulge in attacks against the American and Afghan troops in Afghanistan by crossing the border. In return, the Pakistani Army will withdraw from the tribal agencies.

The Federally Administered Tribal Agencies (FATA) of Pakistan bordering Afghanistan had become the safehouse of al-Qaeda and Taliban militia following the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan in the winter of 2001. This is where the Pakistan-

based Jaish-e-Mohammad and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi—both banned in Pakistan—train their militia. Apart from the Afghan Pushtuns, who are trained here along with the al-Qaeda Arabs, the Uzbeks belonging to the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) under Tahir Yuldashev; Chechens; and Uighurs live and train in North Waziristan.

Observers point out that a similar agreement signed in South Waziristan two years ago did not work. But, Islamabad is keen to crush the growing insurgency in Balochistan. Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf is hoping that the peace agreement with Talibanized tribals of North Waziristan would enable him not only to divert more troops to Balochistan, but also to seek help of the Taliban elements within Balochistan in his operations against the Baloch tribes.

Musharraf: Pakistan Not Responsible for Afghan Insurgency

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf has admitted that Taliban insurgents are coming into Afghanistan from Pakistan's tribal agencies, but at the same time he pointed out that the Taliban and al-Qaeda insurgents also exist in Afghanistan. Arriving in Kabul a day after his army had signed a treaty with tribal elders along the southeastern Afghan borders, assuring the elders of complete withdrawal of the Pakistani Army from the tribal areas, Musharraf was in Kabul on a two-day (Sept 6-7) trip to assure Afghan President Hamid Karzai that he would fight the Taliban and al-Qaeda—the enemies of the Karzai regime. While addressing the Afghan Army, Musharraf came out strong, saying Pakistan is not responsible for the growing insurgency within Afghanistan.

Notwithstanding what the Pakistani President said, NATO chief James Jones said that NATO will need more troops to prevent further worsening of the security situation in Afghanistan. Observers pointed out that Pakistan signed the truce with the tribal elders because its 80,000-strong army could not bring the situation under control. With the Pakistani border now unmanned, it is expected that the Taliban and al-Qaeda will mount massive pressure on the NATO- and U.S.-led coalition forces, which add up to fewer than 25,000.

Lt. Gen. Karl Elkenberry, the U.S. military chief in Afghanistan, told reporters Sept. 7 that the foreign and Afghan troops are now facing a three-headed monster: al-Qaeda/Taliban, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hizbe Islami, and a group of Islamists led by Jalaluddin Haqqani, a Mujahideen commander. Elkenberry said these three groups have a symbiotic relationship and are receiving money from abroad.

Africa News Digest

New Drug-Resistant Strain of TB Found in Africa

A deadly strain of tuberculosis, XDR-TB, identified in South Africa, has health experts extremely alarmed, because it has killed 52 of 53 people infected. "This new strain leaves us facing a nightmare," said Paul Nunn, coordinator of the World Health Organization's drug resistance unit Sept. 3. "It is resistant to nearly every drug in our arsenal. We are now on the threshold of the appearance of a strain of TB that is resistant to every medicine known to science." Most strains of multiple-drug-resistant TB can be treated with second-line drugs, but this new strain is resistant to even those drugs. "In short, we are now on the last line of our defenses against tuberculosis," Nunn said.

The new strain was discovered earlier this year among HIV-infected patients in Kwazulu-Natal province, and has now been found among patients in 28 hospitals across South Africa. The HIV-infected population, estimated to number about 4.5 million people, could be devastated by this new strain. "It appears to kill within a few weeks and that does not give us a lot of time to spot it and treat it with the right drugs," Nunn said.

At a meeting Sept. 7-8 in Johannesburg, South Africa, health experts warned of the spread of XDR-TB, and called for

"dramatic improvements in tuberculosis control." Nunn commented at the meeting that "if these strains spread, then we are going to be jerked back into the pre-antibiotic era, when in fact we do not have the drugs to treat patients." The potential for catastrophe is exacerbated by the close link between TB and AIDS in South Africa and other countries.

Malaysian Business Daily Promotes South Africa's PBMR

Under the headline, "Nuclear energy to rescue," the *Financial Express* business daily of Malaysia carried a lengthy article on energy Sept. 3, especially focussed on South Africa's Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (PBMR).

"Viewed at night from outer space, Africa really is the 'Dark Continent'," the daily wrote. "Only 10% of its 700 million people regularly get electricity. While 75% of South Africa is now fully electrified, only 5.0% of Malawi, Mozambique, and other countries are so fortunate. Much of poor and rural Asia and Latin America faces a similar predicament.

"Impoverished countries are forever dependent on foreign aid. Abundant, reliable, affordable electricity is a critical priority for developing nations.

"Now a new energy technology is about to make its debut. Designed and built in South Africa, but with suppliers and partners in many other nations, the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (PBMR) is a revolutionary concept in nuclear power. The 165 megawatt modules are small and inexpensive enough to provide electrical power for emerging economies, individual cities or large industrial complexes, however, multiple units can be connected and operated from one control room, to meet the needs of large or growing communities.

"Process heat from PBMR reactors can also be used directly to desalinate sea water, produce hydrogen from water, turn coal and tar sands into liquid petroleum, and power refineries, chemical plants, and tertiary recovery operations at mature oil fields. This could launch new industries and make previously untapped resources economical to produce."

The article, reflecting the genuine interest in "South-South cooperation" among leading developing sector countries, comes just a week after the announcement by the German firm SGL Carbon that it wants to build a graphite-pellet manufacturing plant in Malaysia, as the central graphite hub for the rest of Asia. SGL Carbon also supplies the South Africans with graphite pebbles for the PBMR project.

UN Security Council Votes to Invade Sudan by Year's End

The UN Security Council voted Aug. 31 to invade Sudan by the end of the year. The UN News Service reported Aug. 31 that "The Security Council agreed today to deploy a UN peacekeeping force of more than 17,000 troops in Sudan's strife-torn Darfur region by the end of the year to try to end the spiralling violence and displacement there...." The relevant resolution, Resolution 1706, then "invites the consent" of the Sudanese government.

The government has repeatedly rejected this proposal and has said it would respond to an invasion with force.

Questions that are not being addressed are:

1. Why the African Union (AU) forces, accepted by Sudan government, were never provided with the funding and support they were promised? (Instead, we have the UN News Service statement saying that, before the AU hands over to the UN, "the UN has been authorized to provide air, engineering, logistics, communications, and other support" to the AU.)

2. What truth is there to the Sudan government's accusations that the International Rescue Committee (New York) and Israel have armed the Darfur rebels, and that U.S. officials have encouraged the rebels' representatives to stiffen their demands at negotiations in Nigeria?

U.S. Ambassador to the UN John Bolton was one of the sponsors of Resolution 1706, and UN Undersecretary for "Humanitarian" Affairs Jan Egeland warned of "a man-made catastrophe of unprecedented scale" if the Security Council did not act immediately. (Egeland is on record saying that Sudan should be broken up.)

China, Russia, and Qatar abstained from voting on the resolution. Chinese Ambassador Wang Guangya said that because the resolution did not specify "with the consent of" the Sudanese government, China had to abstain.

Coverage of the visit of Russian President Vladimir Putin to South Africa and Morocco is found in this week's Russia/CIS Digest.

This Week in American History

September 12—18, 1859

Lincoln Tells the Anti-Slavery Forces How To Win the Fight

During the summer and fall of 1859, Sen. Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois was criss-crossing the states of the Midwest, trying to win people over to his doctrine of "popular sovereignty," and thus to weaken the resolve of those who opposed the spread of slavery. It was increasingly apparent that Douglas would be a Presidential candidate in 1860. Abraham Lincoln was also speaking to Midwestern voters, making crystal clear to them the basic policy questions the anti-slavery forces must resolve in their own minds before they would be capable of winning the upcoming Presidential election.

At this juncture, it was still not clear whether the new Republican Party would be joined by all the diverse anti-slavery factions, or whether there would be several anti-slavery tickets. Many people were talking of cobbling together some sort of compromise, while the "anti-Nebraska" Democrats, who did not want slavery extended, still rejoiced in the difficulties faced by the new Republican Party. In this fluid situation, Lincoln spoke at Columbus on Sept. 16 and then at Cincinnati on the following day.

Because Cincinnati was directly across the Ohio River from Kentucky, Lincoln adopted the device of first addressing his remarks to those who perhaps had crossed the river from Kentucky to hear him. He recommended that the Kentuckians, who were slightly suspicious of Douglas, vote for Douglas without reservation, for he was more in favor of establishing slavery on a permanent nationwide basis than they were. The purpose of this hilarious ironic discourse was to demonstrate to his audience exactly what ideological assumptions underlay the arguments used by Douglas to obscure his real purposes.

Among the many ways in which Douglas was softening up the Midwesterners was his Bible theory. "In Kentucky, perhaps, in many of the Slave States certainly," said Lincoln, "you are trying to establish the rightfulness of Slavery by reference to the Bible. You are trying to show that slavery existed in the Bible times by Divine ordinance. Now Douglas is wiser than you, for your own benefit, upon that subject. Douglas knows that whenever you establish that Slavery was right by the Bible, it will occur that that Slavery was the Slavery of the *white* man—of men without reference to color—and he knows very well that you may entertain that idea in Kentucky as much as you please, but you will never win any Northern support upon it. He makes a wiser argument for you: he makes the argument that the slavery of the *black* man, the slavery of the man who has a skin of a different color from your own, is right. He thereby brings to your support Northern voters who could not for a moment be brought by your own argument of the Bible-right of slavery. Will you not give him credit for

that? Will you not say that in this matter he is more wisely for you than you are for yourselves."

Lincoln then quoted from a Douglas speech at Memphis, "where he declared that while in all contests between the Negro and the white man, he was for the white man, but that in all questions between the Negro and the crocodile he was for the Negro." Lincoln said that he supposed "that if a crocodile (or as we old Ohio River boatmen used to call them, alligators) should come across a white man, he would kill him if he could, and so he would a Negro. But what, at last, is this proposition? I believe it is a sort of proposition in proportion, which may be stated thus: As the Negro is to the white man, so is the crocodile to the Negro, and as the Negro may rightfully treat the crocodile as a beast or reptile, so the white man may rightfully treat the Negro as a beast or a reptile. [Applause.] That is really the 'knip' of all that argument of his."

"Now, my brother Kentuckians, who believe in this," said Lincoln, "you ought to thank Judge Douglas for having put that in a much more taking way than any of yourselves have done." [Applause.]

After cataloguing the sophisms used by Douglas, Lincoln turned to the necessity of organizing a principled stand against the policies which were destroying the nation. "I have taken upon myself in the name of some of you to say, that we expect upon these principles to ultimately beat them [those who favored spreading slavery to every part of the nation]. In order to do so, I think we want and must have a national policy in regard to the institution of slavery, that acknowledges and deals with that institution as being wrong. [Loud cheering.] Whoever desires the prevention of the spread of slavery and the nationalization of that institution, yields all, when he yields to any policy that either recognizes slavery as being right, or as being an indifferent thing. Nothing will make you successful but setting up a policy which shall treat the thing as being wrong.

"When I say this, I do not mean to say that this general government is charged with the duty of redressing all wrongs which are wrongs to itself. *This government is expressly charged with the duty of providing for the general welfare.* We believe that the spreading out and perpetuity of the institution of slavery impairs the general welfare. We believe—nay, we know, that that is the only thing that has ever threatened the perpetuity of the Union itself. The only thing which has ever menaced the destruction of the government under which we live, is this very thing. To repress this thing, we think is providing for the general welfare. Our friends in Kentucky differ from us. We need not make our argument for them, but we who think it is wrong in all its relations, or in some of them at least, must decide as to our own actions, and our own course, upon our own judgment (emphasis added).

"I say that we must not interfere with the institution of slavery in the states where it exists, because the Constitution forbids it, and the general welfare does not require us to do so. We must not withhold an efficient fugitive slave law because the Constitution requires us, as I understand it, not to withhold such a law. But we must prevent the outspreading of the institution, because neither the Constitution nor general welfare requires us to extend it. We must prevent the revival of the African slave trade and the enacting by Congress of a territorial slave code. We must prevent each of these things being done by either Congresses or courts. The people of these United States are the rightful masters of both Congresses and courts [Applause] not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow the men who pervert that Constitution. [Applause.]

"To do these things we must employ instrumentalities. We must hold conventions; we must adopt platforms if we conform to ordinary custom; we must nominate candidates, and we must carry elections. In all these things, I think that we ought to keep in view our real purpose, and in none do anything that stands adverse to our purpose. If we shall adopt a platform that fails to recognize or express our purpose, or elect a man that declares himself inimical to our purpose, we not only take nothing by our success, but we tacitly admit that we act upon no other principle than a desire to have 'the loaves and fishes,' by which, in the end our apparent success is really an injury to us.

"I know that it is very desirable with me, as with everybody else, that all the elements of the Opposition shall unite in the next Presidential election and in all future time. I am anxious that that should be, but there are things seriously to be

considered in relation to that matter. If the terms can be arranged, I am in favor of the Union. But suppose we shall take up some man and put him upon one end or the other of the ticket, who declares himself against us in regard to the prevention of the spread of slavery—who turns up his nose and says he is tired of hearing anything about it, who is more against us than against the enemy, what will be the issue?

"Why he will get no slave states after all—he has tried that already until being beat is the rule for him. If we nominate him upon that ground, he will not carry a slave state; and not only so, but that portion of our men who are high strung upon the principle we really fight for, will not go for him, and he won't get a single electoral vote anywhere, except, perhaps, in the state of Maryland. There is no use in saying to us that we are stubborn and obstinate, because we won't do some such thing as this. We cannot do it."

"After saying this much, let me say a little on the other side. There are plenty of men in the slave states that are altogether good enough for me to be either President or Vice President, provided they will profess their sympathy with our purpose, and will place themselves on the ground that our men, upon principle, can vote for them. There are scores of them, good men in their character for intelligence and talent and integrity. If such a one will place himself upon the right ground I am for his occupying one place upon the next Republican or Opposition ticket. [Applause] I will heartily go for him.

"But, unless he does so place himself, I think it a matter of perfect nonsense to attempt to bring about a union upon any other basis; that if a union be made, the elements will scatter so that there can be no success for such a ticket, nor anything like success. The good old maxims of the Bible are applicable, and truly applicable to human affairs, and in this as in other things, we may say here that he who is not for us is against us; he who gathereth not with us scattereth. [Applause.]

"I should be glad to have some of the many good, and able, and noble men of the South to place themselves where we can confer upon them the high honor of an election upon one or the other end of our ticket. It would do my soul good to do that thing. It would enable us to teach them that inasmuch as we select one of their own number to carry out our principles, we are free from the charge that we mean more than we say.

"But, my friends I have detained you much longer than I expected to do. I believe I may do myself the compliment to say that you have stayed and heard me with great patience, for which I return you my most sincere thanks."

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