

# EIR

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Will the Empire's Genocide Policy Now Be Overthrown?  
Superstorm Sandy: Reality Shock for the Nation  
British-Saudi Maneuvers Are Leading Toward Global War

**LaRouche Press Conference:  
Stop the Empire's War Drive**



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# EIR

## From the Managing Editor

**T**he day before the U.S. election, a large asteroid approached our planet, coming within 17 times the Earth-Moon distance (4 million miles). *Discovery News*, commenting on the unusual timing of this “near-Earth” passage, wrote, “*As the world eagerly awaits the results of the 2012 U.S. presidential election, it’s worth remembering our solar system is buzzing with massive chunks of rock that, if their orbits start to drift too close to Earth, political rhetoric will quickly become irrelevant*” (emphasis in the original).

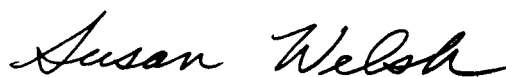
While the asteroid’s whiz-by posed no danger to the Earth and to civilization (this time), the same cannot be said of the political rhetoric that swamped this election campaign, nor of the policies of both Presidential candidates. Now that Obama has been re-elected, the questions discussed in this week’s issue are as urgent as ever before, and the dangers just as great.

Our *Feature* is introduced by Editor Nancy Spannaus, so I will only mention here that it consists of the transcript of a press conference given by Lyndon LaRouche and Jeffrey Steinberg at the National Press Club on Nov. 2. The focus was the threat of thermonuclear war, and the specific case of the terrorist attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya. Steinberg’s documentation, which comes from official transcripts assembled by the House of Representatives, is reprinted here in full. Updates on the war threat, and the fight to stop it, are in *International*.

In *Economics*, Marcia Merry Baker presents an initial report of the horrific damage from Superstorm Sandy, which resulted not from an act of God, but from the negligence and cost-cutting of the human beings who were tasked with protecting America’s most populous region from natural disasters—and failed to do so. Decades of decline of the physical economy mean that the cleanup and restoration efforts will be monumental, and can only be accomplished with a top-down change in economic policy.

And in *National*, we report the implications for the U.S. health-care policy of Britain’s Liverpool Care Pathway for murder of the ill and elderly—and the fact that some Britons are finally speaking out against it.

These are the issues upon which the political battles of the coming months will hang.



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LPAC-TV

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# Stop the Empire's War

by Nancy Spannaus, Editor

Nov. 7—On the eve of the U.S. Presidential elections, Lyndon LaRouche took the podium at the National Press Club in the nation's capital, to define the actual issues at stake from his own unique standpoint—the standpoint of the future. For that reason, the contents of LaRouche's address, along with that of *EIR*'s Jeffrey Steinberg, represent the crucial orientation for the political battles that must be fought and won *after* election day. Upon LaRouche's instruction, we have shaped this entire issue of *EIR* with that in mind, selecting only a very few additional elements of the strategic picture which directly expand upon LaRouche's major message: The United States must free itself from control by the British Empire, which, with its Saudi accomplices, is leading us, and the world, into extinction by nuclear war, or other means.

With Barack Obama's declared victory in the elections, the contents of LaRouche's address become even more urgent.

First, the United States remains in the power of a known British puppet who is carrying out a policy of provocation, along with the Saudi monarchy, that is leading directly to a thermonuclear confrontation with Russia and China. If that confrontation is not stopped, there is little doubt that it will lead to the virtual obliteration of civilization on this planet.

Second, the proven complicity of Barack Obama in the British-Saudi operation which carried out the 9/11 attacks of 2001 and 2012, provides the basis for his im-

mediate impeachment, and removal from office, as the most reliable pathway to avoiding the horror of general war. The evidence put on the table in documentary form by *EIR* editor Steinberg—and there is much more besides—must provide the grist for the Congressional investigations into the Benghazi atrocity which are already scheduled for this month. The impeachment of Obama for his offenses against the Constitution, which should have been initiated years ago, must finally begin.

It can be truly said that if a more significant minority of the American population had been exposed to, and assimilated, the presentation and documentation which LaRouche and Steinberg offered at the Nov. 2 press conference, the outcome of the election could have been different. The damning evidence of the Obama Administration's collusion with the British-Saudi orchestration of mass-murderous attacks on the United States is overwhelming, and conclusive. Would a majority still have voted for a mass murderer for President if they had understood the real story of 9/11 One and Two?

The most crucial task of patriots, then, at this point, is to assimilate the message of that press conference and spread it far and wide. Don't get distracted by individual "issues" which will erupt. Whether this nation and the planet have a future or not, depends upon facing the reality of the British-Saudi collusion which is driving the world toward war. Electoral games are over—it's time for the real fight.

# Benghazi 9/11: Obama's Impeachable Crimes

Nov. 2—*Lyndon LaRouche today returned to the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., for the first time since 1986, to deliver a powerful repudiation of both of the two major party Presidential candidates, and warn that the world is facing the gravest crisis in modern times, centered on the immediate danger of thermonuclear war and a trans-Atlantic hyperinflationary breakdown. LaRouche was joined in the press conference by EIR Counterintelligence Editor Jeffrey Steinberg.*

*The conference was attended by diplomats from Western Europe and Africa and by media from the United States, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and South America. The entire event was recorded by three TV networks, including LPAC-TV, which has posted the full video of the press conference, including an extended question-and-answer session ([www.larouchepac.com](http://www.larouchepac.com)).*

**Lyndon LaRouche:** Well, I am Lyndon LaRouche, opening this event, and probably the major part of the presentation and discussion today will be devoted to a report from Jeff Steinberg, who is outside in the corridor right now, but will be here in due course. He knows already pretty much what I'm about to say.

My subject here is going to be the question of the election and its implications, and Mr. Steinberg will be going on some of the complications which will become crucial once the election has occurred—if it ever has been actually settled.

So, from my standpoint: We are in the worst crisis that the United States and other nations related to it, have ever experienced. And the election itself, or the results of the nominal election, if it can actually be settled, is really of secondary importance. The real news, apart from what Mr. Steinberg will present today, which is some real news of relevance, the real news otherwise, is going to be evident *after* the election proceedings have nominally closed. That's when the fun will occur. Not now, before the election, but once the election day has been completed, all hell will bust loose internationally.

Exactly what the form of hell will be, we don't nec-

essarily know. I've been forecasting for many years, for many decades, actually, and I've never made a mistake, but I've made few definite forecasts. Because a few forecasts do map out pretty much what the history of mankind has been, in any case.

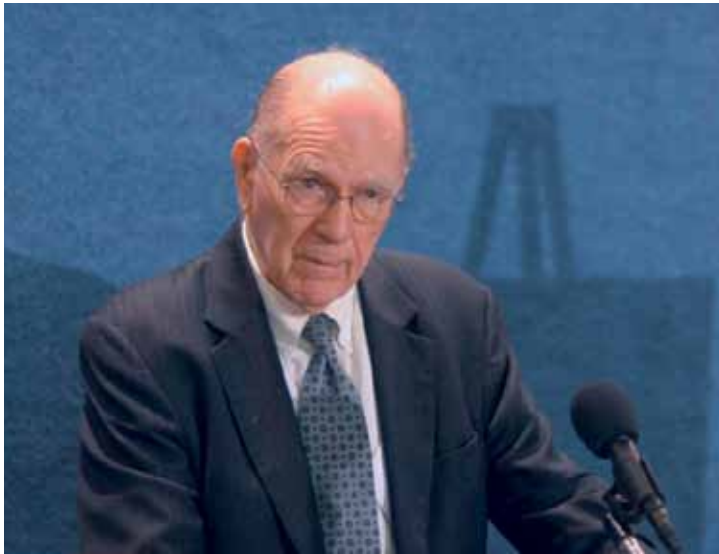
Now, the question that would be posed normally, by, I think, most citizens and other observers today, would be, "Well, how is the election going to work out?" Well, the election is a mess, because we have two candidates who are the chosen leading candidates, both of whom are utterly incompetent to become President of the United States. One has *been* the incompetent President of the United States for some time. So the question is not, what is going to happen as a result of a choice of the election candidate, even if we can get a clear choice. And because of the massive amount of vote fraud, which is almost incalculable, as in the case of Ohio, that we cannot determine, even on Election Day, who actually won. It would be miracle if we could say who actually won this election.

So, that's part of the situation.

But the other part is that the world is going through a global crisis, especially in the trans-Atlantic region, where we're most aware of it—i.e., in Europe, especially in western and central Europe, and in the United States—that is the crucial point, which everything is determining.

The crucial issue, the most crucial issue, is the threat of thermonuclear war. That is the pregnant issue going on here.

Now, the incumbent President is *for* a military confrontation, which, in fact, if it's executed, will be thermonuclear war. And as most of you who are experienced know, thermonuclear war would begin, perhaps, launched by Mr. Obama, on behalf of the United States, and within minutes after Mr. Obama had launched World War III, or V, or VI, or whatever it's going to be, you would have then a reaction from certain European nations, which would be called into play under their agreements. You will have Russia, China, and probably



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*Lyndon LaRouche addresses the press conference. Neither Presidential candidate has addressed the two main issues, he said: the threat of thermonuclear war; and the economic policy crisis exemplified by Hurricane Sandy's destruction of the New York City area and New Jersey.*

India as the principal leaders of the opposite side.

If thermonuclear war were to occur, under expected terms today, it would be completed, essentially, within the range of an hour and a half. Because that's thermonuclear war. And when you measure thermonuclear war against the capacity of the submarine fleet of the United States, in launching these kinds of weapons, after an hour and a half of warfare among these contenders, and those associated with these contenders, there won't be much left on the planet.

You can go back to the time that Khrushchov exploded a big bomb in Asia, as a demonstration. It was a demonstration bomb; it had elements of thermonuclear war in it. It was essentially a nuclear bomb, but with these complications. Since that time, the capacity for conducting thermonuclear warfare has been perfected to the point that you can fight the war, but you can't outlive it. Or nearly so.

And this is the big issue, if you take what the work of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States is, what they're concerned about, what they're fighting to try to avoid, is a thermonuclear war. There are attempts at negotiation: the Russian policy, Russian relationships with the Joint Chiefs' attitudes; what India's concerned about, and China's involvement, and others: All of these things are there. If we do not prevent the launching of a war, by, in this case, the United States—be-

cause only the United States has the capability and weapons systems to present a confrontation of a type that will trigger a grand thermonuclear war, where everybody has to respond, simply because it's the last thing they will be able to do.

And therefore, the key issue here is not the election. The key issue here is: Will this crisis, this economic crisis—which is worldwide, with hyperinflation accelerating every hour in Europe; with hyperinflation coming in the United States. Look at the situation in the Manhattan/New York area, New Jersey, and so forth. And look at the budgets coming up. You're already seeing—in Staten Island and elsewhere, and in the Manhattan region, the New Jersey region—you're already seeing a horror show.

Because *neither* of the leading candidates in contention now, will actually create a budget which allows for the recovery of that area of the United States. The funds will not exist under Obama, or under his opponent, to meet the needs of people who are *dying* in the island of Manhattan, and Staten Island, and elsewhere in that vicinity. They are starving. They have no means of sustenance. Nothing is provided for them. They're dying. They're dying in places that used to be the housing of the citizens of the United States in that area.

And *nothing will be done*. The budgetary provisions which have been made, don't exist for the needs of the people.

And this is only the beginning of it.

So, we have the two issues: You have the threat of thermonuclear war, and you have also this crisis which has hit the New York City area, around there. These are exemplars and warnings of what's in store for us now, *after* the election date is finished.

So the real history of what's happening now, will become manifest to people more generally, and globally, after Election Day, not before. There are limitations on what you can precisely forecast, because it depends on how people react to these conditions.

Neither of these candidates for President, the leading candidates, is fit to become President of the United States. You see what happened with the Florida debate between the two candidates: It was a piece of junk. There was nothing serious in that debate, absolutely nothing of any importance in it. They were acting out something.

They didn't even discuss the key issue. The key issue on the election plate has been, what? It's been the

fraud, the fraud of Benghazi, and you will hear more about that from Jeff Steinberg, who will give you the details on it.

But we have the evidence, and it's the evidence from U.S. official sources at the highest rank, the evidence of the exact chain of circumstances which led into the killing on 9/11—that is, on Sept. 11 of this year. The conclusive evidence is provided by the relevant voices, documents, of leading people in the U.S. government service. But the official voice has put a lid on the discussion of this issue. And so that's what we face today.

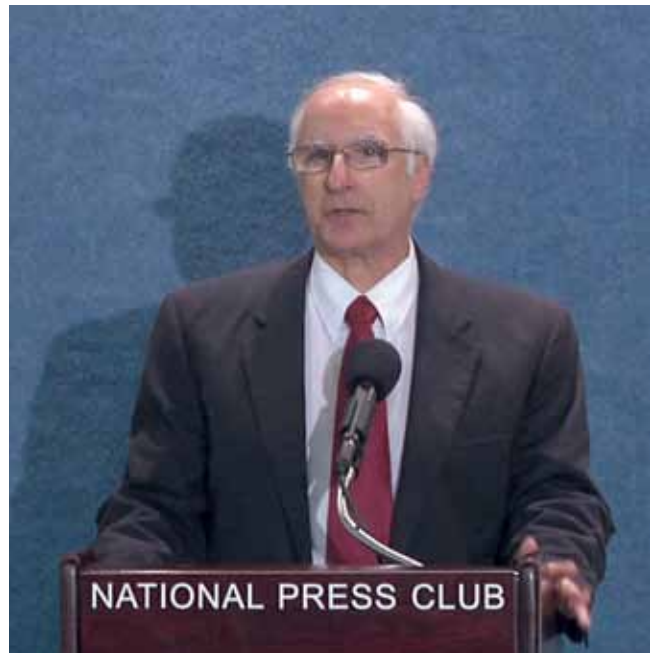
Now, the other aspect is background. What's wrong with these two candidates? Well, Obama—there's nothing right about him. That's a fact, that's not an opinion. There's nothing good there. The other candidate, the Republican, if he had any competence at all, lost it, in a debate between himself and Obama in Florida. He covered up the main story, which is what you will now hear from Mr. Jeff Steinberg.

### What Did the President Know?

**Jeffrey Steinberg:** We are now in the eighth week since the attack on the consulate in Benghazi on Sept. 11 of this year, and in that eight-week period, we are yet to get any kind of a coherent accounting from the President of the United States with respect to what he knew beforehand, what his activities were on the day that the attack occurred, and how he responded after the fact. And these are absolutely pivotal issues, when you consider that, just a few days from now, he's standing for re-election as President of the United States, and he already swore an oath to not only uphold the Constitution, but to protect and defend the lives of American diplomats and others around the world.

And I can say with reasonable confidence, that the President will do everything in his power, to remain absolutely dead silent on this issue, until after the election next Tuesday, and however long it takes afterwards, to determine what the actual outcome of the election is.

So, what I want to go through here today, is certain things that have come out as the result of pressure from Congressional committees, as the result of a certain limited amount of disclosure that has come out of the State Department, and I want to restrict my remarks exclusively to those things that have been placed in the public record, by way of government documents. I'm not going to comment on any speculation, or rumors, or theories that have been put out in the press. I just want to stick simply with those things that are absolutely in-



LPAC-TV

*Jeffrey Steinberg: "I want to restrict my remarks exclusively to those things that have been placed in the public record, by way of government documents. I'm not going to comment on any speculation, or rumors, or theories that have been put out in the press."*

disputable, so that there's a frame of reference to judge the behavior of the President and other leading figures in his administration.

Now, the first question that has come up, and is a perfectly legitimate question, is: Why, on the 11th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001—when there were clearly threats being made from Ayman al-Zawahiri, the nominal head of al-Qaeda—why is it that in the period leading up to Sept. 11, there was no effort in advance to beef up security in Benghazi and in Tripoli?

Now, after the fact, the *New York Times* reported that there is a capability that has been established, under the Marine Corps, called the Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Teams (FAST). Those teams are prepositioned in places like Rota, in Spain; in Bahrain; and they've also got a team in Japan. The idea is that these teams exist to be sent into situations prior to potential attacks, so that there is beefed-up security available in advance. None of those things were done, and we are yet to hear at what level the President was briefed and informed on any of this.

Here's some things that we do know:

The year date is mistaken on this document (**Figure 1**), it's actually March 1, 2012. This is a State Depart-



# Progress Elusive in Libya

*Product of the Research & Information Support Center (RISC)*

*The following report is based on open source reporting.*

**March 1, 2011**

## **Instability Continues**

More than a year has passed since the uprising against General Muammar Qaddafi began, and nearly five months have lapsed since the long-time Libyan leader met his end. While the pitched battles that characterized Libya's civil war are a thing of the past, instability and violence on a smaller scale continue. Tripoli and Benghazi remain in an uneasy, but largely peaceful, state with periodic protests against the Transitional National Council (TNC). Clashes between the Tabou and Zwaya tribes erupted in southeastern Libya on February 12 and killed more than 100, according to the United Nations. Damage from the war has only begun to be repaired. Sirte, Qaddafi's final stronghold, lies in ruins; its residents complain that the TNC has abandoned them. Some in Libya appreciate that rebuilding a new Libya from the ashes of its civil war will take time, while others grow increasingly frustrated at the lack of discernable progress. Myriad issues confront the new Libya, but several stand out as sore points that remain to be addressed.

## **A Confederation of Militias**

Though the TNC is making slow progress in fostering national reconciliation and building a central government, autonomous military councils control Libya's cities, and individual militias control specific districts within each city. Checkpoints, which help to keep the few remaining Qaddafi loyalists out of Libya's major cities, also serve to stifle trade and provide a chance for unscrupulous militiamen to extort those who pass through. Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have both alleged militias are responsible for widespread human rights violations, and that the TNC is powerless to stop them. On January 26, Doctors Without Borders suspended its operation in Misrata, claiming detainees held by the Misrata militia were being tortured and denied medical care. Libyan and UN authorities do not know the location of all detention centers or how many alleged Qaddafi loyalists are being held.

TNC efforts to centralize authority and incorporate militias under its control generally have failed thus far, highlighting the continued dominance of local militias and the fragmented nature of the national security profile. Until a legitimate political process is put in place, most militias will retain their positions, and their arms, out of hopes of eventually securing greater prominence at the national level. If successful, nationwide elections slated for June 2012 may succeed in generating a legitimate central government that can enjoy greater success in bringing coherence to the Libyan security structure.

## **Radical Islamists**

In late December 2011, reports indicated that al-Qa'ida leadership in Pakistan had sent "experienced jihadists" to Libya to build a new base of operations in the country. Between May and December 2011, one of these jihadists had recruited 200 fighters in the eastern part of the country. Documents seized in Iraq indicate that many foreign fighters who participated in the Iraqi insurgency hailed from eastern Libya. This small batch of fighters would have been dealt with quickly by a central authority, were it in place.

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FIGURE 1b

Until a stronger national army or guard force is developed, rural Libya will remain fertile territory for terrorist groups such as al-Qa'da in the Islamic Maghreb.

#### **Implications for the Private Sector**

The lack of an effective national government will continue to present a challenge for businesses operating in Libya. Transportation will require in-depth knowledge of the local human and geographical terrain. Moving internally within Libya may require passing through multiple checkpoints monitored by militias with varying requirements for passage. Until state institutions are developed, rules and regulations governing private business in Libya may remain unclear.

While it may take years to establish an effective system of governance, Libya has much going in its favor. As the process of building a new Libya continues, the private sector will have to share the burden of its growing pains. If Libya is able to hold inclusive elections that give a voice to the communities that have felt excluded in the post-Qaddafi era, it will be a milestone on the path to a more stable environment.

#### **For Further Information**

Please direct any questions regarding this report or the general security situation in the region to OSAC's Regional Analyst for the Middle East and North Africa.

ment document, that was made available through the House Government Reform Committee. I've selected a few documents from a total of 122 pages of material, that are declassified, or unclassified, documents that were presented to the Committee by the State Department, and are available publicly on the Committee's website. So anybody who wants to go in and read through all 122 pages, I can tell you that the documents that I've selected here are representative of the file as a whole, and are not cherry-picked to make a political point.

So, here we have a report that was issued in early March of 2012, and it's clear. They say, "more than a year has passed since the uprising," "five months since Qaddafi was killed," and the government was removed. And here at the bottom, one of the first things that they say under the section "radical Islamists": "In late December 2011, reports indicated that the al-Qaeda leadership in Pakistan had sent experienced jihadists to Libya, to build a new base of operations in the country. Between May and December 2011, one of these jihadists had recruited 200 fighters in the eastern part of the country. Documents seized in Iraq indicate that many foreign fighters who participated in the Iraq insurgency,

hailed from eastern Libya. This small batch of fighters would have been dealt with quickly by a central authority, were it in place. Until a stronger national army or guard force is developed, rural Libya will remain fertile territory for terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb."

So, this is March of 2012.

#### **U.S. Mission Targeted**

Now, we go to some of the other material. Again, most of this is State Department.

I'm just selecting out two pages from a 49-page grid of security incidents that occurred in Libya, from the time of the overthrow of Qaddafi, up until the end of the Summer—in other words, events leading right into Sept. 11, and the second 9/11 attack in 11 years.

Much of this has also been noted in the press, but just to summarize it: There were a series of attacks that were directed against Western government and relief agency targets, during the Spring, and into the early Summer of 2012, in Benghazi. And just a few examples. Again, this is an official government document grid:

"June 6, 2012, Benghazi. U.S. mission target of

FIGURE 2a



devices were being used here in eastern Libya, in Benghazi.

I won't read through all of it, but it's a detailed attack.

Then, the same day: "Grenade attack on a U.K. vehicle at approximately 23:45. Two handgrenades used by an unknown person, to target a marked U.K. diplomatic vehicles parked outside of a hotel."

Then we go to the next page, and here: "RPG attack on U.K. ambassador's convoy. Two security officers injured." Again, in Benghazi, the result of this incident was that the British consulate in Benghazi was shut down. All diplomats were removed from Benghazi, and to this day, the British have not reopened that facility. Here: "IED explosion at ICRC compound in Misurata." This is the International Committee of the Red Cross.


There was a bombing attack in June on the Red Cross headquarters in Benghazi, as the result of which the Red Cross, which is famous for operating in the most difficult frontline combat situations around the world, they were forced to shut down their entire operation in Benghazi for security reasons.

IED" (Figure 2a,b). And it goes through the fact that at a certain time of day, the U.S. mission in Benghazi was the target of an IED attack—that's an Improvised Explosive Device, notoriously used, very widespread in Iraq. Many of the American casualties were through IEDs that were planted on roadsides, and so, those same

So, as of Sept. 11 of this year, the only Western flag that was flying in Benghazi, the only active diplomatic presence in the city of any Western country, was the U.S. consulate. Everybody else had pulled out, because clearly the security situation had become completely untenable.

And again, in June, there was a direct attack on the

FIGURE 2b

<b>U.S. EMBASSY — TRIPOLI, LIBYA</b>		<b>REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICE</b>
<b><u>SECURITY INCIDENTS SINCE JUNE 2011</u></b>		
<p>unmarked Toyota Land Cruisers with tinted windows, and one Chevrolet (or similar) sedan car. There were no insignia or number plates evident.</p>	<p>then possible AK-47 fire within 500 meters of the rear entrance of their compound. The attack occurred as the convoy was en route to the British office compound, which is located approximately two kilometers from U.S. Mission Benghazi. One RPG round struck the rear of the lead armored vehicle, injuring two of the security personnel in the vehicle. The motorcade was not flying the British flags. Security and medical personnel from the U.S. Mission in Benghazi responded and provided initial trauma medical care until the Supreme Security Council (SSC) could respond. No suspects have been identified and no group has claimed responsibility for the attack. Both injured security officers were medevaced out of Libya for further treatment.</p>	
<b><u>10 JUNE 2012 — TRIPOLI</u></b>		
<p><b>ZINTAN MILITIAMEN SEIZE GOVERNMENT CARS IN TRIPOLI:</b></p>	<b><u>12 JUNE 2012 — MISRATA</u></b>	
<p>A group from one of the Zintan militias, Brigade 14, which was assigned to protect the Algerian-Libyan borders, seized a number of government vehicles in Tripoli on Monday. The vehicles seized by the militia included cars belonging to the protocol department as well as police vehicles. Brigade 14 militia members stated that they seized the government vehicles due to the government's failure to provide financial "entitlements" to the brigade. The Ministry of Interior confirmed that at least 33 government vehicles were taken by the brigade, adding that negotiations between the government and the brigade were ongoing. The vehicle in which the Maltese Central Bank Governor Josef Bonnici was traveling was among those seized. Bonnici, in town for official meetings with the Central Bank of Libya, was told to exit the protocol vehicle he was traveling in when the motorcade was stopped at a Zintan checkpoint. Protocol and police vehicles, including those in Bonnici's motorcade, were taken to the brigades' Tripoli headquarters, near the airport road.</p>	<p><b>IED/EXPLOSION AT THE ICRC COMPOUND IN MISRATA; 1 PERSON INJURED.</b> The ICRC confirmed that an explosion occurred in our Misrata office at 3.50am on 12 June. A crude, time-delayed IED was the cause of the explosion, which wounded one person. informed and were on site early at five in the morning."</p>	
<b><u>11 JUNE 2012 — BENGHAZI</u></b>		
<p><b>RPG ATTACK ON UK AMBASSADOR'S CONVOY; 2 SECURITY OFFICERS INJURED:</b></p>	<b><u>13 JUNE 2012 — SEBHA</u></b>	
<p>At approximately 1530 hours, a 3-car motorcade carrying the UK Ambassador was targeted by an RPG attack. The security personnel in the motorcade indicated that they were initially engaged by an RPG and</p>	<p><b>CLASHES IN SEBHA:</b> Two persons were killed and eleven wounded in fighting between the National Army and 'wanted individuals' in Sebha. According to the Supreme Security Committee in Sebha, the two men killed were part of the SSC and described the wounded as soldiers and SSC members. According to the Sebha SSC, the 'wanted individuals' were from Ghaddafi's tribe.</p>	
<b><u>13 JUNE 2012 — BENGHAZI</u></b>		
<p><b>INDIVIDUAL KILLED IN CAR BOMB ASSASSINATION:</b> One individual was killed at the Zamzam market area of Benghazi when a bomb</p>		

45

U.S. consular facility that was then targeted for a much bigger attack on Sept. 11.

Now, there are many communiqués that were passed back and forth between the embassy in Tripoli, Libya, and various government offices back in Washington, D.C., including the State Department, the Office of the

Director of National Intelligence, the FBI, the CIA; and what we have here, and what was posted by the Committee, and made available by the State Department, are only those documents that were considered to be sensitive, but unclassified. So, I think it's a fair assumption that at some point, we're going to see the release, or partial declassification, of much, much more material. But even just on the basis of the unclassified documents that are available to the general public as a whole, here we have a report, dated June 25, 2012, under the signature of Ambassador Stevens (Figure 3a,b,c).

The reference is: "Libya's fragile security deteriorates as tribal rivalries, power plays, and extremism intensify." And this is a three-page memo that goes through exactly what some of the details are, of the deteriorating security situation in Benghazi, and in other parts of the country. But predominantly, they're talking about Benghazi, and they come to the conclusion, in these memos, that the Libyan government has been unsuccessful in standing up any kind of reliable security. Normally the host government would be responsible for providing security to foreign

diplomatic postings, but clearly, no such capability existed, and so, these are documents that were coming back to Washington.

Here is one headline: "Foreigners also are increasingly targeted. From April to June Libya also witnessed an increase of attacks targeting international

**From:** Pickens, Amber R  
**Sent:** 6/25/2012 3:11:32 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** LIBYA'S FRAGILE SECURITY DETERIORATES AS TRIBAL RIVALRIES, POWER PLAYS AND EXTREMISM INTENSIFY  
**Attachments:** Metadata.dat

UNCLASSIFIED  
SBU



**MRN:** 12 TRIPOLI 622  
**Date/DTG:** Jun 25, 2012 / 250712Z JUN 12  
**From:** AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
**Action:** WASHDC, SECSTATE ROUTINE  
**E.O.:** 13526  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PREL, ASEC, KCRM, KJUS, KISL, LY  
**Captions:** SENSITIVE, SIPDIS  
**Reference:** 12 TRIPOLI 582  
**Subject:** LIBYA'S FRAGILE SECURITY DETERIORATES AS TRIBAL RIVALRIES, POWER PLAYS AND EXTREMISM INTENSIFY

1. (SBU) Summary: The recent increase in violent incidents throughout Libya has taken two distinct tracks: 1) clashes between Libyan groups; and, to a lesser degree 2) attacks against western interests. The proliferation of militias and the absence of effective security and intelligence services have limited the GOL's ability to decisively respond. Fighting among Libyans is most prominent on the western and southern borders. Targeted attacks against western interests had been primarily limited to the East but have recently occurred in the west and south. While clashes have been largely localized, they share common threads: intensified tribal rivalries; criminality; and, struggles for regional and political power. The motivation for specific attacks against western interests is less apparent, but likely includes a combination of religious extremism, xenophobia, and power-posturing. This cable examines key factors underlying the recent uptick in violence, assessing its causes and implications for progress in the post-revolutionary transition. End Summary.

#### INTRA- LIBYAN VIOLENCE ON THE RISE

2. (SBU) Libya has experienced an increase in localized fighting during the first half of 2012. Along Libya's western border, fighting between tribes in Zuwara and Ghadames has led to frequent border closures and the disruption of travel and trade with Tunisia. Along Libya's northwest coast, militias from Zintan have engaged the Mashasha and the Shigiga tribes, battling for control of strategic trade and smuggling routes through the Nafusa Mountains. Militias from Misrata regularly raid Tewargha camps in Tripoli and conduct frequent sorties into Sirte and surrounding areas to suppress alleged pro-Qadhafi loyalists. In southern Libya, frequent battles between Tebou and Arab tribes in Kufra and Sebha have resulted in hundreds killed. The southern Arab tribes claim that most of the Tebou are pro-Qadhafi supporters from Niger and Chad, while the Tebou respond that they largely supported the revolution and accuse the Arab tribes of a racially motivated campaign to force the Tebou out of Sebha and Kufra.

3. (SBU) The intra-Libyan conflicts have been largely contained within each region and have not involved large-scale, nationwide fighting – nor do they appear to involve any attempts to undermine the state of Libya or seize national power by force. The GOL has had some success in dispatching its nascent national army and high-level mediators, such Prime

Minister ElKeib, Defense Minister Juwaili and TNC Chairman Mustafa Abd al-Jalil, to quell the worst of the violence and prevent it from escalating further. These efforts have mostly focused on negotiating limited ceasefires, rather than addressing underlying causes of the conflicts – which continued to simmer until specific events renew outbreaks of violence. While the specifics of each conflict vary by tribe and region, they are largely driven by the same central dynamics, including intensified personality- and tribal-based rivalries, competition over smuggling routes, and projection of regional power – all of which are aggravated by the lack of effective institutions or reliable security forces. Until the GOL is able to effectively deal with these key issues, the violence is likely to continue and worsen.

#### TRIBAL DIVISIONS PERSIST

4. (SBU) In some ways, the recent upsurge in fighting between Libyans is a product of long-standing tribal rivalries that were exacerbated by Qadhafi-era manipulation and fighting during the revolution. Qadhafi strategically exploited tribal rivalries, favoring “loyal” tribes with arms, government positions and income from contracts and smuggling, while marginalizing any who were seen as a threat to regime stability. For example, Qadhafi strongly opposed the Amazigh people in Zuwara and the Nafusa Mountains, banning their language and schools and periodically employing brute squads from nearby Arab communities to punish any perceived signs of “Amazigh nationalism.” Similarly, the regime backed the Meshasha tribe over Zintan, the Tewragha against Misrata families and certain Tebou and Tuareg groups against Arab tribes in southern Libya. During the revolution, these divides largely dictated the sides taken by the tribes. Qadhafi’s favored tribes naturally supported the regime and marginalized groups joined the revolution. Fighting between these rival groups was often intense and bloody – especially the sieges of Misrata and Zintan – and remains fresh in the memory of both sides. Many militias turned to vigilantism in the absence of national efforts to address perceived crimes stemming from before and during the revolution, resulting in arbitrary detentions and occasional revenge attacks. Since January, Misratan militias have regularly raided Tewargha camps seeking “wanted fugitives,” while the capture and abuse of militia commanders in Zuwara and Sebha were the catalysts for periodic rounds of violence there. The close proximity of rival tribes, combined with an overabundance of readily-available weapons and lingering distrust create an environment where even small disputes can quickly escalate into armed violence.

#### COMPETITION FOR SMUGGLING ROUTES FUELS CONFLICT

5. (SBU) Another key factor driving the conflicts along Libya’s borders is the struggle between different groups to assert control over Libya’s lucrative smuggling trade. In Zuwara and Ghadames, for example, the flow of subsidized gasoline and food into Tunisia and Algeria has long fueled the economies of the communities on both sides of the border. With the collapse of Qadhafi’s system of patronage, the tribes that traditionally controlled this trade no longer enjoy a monopoly and fierce competition for these routes has led to clashes and violence. The transitional GOL’s inability to control the border and reliance on militias for security has only exacerbated the problem, with the deputized militias reportedly using their assumed authority to extract profit from smugglers and traders. Similar problems exist in southern Libya, where the Tebou and Tuareg have historically facilitated the movement of arms, contraband and migrants into Libya but now face challenges from other Arab tribes that oppose smuggling or want to take control of the routes themselves.

#### PROJECTING REGIONAL AND POLITICAL POWER BEFORE ELECTIONS

6. (SBU) Local tribes and leaders looking to consolidate their power in the run-up to elections have also fueled regional conflicts. After 42 years of Qadhafi, most Libyans have limited experience with democracy and elections, and many are openly skeptical that they will be fair or reflect the “true revolution.” Some have expressed concerns that the distribution of congressional seats does not fairly represent regions such as the east or the south, while others fear that Qadhafi supporters will somehow find a way to “steal” the elections and reinstall members of the old regime. In response, some tribes and cities are reluctant to disarm their militias (or integrate them into the MOI or MOD) and are actively seeking to project their power and limit those of local rivals. In June, for example, attempts by Zintani militias to extend their control over most of the Nafusa Mountains led to pitched fighting with their historical rivals, the Meshasha. Similarly, Misrata militias have periodically raided Sirte to put down reported “pro-Qadhafi” uprisings, while fighters from Bani Walid and Tarhouna seized the Tripoli International Airport in June to force negotiations with the GOL over a detained militia commander.

7. (SBU) This dynamic may be most apparent in southwestern Libya, where contacts note that TNC member Abdulmajid Saif al-Nasr has been methodically building coalitions among local Arab tribes, such as the Awlad Suleiman, Megraha and Hasowna, to bolster his political influence and control in the south. Tebou contacts have added that a key part of Nasr’s strategy is to harness existing resentment and racism against the Tebou, combined with allegations that they supported Qadhafi, as a unifying point for the non-Tebou residents of Sebha. The result of the campaign, a Tebou leader claimed,



was attacks against Tebou neighborhoods, aimed at driving them from the city and preventing them from returning – or voting – in Sebha. Separately, the head of an international organization operating in Tripoli corroborated Nasr's strong influence over southern militias, claiming that Nasr had ordered the detention of four IOM personnel in Sebha in January, because they had not first cleared their trip with him. (Note: IOM had coordinated this mission through UNSMIL and the GOL, and had reportedly also obtained the permission of the Sebha local council for its travel. End note.)

#### FOREIGNERS ALSO INCREASINGLY TARGETED

8. (SBU) From April to June, Libya also witnessed an increase in attacks targeting international organizations and foreign interests. The first incident occurred in April when unknown attackers rolled a grenade under UN SRSG Ian Martin's vehicle during a visit to Benghazi. In May, International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) buildings in both Benghazi and Misrata were attacked with rockets and a grenade was thrown at a UK embassy vehicle in Sebha. Finally, during June there were three attacks in Benghazi, including an IED at the US Mission, an RPG fired at the UK Ambassador's car and an attack on the Tunisian consulate. An Islamic extremist group, "the Imprisoned Sheikh Omar Abdul-Rahman Brigade," claimed responsibility for the attacks on both ICRC buildings and the U.S. compound. The statements issued by the group accused the ICRC of proselytizing Christianity to Libyans and described the attack against the United States as "target[ing] the Christians supervising the management of the consulate."

9. (SBU) Libyan security officials purport to have launched investigations into these attacks, but thus far they have reached no formal conclusions. A GOL national security official shared his private opinion that the attacks were the work of extremists who are opposed to western influence in Libya. A number of local contacts agreed, noting that Islamic extremism appears to be on the rise in eastern Libya and that the Al-Qaeda flag has been spotted several times flying over government buildings and training facilities in Derna. Other contacts disagree, however, suggesting that the attacks could be the work of pro-Qadhafi loyalists or individuals who have been politically and financially marginalized by the TNC.

10. (SBU) Comment: The ElKeib government is keenly aware of the need to quell the intra-Libyan clashes, lest they further destabilize the country and mar upcoming elections. ElKeib laid out his two-pronged approach to the problem during a June 24 meeting with the Ambassador. First, the government would continue to strengthen the security services. Second, it would explore ways to address the social and economic causes of the violence. Both initiatives are worthwhile but are long-term efforts. Meanwhile, the government remains reluctant to confront extremists, preferring to try to co-opt them instead (refTel). Looking past the elections, it is possible that individuals and communities that feel they are not adequately represented in the new congress and government could form yet another source of friction and instability. End comment.

Signature: STEVENS

Drafted By: TRIPOLI:Tillou, Patrick A  
 Cleared By: POL-ECON:McFarland, David C  
 Approved By: EXEC:Stevens, John C  
 Released By: TRIPOLI:Pickens, Amber R  
 Info: DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DCROUTINE;  
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 CIA WASHINGTON DCROUTINE; CDR USAFRICOM STUTTGART GEROUTINE;  
 DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DCROUTINE; DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC  
 ROUTINE; DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DCROUTINE;  
 DEPT OF AGRICULTURE USD FAS WASHINGTON DC RUEHRCROUTINE;  
 ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVEROUTINE

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organizations, and foreign interests. The first incident occurred in April when unknown attackers rolled a grenade under a United Nations vehicle during a visit to Benghazi. In May, the International Committee of the Red Cross buildings in both Benghazi and Misurata were attacked with rockets. And a grenade was thrown at the U.K. embassy vehicle in Seva. Finally, during June, there were three attacks in Benghazi, including an IED at the U.S. mission, an RPG fired at the U.K. ambassador's car, and an attack on the Tunisian consulate. An Islamic extremist group, the imprisoned Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman Brigade—remember, he was found guilty of being involved in the original attacks on the World Trade Center back in the early 1990s—“claimed responsibility for the attacks on both the International Committee of the Red Cross buildings, and the U.S. compound.” They noted that basically, these attacks are under investigation, but they've been unable to reach any conclusions.

“The government of Libya national security official shared his private opinion that the attacks were the work of extremists, who were opposed to Western influence in Libya.” And it goes on from there.

Again, if you want to read all of these documents, I would actually urge you to do that, because they are extremely informative, and paint a very unambiguous picture.

### **‘The Guns of August’**

And finally, we have an Aug. 8 document (**Figure 4a,b**), again sent under the signature of Amb. Chris Stevens. And this document is actually headlined, “The Guns of August, Security in Eastern Libya.” Now, anyone who knows their history, knows that the “Guns of August” is a reference to a famous book by Barbara Tuchman, which was an account of how a series of chaotic regional conflicts ultimately erupted in what came later to be known as World War I. So obviously, there's great concern on the part of Ambassador Stevens, and people in the embassy and in the consulate in Benghazi, about the deteriorating situation.

I'll just read a few sentences: “Since the eve of the elections, Benghazi has moved from trepidation to euphoria and back, as a series of violent incidents has dominated the political landscape during the Ramadan holiday. These incidents have varied widely in motivation and severity. There have been abductions and assassinations, but there have also been false

alarms and outright fabrications.”

But then he goes on to say: “The absence of significant deterrence has contributed to a security vacuum that is being exploited by independent actors.” And he goes through everything from criminals to Islamic extremists.

So, in other words, there is no doubt whatsoever that there were extensive warnings that were provided in advance, by the American government officials on the scene in Libya, as to the fact that the situation was one of grave danger. There were requests for additional security. One of the documents I did not have blown up to bring here today, was one of several memos that were sent by the ambassador in Libya, requesting that existing security teams that were on the ground, that were supplemental to the diplomatic security service, be allowed to remain on the ground in Libya, at least through the end of September. In other words, these are all teams that should have been, but were not any longer, deployed in Benghazi and Tripoli at the time that the attack occurred.

So, I think that it goes without saying that the President of the United States owes us a certain number of answers to some very obvious questions: What did he know? Was he briefed in advance? Is it actually conceivable that, as we go into the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, there were no briefings provided to him in his Presidential Daily Briefing, or that there was no special briefing provided him by John Brennan, the White House counterterrorism advisor, as to the fact that there was a heightened risk, and there ought to be a beef-up of security in many places, but certainly Libya was one of the obvious ones. and in Benghazi in particular? There was this mountain of reports piling up over a period of six months or more, indicating that the security situation was out of control, and the Libyan government had no capacity whatsoever to deal with it.

So, that's one area—and I think simply these documents, which, as I say, are a select, but representative indication of just how much was known about how bad that situation was—that needs to be answered by the President.

Yesterday afternoon, there was a background briefing for a select group of journalists at the CIA, and you'll be reading a lot in the papers today about what the CIA tried to do, did or didn't do; but still, there's absolute silence from the White House, and particularly from the President.

From: draper, hannah a  
 Sent: 8/8/2012 5:55:58 AM  
 To: [REDACTED]  
 Subject: The Guns of August: security in eastern Libya

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MRN: 12 TRIPOLI 952  
 Date/DTG: Aug 08, 2012 / 080958Z AUG 12  
 From: AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
 Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE/ROUTINE  
 E.O.: 13526  
 TAGS: PGOV, KDEM, LY  
 Captions: SENSITIVE, SIPDIS  
 Subject: The Guns of August: security in eastern Libya

1. (SBU) Summary: Since the eve of the elections, Benghazi has moved from trepidation to euphoria and back as a series of violent incidents has dominated the political landscape during the Ramadan holiday. These incidents have varied widely in motivation and severity. There have been abductions and assassinations, but there have also been false alarms and outright fabrications. The individual incidents have been organized, but this is not an organized campaign. What we are going through – and what people here are resolved to get through – is a confluence rather than a conspiracy. The Supreme Security Council (SSC), designed to be an interim security measure, has not coalesced into a stabilizing force, and provides little deterrence. Across the political spectrum, people concede the necessity of a security apparatus that is strong enough to keep peace, but many inherently fear abuse by the same authorities. This debate, playing out daily in Benghazi, has created the security vacuum that a diverse group of independent actors are exploiting for their own purposes. End Summary.

2. (SBU) In response to the widely reported security incidents of the past week, security forces have increased their profile and are now a more visible, though still understaffed, presence on Benghazi streets. Most prominent is Benghazi's SSC, assembled from former members of various militias as an interim security measure. However, even in the assessment of its own commander, Fawzi Younis, SSC Benghazi has not coalesced into an effective, stable security force.

3. (SBU) The absence of significant deterrence, has contributed to a security vacuum that is being exploited by independent actors: Ordinary criminals are able to engage in crimes that are more about profit than politics with relative impunity; car jackings and smuggling are particular concerns. Former regime elements are active because they believe that attacking the Revolution in its cradle will have maximum impact on public opinion. Islamist extremists are able to attack the Red Cross with relative impunity, and UN officials tell us human trafficking is on the rise. Violence at hospitals has become a particular concern, with security guards reportedly walking out after demands for treatment have escalated into shootings. Police in the eastern city of Marj have also staged sit-ins to protest lack of government follow-through on promises made to them as well.

4. (SBU) Though most acknowledge the need, others fear the government's potential strength. But a centralized and professional security force is the future, and contacts across the political spectrum concede that the government needs to

be strong enough to keep the peace (though strongly committed to doing so within checks and balances). This is a long-term prospect the militias regard with suspicion at best. As Benghazi navigates the move from a Transitional Council no one respects to a National Congress no one yet knows, they are clearly jockeying for position in a game that involves public relations and private intimidation. (Comment: A surprising number of contacts here dismiss many of the recent incidents – particularly the bombs that were reportedly discovered and disarmed – as having been engineered by the various security forces to discredit their rivals, to improve their own standing, and to seize prime real estate. End Comment).

5. (SBU) Comment: The SSC has increased its presence in the wake of the most recent string of security incidents in Benghazi. This approach is all authorities can do at present. But it is not clear whether it will prove to be effective. What we have seen are not random crimes of opportunity, but rather targeted and discriminate attacks. Attackers are unlikely to be deterred until authorities are at least as capable. End comment.

**Signature:** STEVENS

**Drafted By:** Benghazi:Gaudiosi, Eric V (Benghazi)

**Cleared By:** POL-ECON:McFarland, David C  
Hicks, Gregory N

**Approved By:** EXEC:Stevens, John C

**Released By:** TRIPOLI:draper, hannah a

**Info:** DEPT OF AGRICULTURE USD FAS WASHINGTON DC RUEHRCROUTINE;  
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ROUTINE; DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DCROUTINE;  
DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DCROUTINE; CIA WASHINGTON DC  
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## Urgent Cables to Washington ...

Now, the other thing is, the day of the attack itself.

There were three e-mails that were made public. Initially, they were leaked to Reuters, and then released to the general public. And there's been no effort whatsoever by anybody in the Administration, to disclaim the legitimacy of these e-mails. So, the first of them (Figure 5) arrived in Washington at 4:05 p.m. Washington time, and you can see that the names are blacked out of the people who received the e-mails, but you can see the indication that quite a few of them went to obvi-

ously different locations at State; this one, NSS.eop.gov, is the National Security Staff at the Executive Office of the President, in other words, the White House Situation Room. And then, you have the FBI, the director of National Intelligence, several locations at the Pentagon.

In other words, there was a burst transmission from the embassy in Tripoli, that was received in Washington in various official locations at 4:05 in the afternoon, Washington time, and the content of it was "Subject: U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi under

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 4:05 PM  
To: [REDACTED]@state.gov; [REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@state.gov; -@State.gov; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@state.gov; [REDACTED]@State.gov;  
[REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@state.gov; [REDACTED]@state.gov;  
[REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@nss.eop.gov; [REDACTED]@mail.mil;  
[REDACTED]@state.gov; [REDACTED]@state.gov; [REDACTED]@State.gov;  
[REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@state.gov;  
[REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@dni.gov; [REDACTED]@pentagon.mil);  
[REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@ic.fbi.gov; [REDACTED]@state.gov;  
[REDACTED]@state.gov; [REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@State.gov;  
[REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@state.gov; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]  
CC: [REDACTED]@State.gov; [REDACTED]@nss.eop.gov  
Subject: U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi Under Attack (SBU)

(SBU) The Regional Security Officer reports the diplomatic mission is under attack. Embassy Tripoli reports' approximately 20 armed people fired shots; explosions have been heard as well. Ambassador Stevens, who is currently in Benghazi, and four COM personnel are in the compound safe haven. The 17th of February militia is providing security support.

The Operations Center will provide updates as available .

Now, unless I have trouble understanding English, I don't see anything in this initial report that talks about a demonstration, or talks about large crowds of people showing up at the consulate to protest a video. There were clearly incidents like that going on in other places, including in Cairo, but this initial report, which was the basis on which the CIA, according to their account yesterday afternoon, went into action, and actually marshalled up a team of people who were at a separate building, a mile away in Benghazi, deployed over to the consulate to try to basically rescue the people who were there.

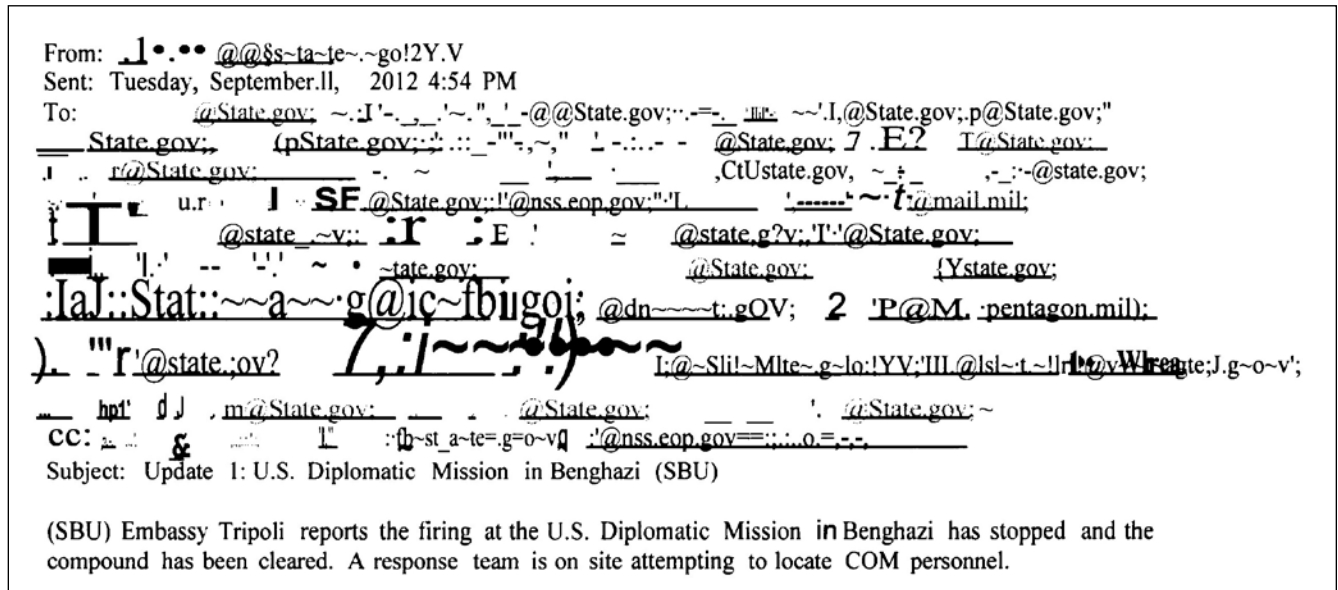
Benghazi has stopped, and the compound has been cleared. A response team is on site attempting to locate COM personnel.”

Then, the last of the documents made public (**Figure 7**), that came from Tripoli to Washington, on the afternoon as events were unfolding, simply says: “Update: Ansar al-Sharia claims responsibility for Benghazi attack. Embassy Tripoli reports that group claimed responsibility on Facebook and Twitter and has called for an attack on the embassy in Tripoli.”

So, this, to my mind, raises another very significant question that is very disturbing. How is it possible that on Sept. 16, five days after the attack, that the President deployed UN Ambassador Susan Rice to appear on five different “talking heads” Sunday morning interview shows, to say that this was not a terrorist incident, that this was a spontaneous mob upsurge in angry reaction to a video. A video that probably very few people in Libya even knew existed, given the chaotic conditions in the country. The idea that everybody was walking around with access to the Internet, and closely monitoring an obscure video that was never even made public really—a few excerpts were released—the idea that somehow or other, there was a spontaneous mass outpouring of people at the consulate to protest this, is pre-



FIGURE 6



posterous. They *knew*, they knew on Sept. 11, what was actually happening.

### ... and a Surveillance Drone

I haven't even mentioned the fact that there are confirmed reports, as of yesterday, as of the CIA briefing, that there was an unarmed surveillance drone that was in the air over the compound, over the consulate, and also nearby, a mile away at the CIA annex. And there was live-stream video—fine, it was grainy, but there was live-stream video coming back to Washington. We don't know whether anybody in the White House Situation Room was monitoring it. A Presidential spokesman yesterday claimed that nobody was watching it, and to my mind, that goes to the question of competence, and why was there no concern, at the very highest level of our national command authority, to deal with a crisis that was ongoing. There was no way to know whether this thing was over or not.

And so, five days later, Ambassador Rice went on five national TV shows and lied to the American people. Two days after that, President Obama himself appeared on the "David Letterman Show"; and several days after that, was interviewed on "The View," and after that, appeared before the world community in his address before the UN General Assembly, and repeated the same lie; he tried to change the subject, and divert attention away from the fact that the U.S. consulate had been targeted for a terrorist attack, and that a U.S. am-

bassador and three other officials were killed. And it had nothing to do whatsoever with a video, with a mass protest demonstration.

From the very moment that Washington was alerted to what was going on, it was clear that it was an armed attack by a group of 20 or so people, and there was a follow-on attack that occurred at the CIA annex later in the day.

So, there are many, many things that we don't know, but there are certain things that we absolutely do know. Number one, we know that there was ample evidence in advance that this was a bad security situation, a dangerous situation on the ground in Benghazi. There was lots of reporting in advance, and yet nothing was done to provide advance security, which would have been probably a life-saving factor. If you had several of these Fleet Marine Security Teams dispatched on the ground there, we would probably be having a different discussion about Benghazi today.

Secondly, we know certain things from the official White House calendar about the President's activities as these events were unfolding. He was at the White House in the afternoon when that cable came in at 4:05. In fact, at 5:00 that afternoon, he met with Defense Secretary Panetta and Vice President Biden. We don't know anything about the content of that meeting; we just know that it did occur. We also know that later in the evening, President Obama spent an hour on the phone with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu, trying to work out differences and come up with kind of a common

FIGURE 7

From: "...@State.gov"  
 Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2012 6:07 PM  
 To: "....."; SES\_Output/es; S\_SpecialAssistants; 0(8); 0(N); P;  
 ops\_TSIgetedAlerts\_R\_DL; PA FO Group; Operations center; Ops\_Targeted\_A1erts\_S\_ES-  
 O\_DL; SE8-Une\_Only; 0Ja\_TargetedAlerts\_DS\_DL; j@nss.eop.gov;  
 : 4 L : "email.mil; Benghazi Update; Ops\_TargetedAlerts\_CA\_DL; C;  
 OPI\_TargetedAlerts\_CSO\_DL; CT\_Frontoffice; D(B)/MET; MOOHR Front Office; DRL-FO-  
 ~- -\_-PL~.tbf.9.~r ~nlorStaJf.; Qpl ...TargetedAla~ ...INL\_DL; I~~:STAFFER; INR-  
 Watch; Lig8l-Ops- ert.OL; M Stal'rOps Targeted AlertS":N~ tlL; OBO-Spedal  
 Assistant.DL; PM-AI~DL; NEA.SEMEP-OL; A Front OfJce -  
 cc: Ops\_Targeted\_Alerts\_OS\_DL; 111 @nss.eop.gov  
 Subject: Update 2: Ansar al-Sharia Claims Responsibility for Benghazi Attack (SBU)  
 Categories: Yellow Category  
  
 (SBU) Embassy Tripoli reports the group claimed responsibility for the attack on Embassy Tripoli.

story about what they would be doing, whether or not there would be a meeting when they were both in New York for the General Assembly.

The next day, the President spoke in the Rose Garden, and if you carefully read the transcript, which is obviously something Candy Crowley failed to do before the [second] debate, you'll see that he made *no* reference to the Benghazi incident as an act of terrorism, even though he had plenty of time to be briefed up on this. And later that same day, after a stop-over at the State Department, he flew off to Las Vegas for a fundraiser, which is where he was much of the day on Sept. 12.

## Al-Qaeda Not Destroyed

Now, the only other thing I'll say, and then I think we can open up for questions to Mr. LaRouche and to myself, is that throughout the campaign, and continuing for *weeks* after the Sept. 11 attack, one of the standard stump speeches that the President and the Vice President gave, was that his greatest foreign policy achievement was killing Osama bin Laden, and destroying al-Qaeda. You can check again: Go to any of the news feeds that have covered a lot of the President's speeches. You can find probably 20 of them on CSPAN, archived there, and this was one of his big statements of accomplishment. Not just that bin Laden was dead, but that al-Qaeda was finished, and had been routed, and that he had succeeded in effectively winning the war on terrorism.

The events in Benghazi really sort of shattered that claim.

And so, I think it makes sense to leave it at that, and turn things over for questions to Mr. LaRouche on the subjects that he raised, or, if there are further questions on this Benghazi business, I'm also available.

## Dialogue with LaRouche

**Q:** This is a question for Jeffrey. After going through all the documents that the House Committee has provided, have you seen any hard evidence that there was a call from the President to actually remove the commanding general of Africom? Because he has been removed—. No, no, he *has* been removed; the process to remove him is already underway. It has been alleged that his intelligence operations have been caught providing information to Fox News and the House, and Congressman [Darrell] Issa's [House Oversight and Government Reform] committee. I was wondering, have you seen anything that would be cause for him to be removed?

**Steinberg:** If there were people in Africom who had information that was basically disturbing, unpleasant facts about what happened preceding the Sept. 11 attacks, on the day of Sept. 11, and orders that may have followed afterwards, I would say that they would have an obligation to make sure that that information was available to the relevant Congressional committees. Certainly, there has been nothing that has come from

the White House by way of any real clarification. We have a statement from Defense Secretary Panetta that makes it clear that there were options that were being considered about sending a military force into Benghazi to deal with the crisis, once the initial word came out. Africom has assets that could have been deployed to Benghazi in probably an hour and 45 minutes after the 4:05 [p.m.] information arrived at the Pentagon, among other places.

Again, I am not going to make any speculation, but I think that these are all among the most crucial and fair questions that have to be asked and answered, starting with the President himself.

We are not privy to all of the back-and-forth discussions that went on. I can just add one other thing, though. This is by way of just a personal account. On the morning of Sept. 12, I had a phone conversation with a contact, a government official, who was pretty much up all night dealing with the Benghazi events, and basically he indicated to me that among the things he was doing, was reaching out to some Libyan government officials whom he personally knew, one of whom was a Libyan ambassador somewhere in Europe. So there was a direct feed from Libyan sources on the ground in Benghazi, through the office of the Libyan President, and into certain people in the Libyan diplomatic community. And I've got my contemporaneous handwritten notes from the morning of Sept. 12 on that briefing, and I can tell you, that that briefing stands the test of time.

It was an armed, premeditated attack. Security had been basically taken down, prior to the attack. I was told that there were approximately 20 heavily armed people involved in the initial attack on the consulate, and that the operation was conducted by Ansar al-Sharia, an organization that was founded in the area near Benghazi, in the port of Derna, by somebody who had spent five years in Guantanamo; who had been a



*A militiaman at the burning U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Sept. 11, 2012. "It was an armed, premeditated attack," said Steinberg. "Security had been basically taken down, prior to the attack."*

member of the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group, had been captured in Afghanistan, jailed in Guantanamo, and after five years had been sent back to Libya, where he was released by Qaddafi under an amnesty deal. So, there were people on the ground who were providing real-time, accurate intelligence, and it was not just simply these documents, but direct source reports that we were receiving pretty much in real time confirming that.

As far as the issue with General [Carter F.] Ham [commander of Africom], it is again one of these questions. If this was a revenge firing, because he refused to be silent in the face of a potential cover-up by the Administration, this is something that we need to know about. Right now I wouldn't want to speculate, but the question is clearly out there, since it was announced that he will be relieved of his command early next year; they have already announced a replacement. For a military commander, when your replacement has already been announced, it is the kiss of death. You have no authority anymore, so whether he formally stays on the job or not, he has no authority. And I hope this is one of the things that will come up in the House or Senate Armed Services Committee as we plunge into this thing.

As Mr. LaRouche said, this is not going to be over



DoD photo/U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Sun L. Vega

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey, Oct. 10, 2012. *"The Joint Chiefs of Staff have been running an operation," LaRouche said, "which has prevented the President from moving ahead towards, actually, a thermonuclear war."*

on Nov. 6. One way or the other, this story cannot be buried, and the truth is going to have to come out, and I think there is enough commitment among some people in Congress to make sure that this doesn't just simply go away, which is exactly what the White House would like to have happen.

## We Can Not Have Thermonuclear War

**LaRouche:** I think as one supplement on that, as a general consideration, that we have been covering up this kind of story for a long time in the United States. For example, let's take the case of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have been running an operation which has prevented the President from moving ahead towards, actually, a thermonuclear war. Obviously this is all over the place, if you are looking for it; that this has been recognized as a key issue. Because the Joint Chiefs of Staff have recognized, as all competent military circles *know*, you can not fight a thermonuclear war with a major power. And therefore, this effort of the Joint Chiefs has been, explicitly, to prevent that from happening; to try to find a medium of negotiation to avert anybody going to general thermonuclear war.

And if you take the implications of what general thermonuclear war *are*, you understand what the Joint Chiefs are doing. And when somebody tries to flank the

Joint Chiefs by picking out a general, to victimize him, with no explanation of what the basis is, this means that Obama, whom we *know*, *wants* a war!

And what has been happening is that our Joint Chiefs, together with the Russian representatives, with people in China, in India, and other places, are determined to prevent that from happening. Because there wouldn't be much of a population left on this planet, if what Obama wants to unleash, were allowed.

This President deserves to be removed from office on grounds of insanity, or some other charge.

But this cannot be allowed. The fact of the matter is, if the submarine fleet, in particular, of the U.S. military, were to be engaged with other instruments of the U.S., and the U.S. were committed to *attack* Russia and China, which is what the issue is, then in that case, you wouldn't have

many people left on this planet after an hour and a half of that warfare.

So the President is the enemy of this policy: The policy is that we have reached the point, that general warfare among major powers can not be fought as thermonuclear warfare. Now if you are going to have warfare, you don't compromise, and say we're going to have *this* kind of warfare. We've had a lot of experience, especially since Bismarck was kicked out of office back in the 1890s. That since that time, we've had a general case of general warfare! And during this time, the capacity for warfare, for *kill* power, for *destructive* power, has been more or less consistently increased.

The objective has been, knowing that at this point, if the United States is engaged in a thermonuclear war, and this would *be* a thermonuclear war, then you are not going to have, after an hour and a half, many living people left on this planet. They will either be dead, or the effects of the aftermath of a thermonuclear war of that nature would kill them. You could cause the extinction of the human species, as a consequence of such conditions brought about on this planet.

And therefore, every sane person in this area, especially the military who understand the matter, and understand what they would have to do—anyone who is on the Joint Chiefs, or in some similar capacity, knows that when you are talking about war, you are talking

about what they are going to be told to do. And what the opposition is going to do. And therefore, the strategic objective here, is to *not allow* thermonuclear war, or warfare which *leads* to thermonuclear war, such as is going on in Syria right now. The Syria issue right now is the key trigger, which could have set off thermonuclear war, and except for negotiations between the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Russian military, you would have *had* it.

And that is the issue behind this. And what he [Steinberg] is talking about, the facts he is reporting—he is restricting himself to the facts that bear on this, without prejudice or interpretation.

But I can go further and say that the issue here, is, that we need a policy which we don't have presently in the world; we need a policy to prevent full-scale warfare, major warfare.

And at this point, no one is going to go, I think, to launching a thermonuclear war, except the United States, because the United States is the only nation which, given what has happened economically, and so forth, and means of warfare—unless you have some wild nut. But, again, if a major nation is going to a war, to general warfare, thermonuclear warfare, this is a threat of extinction of the human species. We are going to have to define—in between what we call military policy now, and what we develop—we are going to have to define a policy in this and other leading nations, in particular, a policy which says we can resolve the problems, the threats of warfare, by finding efficient other means which are going to solve the problem. We still need the military force in order to prevent some interloper from coming up with some wild stunt, and therefore, the military is actually a *pacifist* military in that sense; it is not pacifist in the way it can act, and what the training requires, but it does mean it's a completely different approach.

We have to create an order on this planet, among particularly the major nations, and insure that we can solve these problems without getting into thermonuclear war.

## A Viciousness within Human Civilization

**Q:** It seems pretty obvious that the assassination in Benghazi was allowed to happen, deliberately, and you mentioned one possible motivation being simply something personal against the ambassador. But I'm wondering if there's a way that it also plays into the pushing for general warfare.

**LaRouche:** Yes, precisely. Exactly that. You have an effort on this planet—.

You have to go back into history a bit more, which is my department. You look back at the history of empire, or look at what has been validated, at least in its major principles, as the Trojan War. And you had a war that was fought—it was extermination warfare, where the horse was suddenly introduced into the center of Troy, and the victors over the Trojans destroyed Troy, salted the earth on which Troy had sat—and this was all proven by that archaeology business. And killed all but a few women and children. Killed all the rest.

Against that background, which was often disputed, but then was clarified in the course of the 20th Century, that was the history. And since that time, we had the Roman Empire, and other empires like Byzantium. We had the first Venetian Empire. We had what developed as the second Venetian Empire which is what launched the British Empire, actually. And so, this kind of situation has persisted.

What happened essentially: You have approaches to that with the establishment of the British Empire which occurred, essentially, in India and other countries, and was then brought in as an imperial force in a revision of the British economy, British society.

So, this has been the case. General warfare has been a trend since the long period of religious war, and into what emerged with the British victory in the later war. And the key issue in this has always been, that the traditions of European civilization have been long corrupted by the influence of imperial systems. And the imperial systems changed the way people behaved. Normal, healthy human society is trying to progress, is trying to find ways of creating a better universe for mankind.

And we're now looking at the universe. We're now seriously looking at Mars! Warfare for us, is how are we going to stop these satellites from hitting Earth in a way which kills any number of people on Earth, or extinguishes the human civilization, human life on Earth. These are the kinds of issues we have to face. And therefore, we should be getting around to that kind of thing. But the problem is that the long vestiges of imperialism, of various wars, and what we know, especially in the trans-Atlantic region, but also in other places: There has been a vicious sickness in human civilization, and it is that sickness which has been the most important, the most significant forces which have led to general warfare.



Why do we want to kill each other? Why not solve the problem? And you would think, after 2,000 years or so, that people had learned their lesson on what to do. And so there's a problem, there's a viciousness within human civilization, which compels and impels people into warfare, has so far. But sooner or later, mankind has to overcome the influence of killing, as a system of life, the leftover of imperial systems, such as what was done to Troy, or was done in Tunis, for example, at a later stage. Salt the whole territory. Kill as many people as possible. Cause extinction. Like the Roman legions, same thing.

That is at the root of the thing. We have to understand that we have to look at the sickness inside our civilizations, inside our cultures. The sicknesses that allow us to fall prey to this kind of tendency in life. And we still need policemen to try to enforce some sense of order, including our military. The time has come that the option of military weapons of general warfare are thermonuclear weapons. At that point, we have to change.

### Libya: An Impeachable Crime

**Steinberg:** With respect to the Libya situation, I think you really have to go back to the circumstances around which the Qaddafi government was overthrown. And basically, what we're dealing with, is an action on the part of the President that was a clear violation of the Constitution. It was an impeachable crime to have gone into Libya, without having even gone to the U.S. Congress to solicit support and endorsement for it. That's a cut and dried issue. And the President made it a point of explicitly *refusing* to go to Congress in order to further the idea of the imperial Presidency, that was really pushed aggressively during the Bush-Cheney period, and has been advanced even further under President Obama.

Now, the other thing: I think that the Libya action also was the beginning of exactly this potential thermonuclear confrontation with Russia and China that Mr. LaRouche has been focussing on here. The normal functioning of the United Nations Security Council, is that there's a collegial arrangement among the five ambassadors of the five permanent Security Council member countries: the United States, Britain, France, Russia, and China. They meet in private, usually over dinners, and get-togethers at various of their residences, to work out the big issues, so that when they have a formal convening of the Security Council, everybody



*Press coverage of Qaddafi's murder on Oct. 20, 2011. Steinberg said that his execution, "after he was already in custody, was a premeditated act of murder; that was discussed the night before among various heads of state."*

knows what's going to happen, at least among the Five. And Susan Rice, the U.S. ambassador, in league with the British and French ambassadors, lied to the Russians and Chinese.

If you remember, Russia and China abstained from the vote authorizing the no-fly zone, and humanitarian intervention in Libya. And they agreed to abstain because they were specifically told that the objective was *not* the removal of Qaddafi and regime change; that the objective was simply to intervene in a humanitarian fashion to save the people of Benghazi.

Defense Secretary Gates was scheduled to leave the administration in August of 2011—he left four months early. And the reason he left early is because he wanted no part of the Libya operation, because he said that a no-fly zone is an act of war, and there is no turning back. There is no avoiding, once you go in, that you're going in full force.

You start out a no-fly zone by wiping out the air de-

fenses and bombing the air force of the country that you're targeting. So, Russia and China were lied to in the case of Libya, and that has poisoned the functioning of the UN Security Council ever since. The Russians and Chinese have made statements at the highest levels of government, both civilian and military, that they will never, ever again trust the U.S., Britain, and France, when they talk about a humanitarian intervention.

So, you've had a sequence of vetoes of all the efforts to do a replay of Libya in Syria. So, in effect, the actions that were taking place around the overthrow of Qaddafi—and his execution, by the way, after he was already in custody, that was a premeditated act of murder, that was discussed the night before among various heads of state.

So, that was a turning point, and it was the kickoff of an immediate drive towards a direct confrontation with Russia and China.

Now, in the case of Syria, what happens if the Joint Chiefs of Staff don't succeed in preventing a no-fly zone there? You're going to have a no-fly zone that will be 90% American, as was the case with the military operations in Libya. And you're going to probably have the Russians providing their most advanced air defense systems to the Syrians to defeat the no-fly zone, with backing from China.

So, you can spin these things out, and see just how precarious things are, and how close we are, as the result of an operation that was launched in Libya, and was intended to go immediately into Syria and Iran, as a succession of regime-change operations that were directed fundamentally at forcing Russia and China to capitulate, back down, and agree to let this happen. So, this is how close we are to a hair trigger, in Syria—and we haven't even talked about the Iran situation—that could bring us into a strategic confrontation, with the United States and a few virtually self-disarmed NATO allies on the one side, and Russia and China on the other.

### **The British-Saudi Role**

**Q:** I'm not sure I got a complete answer to what I asked before, and I'm seeing a piece of it here. Was the getting rid of the ambassador in Benghazi then part of the silencing of any revelations of the games that went on prior in Libya? In other words, I'm looking for, is there really a motive, aside from personal, for getting rid of him?

**LaRouche:** It gets to a much broader subject than

we can take up here. Yes, the answer is available. The point was, the intention behind this was an intention to go to a general world war situation. That was the intention. But the key to this is found in a very specific aspect of this: that the intention was to—it was essentially that. The intention goes to the Obama principle.

You had in 2001, you had something which I had, unfortunately, sort of forecast. I knew as of early January 2001, and publicized that at the time, that we were headed for a threatened terrorist event, which would strike within the United States. Now, what I was investigating at the point, on this information that I had—I had a keen impulse that we were headed for a terrorist attack internally in the United States. I was looking, correctly, in a sense, at the area around Washington, D.C., north or south of Washington, D.C. There was activity, heavy activity, that justified my concern at that point.

But what happened, in September of that year, was an operation which, to my knowledge, was instigated by Great Britain and the Saudi Kingdom. That was what 9/11 was.

Now, step up now to the present time. Why did the event [in Benghazi] occur on Sept. 11, precisely the same day, when the attackers involved were [in effect] part of the Obama campaign, Obama's supporting campaign? And therefore, that's where the problem lies. It lies in the fact that 9/11, which had been suppressed under the Bush Administration, and suppressed under the Obama Administration—remember Obama, when he was elected, promised that he would reveal all these conspiracies. He would open up the box, explain what the proof was, the evidence.

Now the evidence was being collected by a couple of Senators and others, a team headed by two Senators. They had documentation which was frozen by the Bush Administration at that time. Obama, when he was elected, promised he'd reveal the evidence, which had been collected by the Senators and other people. Obama then suppressed that: that the operation of 9/11, back then in 2001, was done by the British, the Saudi Kingdom, and by forces working with them. That's how it was done. And what is happening now is the same thing.

The purpose of this was to create a global change in policy, a new kind of empire, and policies of that nature. The intention was—and it's still a problem, even though the information is known, and I have, and Jeff has, and other people have, on this, we know a lot about this. We know the details. We know that the Saudi ambassador to the United States at that time [Prince Bandar bin



DoD photo/R.D.Ward

*Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States Prince Bandar bin Sultan with then-U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, at the Pentagon on Feb. 5, 2001. Bandar played a key role in 9/11/01, even financing two of the hijackers from his personal accounts.*

Sultan], was a key element in this. We know that the family of bin Laden was there in Texas being received as a family; were given special permission to leave the United States, when no one else was allowed to fly out of the United States at that time.

So the Obama operation has always been of that character. So what happens, 9/11? Why did they schedule a terrorist attack, on a part of the U.S. system, for 9/11? This *is* 9/11. What is the purpose of that? What effect is that? The effect is, they have increased, since that time, the commitment of certain parties in the Islamic world, to egg them on, in an idea of a triumph over the United States and other nations. And this was done by the British monarchy itself, through the BAE, which is a British-Saudi operation. The armaments, the equipment was done through the BAE. And it was a British-Saudi operation that did the original 9/11. It is the same concern—including the present Saudi figure—the same thing, all over again. This is not an isolated incident. It is a part of a pattern, a process, and it goes

back to what happened in 2001.

And then you know why this thing is so secret: the evidence of the Saudi-British conspiracy in organizing the initial 9/11; the same forces involved in creating a *new* 9/11 in Libya. It's a part of a process. It is not an isolated incident. It is not something that somebody made up on their own. It is part of an orchestration. It is strategic warfare.

And that's why you have so much of the press shuts up about Obama and his operations now.

### The Suppressed 28 Pages

**Q:** You mentioned two Senators. You probably have good reasons that you mentioned them. I think I know one, probably from Florida. He's been very focused, including talks here at the Press Club about the Saudis. Is he interested, to your knowledge, in the British aspect?

**LaRouche:** What I know of the personalities, since I know second-hand, but it's pretty reliable, what they've said to others, what they have done; what they have accomplished. Jeff Steinberg has more on that.

**Steinberg:** We're talking about Sen. [Bob] Graham and his co-chair on the Joint House-Senate investigation into the original 9/11, who was Sen. [Richard] Shelby, who is still in the Senate.

Just to fill in some of the picture here: As part of the House-Senate investigation, which was carried out by people largely from the counter-intelligence section of the FBI who were loaned to the joint House-Senate committee, they established a detailed flow of funds from the office of Saudi Ambassador Prince Bandar bin Sultan, to two of the leading hijackers who were the first to arrive directly from the planning meeting in Malaysia, and they arrived on the West Coast, and were operating out of the San Diego area for most of the year, almost a year before the 9/11 attacks. Through Prince Bandar's personal accounts, somewhere in the vicinity of \$55-75,000 went to these two hijackers alone, to finance their operation. The funds were passed through two Saudi intelligence officers who were the people who greeted these two future terrorists when they first arrived in the United States, around Christmas/New Year's of the previous year.

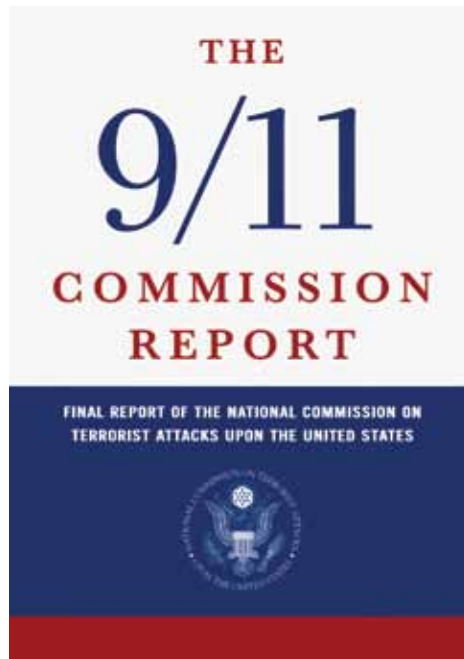
That material was assembled in the 28-page chapter

on the financing of the original 9/11 attack that was part of the joint House-Senate committee report, and the White House classified that 28-page chapter. Subsequent to that, further details have come out, indicating that there were similar relationships between prominent Saudis with official ties to the Saudi government, in Florida, as well; and Mohammad Atta and two of the other hijackers were frequently meeting with somebody who was a big funder of various Saudi causes in the United States. That man and his whole family abruptly left the United States and have never returned. They left about a week before the 9/11 attacks.

So there's a lot of detail out there on the Saudi side, and that's the area of focus of Senator Graham.

We took the investigation one step further, because people may remember, back in 2007, there were extensive exposés in the British press about the al-Yamamah project, which was a deal between the British government and the Saudi Defense Ministry, that involved a barter deal, and British BAE provided \$40 or \$50 billion in weapons and support to the Saudi Air Force; and in return, the Saudis paid in oil, 600,000 barrels a day, for the period from 1985 to 2007. And so the gap between the money that was generated by those spot market oil sales, and the costs of the equipment and support staff and lucrative bribes to many Saudi officials, was still in the range of about several hundred million dollars, that was created as an offshore covert fund for financing clandestine operations, including the bankrolling of the original al-Qaeda during the Afghanistan War [against the Soviet Union].

There was a biography of Prince Bandar that went through a great deal of the detail. And as the British press documented, Prince Bandar received \$2 billion as his kickback for the al-Yamamah deal, which he originally brokered, first with Maggie Thatcher, and then repeated it with Tony Blair. That \$2 billion was going into the very account that financed the 9/11 hijackers on the



*The official report of the 9/11 Commission. The Commission was forced to omit 28 pages on the financing of 9/11 through prominent Saudi officials. President Obama promised to release the classified pages, but never did, perpetuating the Bush Administration's coverup.*

West Coast for all of their activity while they were in the United States.

And this was covered up by Bush; and in his 2008 campaign, as Mr. LaRouche said, Obama pledged to the 9/11 families, that he would make that 28-page chapter publicly available and would investigate it further. He met with the families at the White House in February of 2009, right after he was inaugurated as President, and promptly after that, shut the lid, refused to declassify those documents, and then, had the Solicitor General go to court to make sure that no lawsuits against the Saudi government could be carried out in a U.S. court, under a sovereign immunity deal. And it specifically shut down all of the civil actions that were probing at the Saudi, and by extension, British involvement through al-Yamamah, in 9/11.

There was a biography commissioned by Prince Bandar, back around 2009, in which he openly said: We created a joint covert operations fund between the British government and the Saudi government, to finance black operations around the world, coups d'état, operations like the 9/11 attack.

And so, all of these things are out there. We have footprints, we know the nature of the beast, we know the nature of the Anglo-Saudi arrangements, in the specific al-Yamamah case, and so far, consecutively, the Bush, and now Obama administrations have moved heaven and earth to cover up the evidence that exists that would open the door, to getting to the bottom of it. I think it's the biggest coverup since the Kennedy assassination.

### The Siegelman Case

**Q:** This gets a little deep in the weeds, but it's an unusual opportunity to ask for your knowledge: About two weeks ago, someone who worked with Karl Rove on all kinds of things, including the frame-up of Don Siegelman in Alabama; he had a press conference here, talking about voting fraud. But my question is, those who have followed that, realize that partly gets into military con-



tracts. Wayne Madsen, a Press Club member, has reported that Mohammad Atta received a small part of his training at Maxwell Air Force Base—it was mostly in Florida—but through a company that was owned primarily by the judge in the Siegelman case. And this sounds so bizarre, that unless you've studied it, it almost seems crazy, but all of the links are there.

And I guess my question is: Don Siegelman's frameup is a notorious political prosecution that President Obama hasn't done anything about, but send him back to jail. Do you know anything about this Atta being trained by professional aviation at—

**LaRouche:** This is not knowledge that's specific to me on this thing. I do know the kind of thing that happens in this direction. You know, we often run, in the United States, the honest among us, shall we say—we often run counter-operations against investigations of known problems, in order to find out what the facts are. We sometimes send people, under cover, to conduct these investigations.

In a case like this, I would not be able to say from here, what I would think would probably be a cover operation of that type, as opposed to really a sincere operation. Because we do run a lot of counterintelligence

operations, in precisely that kind of area.

**Steinberg:** I don't know the specifics of that, but I can just tell you that, in the case of the West Coast hijackers, the funds that went to their flight training, to the logistics of their housing and travel, one of the two actually—his name was al-Mihdhar—traveled around the world and recruited the muscle guys for the entire 9/11 operation. So they weren't just foot-soldiers, they were among the lead organizers. The Saudi intelligence officers who were financing all of their activities on the West Coast were basically dummy employees of [inaudible] companies, that were based on the West Coast; they were Saudi-owned, but they were based in the San Diego area, and had contracts with the Pentagon, with the U.S. government.

So, put it this way: I don't know the specifics of the Siegelman business, but it certainly fits a pattern of other things that have been documented in terms of the training and protection of the 9/11 guys while they were here, before the attacks.

So, on that note, unless there's a final question, I want to thank Mr. LaRouche, I want to thank all of you for being here today, and hope it was informative, and that we'll crack some of the lies and coverups.

## *EIR Special Report*

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In 2001, the Bush-Cheney Administration was complicit with the British and Saudi monarchies in permitting and covering up the 9/11 attacks; today, President Obama's collusion with the Saudis and the British was responsible for the attack on the American consulate in Benghazi, Libya on 9/11/2012.

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October 2012

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# Who Is Threatening To Destroy the U.S.?

*The very existence of the United States is in jeopardy as the result of the actions of very specific political entities, entities that must be removed from political power if our nation, and others, are to survive. In their Nov. 2 press conference, Lyndon LaRouche and Jeffrey Steinberg clearly identified the way in which these entities worked together around the 9/11 One and Two assaults on the United States. Much more background is available in EIR's October 2012 [Special Report](#), "Obama's War on America: 9/11 Take Two."*

*But, if we are going to destroy these political enemies' power, the British Empire's long-term campaign to destroy the United States, and the nation-state system as a whole, has to be understood in its much broader scope. Most Americans don't even acknowledge that we live in a global system controlled by a financial oligarchy descended from the Roman Empire, which sets the financial and other rules by which we live our lives. The British Empire lives! And to protect mankind from its evils, we have to learn how to recognize it, and its agents.*

*Below we identify four of the major political enemy forces currently operating against our nation, and their modes of operation, with the intent of helping the reader better understand the war we must win.*

## The British Monarchy

Contrary to popular tabloids, the British monarchy is not a set of quaint relics, but the central player in a world empire, which operates largely through its control of the world financial system, to set the policies by which mankind lives and dies. There is *no* section of the world which operates outside this financial system, although some nations, such as Russia and China, have more relative independence than others. As an imperial system, however, the British Empire (not the British people) is committed primarily to maintaining the power of its families, and financial elite—and suppressing the advance of scientific progress and living standards for the mass of the human population, which would lead ultimately to its collapse.

While the British Empire would appear to be invis-

ible, compared to its heyday in the 19th Century, its controls over the life of the world's population are very real indeed. London-based financial forces play the dominant role in the cartels that control the world's food, energy, and mineral cartels—not to mention what is called "intellectual" property and culture. London was the origin of the global genocide movement called modern environmentalism (WWF, Greenpeace, etc.) as well, with the Queen's consort Prince Philip taking the limelight with his 1988 statement to Deutsche Press Agentur that "In the event I am reborn, I would like to return as a deadly virus, in order to contribute something to solve overpopulation."

The British Empire's former physical dominance of huge parts of the globe, gives it the advantage of deep cultural knowledge of many, many nations—the better to manipulate them. British agents—perhaps T.E. Lawrence of Arabia is the most well-known—are the traceable founders of hundreds of sects and terrorist groups worldwide, which can then be deployed against nation-states which object to the Empire's financial diktat, or are considered likely to do so. That this is well known to many political leaders internationally is obvious from the fact that London in the 1990s was dubbed "Londonistan," because it was the home of so many of the world's terrorist movements.

It's only when you understand the Empire's character and mode of operation in this way, that you can comprehend how it serves, even today, as the chief enemy of the United States.

## The Saudi Kingdom

The Saudi Kingdom came into being in the early 20th Century, as a geopolitical tool of the British Empire, which picked Ibn Saud (1876-1953) of the Wahhabi sect to become keeper of the two holiest sites in Islam, Mecca and Medina. The House of Saud—after whom the kingdom is named—was then brought into the post-World War I negotiations to carve up the Ottoman Empire, and to serve as a de facto British protectorate in the Persian Gulf. The Gulf's importance as a transit route between the Mediterranean and India (the Empire's "crown jewel") was soon enhanced by the rapid development of oil, of which the kingdom has an abundance.

The House of Saud has served the British Empire in two crucial ways. First, it represents a major source of funds through its dominant role in the oil trade. British financial arrangements with the Saudis took a new turn



in 1981, with the deal struck by Saudi Prince Bandar bin Sultan and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher around the British defense giant called BAE, which yielded a massive slush fund to be jointly managed by British and Saudi intelligence for terrorist operations internationally.

Secondly, the Saudis have served as recruiters, as well as funders, of an extensive international terrorist network, allegedly based on a particularly fanatical form of Islam, which has threatened nations around the globe. Their sponsorship of radical jihadists can be found from Syria, to Afghanistan and Pakistan, to China and Russia. And, in the late 1990s, they did the job for their British imperial masters in the United States, in setting up the Sept. 11, 2001 attack.



*Former Saudi Ambassador Prince Bandar bin Sultan, now head of Saudi intelligence, was at the center of the plot to attack the United States on 9/11/01.*

### George W. Bush/Dick Cheney

There have been U.S. presidencies under control of the British Empire long before the George W. Bush Administration—in fact, going way back, most notably, to the Andrew Jackson Presidency of 1828. But it was only with the Bush/Cheney Administration that our nation had a Presidency that colluded with a major terrorist act against our republic.

Much has been written about how the Bush/Cheney Administration was in the lap of “big oil,” including the Saudi Kingdom. But the fact is, that that Administration turned a blind eye to the Saudi bankrolling of a number of the hijackers (two are completely documented) through U.S. banks, over the months leading into the Sept. 11 attack. How else could then Saudi Ambassador to the U.S. Prince Bandar get away with using Saudi Embassy accounts at Riggs National Bank in Washington to transfer \$50-72,000 to two Saudi intelligence officers who paid all the expenses of two of the hijackers?

When the terror act was done, of course, members of the bin Laden family were permitted to fly out of the country Sept. 13 *at a time when all other flights were grounded*. And when the Congressional commission tasked to investigate the 9/11 attacks released its report,

28 pages dealing with financing of the terrorists and implicating Saudi Arabia, were blocked from the public by President Bush.

### Barack Obama

During his first campaign for the Presidency, Obama pledged that he would release the 28 pages on who financed the attacks. Within weeks of his inauguration in 2009, Obama met with relatives of some of those who lost loved ones on 9/11. Anthony Summers and Robbyn Swan, authors of *The Eleventh Day*, wrote in [Vanity Fair](#) of August 2011 that “The widow of one of those who died at the World Trade Center, Kristen Breitweiser, has said that she brought the new president’s attention to the infamous censored

section of the Joint Inquiry report. Obama told her, she said afterward, that he was willing to get the suppressed material released. Two years later, the chapter remains classified and the White House will not say why. ‘If the 28 pages were to be made public, said one of the officials who was privy to them before President Bush ordered their removal, I have no question that the entire relationship with Saudi Arabia would change overnight.’”

Not only did Obama break his promise: On the eve of a May 2009 visit to Saudi Arabia, he ordered his Solicitor General to intervene in a Federal court case to argue for Saudi Arabia’s sovereign immunity from any lawsuits involving the 9/11 attack. To this day, Obama has perpetuated the Bush Administration’s coverup of the role of both the British and Saudi governments in the 9/11/01 attacks—the same networks that were ultimately responsible for the Sept. 11, 2012 attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi.

This, of course, should not be surprising, because Barack Obama, too, is a tool of the British Empire, provided with evil policies by Her Majesty’s Tony Blair, and full beholden to British money and ideas for his rise to the Presidency. (See “The British Empire’s Global [Showdown](#), and How To Overcome It.”

# British-Saudi Maneuvers Are Leading Toward Global War

by Nancy Spannaus

Nov. 6—Just days after Lyndon LaRouche took the stage at the National Press Club to warn of the British-Saudi drive, along with Obama, toward World War III, two political bombshells dropped in Israel underscored the reality of the imminent danger of that outbreak.

The first was the revelation by the Israeli Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) that Israel had conducted a war game in September, premised on a unilateral attack against Iranian nuclear sites on Nov. 9, 2012—three days after the U.S. Presidential election! The second was the airing of an Israel Channel 2 TV show revealing that in 2010, institutional leaders in the Israeli military and intelligence services blocked an attempt by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Ehud Barak to launch a war against Iran.

These war avoidance moves come at a point when the entire Middle East cockpit, for more than a century the playground of British imperial forces, is seething with unrest, centered on the besieged nation of Syria, and now spreading into Lebanon, Turkey, and other nations. One of the prime actors in this violent destabilization is London's key partner in creating and supporting international "Islamic terrorists," the Saudi Kingdom. As the violence escalates, tension is rapidly increasing between the British-U.S.-NATO grouping on one side, and Russia and China on the other, with the latter determined to prevent new "regime change" measures, and the specter of a thermonuclear confrontation more and more evident.

While a possible defeat for President Obama in the Presidential election might throw the war drive into disarray, given his key role with the British-Saudi crowd in the Libya War and 9/11 Two, *there is no guarantee* that even that will take the threat of global confrontation off the British agenda—and it's the lunatic monarchical grouping in the British Empire which is ultimately calling the shots.

## War on November 9?

The INSS war game scenario called for an attack on Iran's nuclear facilities, which would be met by a sequence of limited escalations by Iran and some of its allies against Israel. But, the conclusion, as reported by Britons who filmed the game, and talked to the Nov. 5 *Daily Telegraph*, was that the outcome would be a limited regional conflict, rather than leading to a broader war.

However, in the written conclusions that followed the war game, the INSS reported that some of the players concluded that the Israeli attack would "lead to World War III," particularly because Russia and China took positions in stark contrast with those of both Israel and the United States.

According to a senior U.S. intelligence source deeply involved in war-avoidance efforts, the INSS publication of the war game findings was part of a renewed effort on the part of Israeli military and intelligence circles to push back against the growing threat

that Netanyahu will again push for a unilateral Israeli attack. The source also cited the recent *Ha'aretz* revelations, further documented Nov. 5 on a British independent Channel 4 TV documentary, that in 2010, Netanyahu actually ordered an Israeli preventive air attack on Iran, but was blocked by top Israeli Defense Forces and Mossad officials, as part of the same effort.

According to the *Ha'aretz* account, Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi, then the Chief of Staff of the IDF, challenged the prime minister's authority to launch an attack without the approval of either his security cabinet or the relevant committees of the Knesset. Ex-Mossad chief Meir Dagan was equally sharp, reportedly telling Netanyahu, "You might be making an illegal decision about going to war. . . . Only the cabinet is authorized to decide this." Netanyahu was forced to back down, and soon afterwards, Dagan came out publicly with a sharp warning against any Israeli unilateral attack on Iran.

The source went on to warn that, while an attack in the immediate days ahead is not a certainty, if Netanyahu is reelected in January 2013, he will move immediately to define a new "red line" for an Israeli attack, virtually guaranteeing an Israeli military strike early in 2013. Netanyahu is betting that the P5+1 will not reach a negotiated settlement with Iran before that time, and that Israel will be in a better position to pressure the United States—no matter who wins the upcoming elections—to join Israel in attacking Iran.

## Lunatic Assumptions

The London *Daily Telegraph's* David Patrikarakos interviewed former Iranian nuclear negotiator Dr. Hossein Mousavian on the realism of the game's assumptions and outcome.

According to Patrikarakos, Mousavian says that "in reality Iran would respond by all means, employing the total power of its armed forces to draw Israel into a long-term war. . . ." And, there would be no doubt the Iran would see the U.S. as complicit.



Creative Commons

*An Israeli think tank has revealed that Israel conducted a war game in September, premised on an attack against Iranian nuclear sites to be held on Nov. 9—three days after the U.S. elections. Shown: an IDF war game in 2011.*

Mousavian said that Iranians "see Israel as just a baby . . . one that would never act without US assistance."

He added that even groups like al-Qaeda that are "Iran's enemies" will attack American targets, taking advantage of the Muslim reaction to an attack on a Muslim nation.

"The whole region would be engulfed" in violence and war, Mousavian said, and slammed the "mistake" of assuming that because Iraq and Syria did not react when Israel destroyed their nuclear facilities, that Iran would do the same.

## Bandar and Syria

While the British imperial controllers of the war faction in Israel—backed by the British-puppet Obama Administration—drives recklessly toward launching war against Iran, their junior partners in the Saudi monarchy are doing their part to stoke the flames of war in the rest of the region. The Saudis are pouring money and weapons in massive amounts into the jihadi rebels in Syria, some of whom are explicitly al-Qaeda, and others not, in the attempt to smash not only the Assad regime, but, more important from the British imperial standpoint, to smash Russian resistance to their assault on national sovereignty.

Note, for example, that, according to the SITE Monitoring intelligence website, citing two videos posted

on Islamist websites, al-Qaeda's nominal leader Ayman al-Zawahiri has called on Muslims to join the uprising against the Assad government, and accused Western powers of giving Assad a license to kill his opponents, by failing to use all military means to have overthrown him already.

At the center of the bloody enterprise is Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the former British-trained Saudi ambassador to the United States, who *personally* was involved in funneling monies and providing protection for the 9/11/2001 hijackers (see p. 4). Bandar, who is Tony Blair's partner in crime, was made the Saudi intelligence chief on July 19, 2012, at the height of the Syrian crisis, not only to strengthen the arming of the terrorists against Syria's Assad regime, but also to bring to the fore an anti-Assad, Saudi-run administration in Lebanon, which borders Syria. The objective is to push more arms and terrorists inside Syria.

Bandar's position also puts him in the middle of the spreading of the jihadi violence into Lebanon, where he has played a prominent role in mobilizing the Sunni population into actions against the Assad and Lebanese governments, which have struggled to prevent the conflict in Syria from spreading. The recent assassination of top Lebanese intelligence official Wissam al-Hassan, by unknown assailants, led to a destabilization of Lebanon, into which Bandar stepped as an alleged mediator among the religious factions. In truth, Bandar is bankrolling a new Sunni militia to challenge Hezbollah. The last time such an effort was made, during the George W. Bush Presidency, Saudi Arabia kicked in a reported \$25 million, but the militia disintegrated in the first moment of confrontation with Hezbollah fighters.

### **In Their Own Name**

One additional new development in the enflamed region is the direct intervention of British Prime Minister David Cameron, who visited Saudi Arabia and the UAE this week, promoting the overthrow of the Assad government in Syria, denouncing Russia and China for blocking that regime-change drive, and peddling renewal of the Anglo-Saudi Al-Yamamah arms-for-oil deals. Cameron has been pressing the Saudis to commit to a major new purchase of BAE-made British fighter jets, and has been running into competition from French President François Hollande, who is peddling EADS competitor jets. According to one senior U.S. intelligence official familiar with the Al-Yamamah dealings, Cameron is hoping that the new head of Saudi Intelli-

gence, British agent Prince Bandar, will have the final word on the jet sales contract, not King Abdullah.

On Nov. 5, Cameron spoke to university students in the UAE, asserting, contrary to U.S. intelligence estimates, that Iran is pursuing a nuclear weapon and must be stopped. Cameron attacked Russia and China for blocking UN Security Council approval for another military regime-change effort, as was conducted in Libya, and blaming Russia and China for the bloodshed in Syria. Cameron also hinted that Britain might redeploy some of the troops withdrawing from Afghanistan into the Persian Gulf, to add to the pressure on Iran.

### **The Russians Remain Firm**

The Russian government has no illusions about what is happening, especially in terms of the arming of the violent terrorists who are carrying out atrocities in Syria—and who have also been deployed, whenever possible, into the Muslim regions of their own country. On Oct. 24, Russian Chief of Staff Gen. Nikolai Makarov pointed out that the Syrian rebels are now wielding U.S. Stinger missiles—although Makarov declined to commit himself on the conduits by which they would have received them.

Meanwhile, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov is carrying out non-stop diplomacy to try to deal with the Syria crisis. Arriving in Cairo on Nov. 4, and following his meeting with international Syria envoy Lakhdar Brahimi and Arab League head Nabil El-Araby, Lavrov said:

“The main thing is saving life. For this, however, the conflicting Syrian sides must be made to start talks and agree on how they carry out a transition to democracy in their country. This is the main point of the Geneva resolutions on Syria. Russia unconditionally supports these resolutions. It is the only participant of the Geneva conference that conducts talks with both the Syrian opposition and the Syrian government. . . . Several Western and other countries continue to push a UN resolution which would only make matters worse and create conditions for a regime change in Damascus. Attempts to bring about a forcible regime change would perpetuate bloodshed in Syria. This is a reality which Russia cannot influence in any way.”

Subsequently, Lavrov had a meeting with the Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi and Foreign Minister Mohamed Kamel Amr, and traveled on to Jordan, for talks with King Abdullah II and Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh, on the Syria crisis in particular.

# LaRouche's Ideas Brought to Greece's Struggle vs. the Financial Oligarchy

by Andrea and Dean Andromidas

Nov. 1—Greece is in the eye of the storm that threatens to drive the world into a new dark age. The threat of nuclear war, occupation by a fascist financial dictatorship, and the need for resistance are felt throughout the country. At this moment of crisis, we spent a full week, Oct. 21-28, in Greece as representatives of the LaRouche movement, holding meetings with leading politicians, economists, political functionaries, government officials, journalists, and retired military officers. There was tremendous interest in what Lyndon LaRouche has to say about the danger of war, and the need to replace Obama as President of the United States; our interlocutors also paid close attention to LaRouche's economic proposals: implementing an emergency financial reform to include the separation banks into commercial and investment banking under the principles of the Glass-Steagall Act; and the economic development of the Mediterranean region.

The policy of the European Union (EU) in its desperate attempt to save the bankrupt banking system and the euro has created a humanitarian catastrophe, in which an entire country, Greece, has been put under a virtual financial blockade, while its population is being forced into abject poverty. The deterioration of the situation since September 2011, when we last visited there, was manifest: There are more beggars on the street, including children; people rummaging through garbage cans; and a general economic degradation of the population. No fewer than 750,000 families, meaning anywhere from 2-3 million of Greece's nearly 11 million people, are now living below the EU poverty line. While official unemployment is over 25%, and is expected to rise to 30% by the end of the year, real unemployment is closer to 50%. Youth unemployment is officially over 55%, the highest in Europe.

Unlike the "shock therapy" inflicted on the former socialist states of Eastern Europe, whose currencies were rendered worthless overnight when the Soviet

Union collapsed, because Greece has the euro, international creditors are able to fleece the population through forcing the government to increase taxes, cut pensions, and simply not fund services, especially health care.

## Under Hostile Occupation

Greeks see themselves under hostile occupation and their government as collaborators working under orders of the infamous Troika of the European Commission (EC), the European Central Bank (ECB), and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Thanks to the German government of Chancellor Angela Merkel, and the Germany media's "lazy Greeks" propaganda, Germany is seen as the big enforcer of this policy, and in some cases, even more so than the EU itself. This extends to German companies that are seen as partners to the rampant corruption among domestic politicians. Companies like Siemens and others have a huge stake in various projects, and are seen as profiting at Greece's expense.

There is no doubt that it is EU policy to deny health care to the Greek population, especially through denial of medicines, as an instrument of terror and blackmail. Expensive life-saving drugs, such as those for cancer, diabetes, and other serious medical conditions, as well as life-saving surgeries are being denied the Greeks by the government's failure to disburse funds from the public health system—which Greek citizens continue to pay into—so as to pay the foreign debt.

We learned from a Greek journalist who is often in Italy, that when he goes to a pharmacy in Italy, it is just like Greece, with customers lining up for their medicines, and being told by the pharmacist that the government has not been reimbursing him. This is also the case in Portugal; all of which demonstrates, that this is in fact an EU policy and will be applied to all countries.

The cuts in salaries, increases in taxation, etc., are never-ending. Those who work, whether in the private or public sector, have had deep cuts in their salaries,





*The EU-dictated denial of health care, especially medicines, including life-saving drugs such as those for cancer, is killing untold numbers of people in Greece. Here, a protest against health-care cuts, earlier this year.*

from 25 to 50%, with many not having received salaries for up to 20 months. And even when they are not paid, people must pay taxes, and contribute to their pension and health funds, or be denied benefits.

One journalist offered a dramatic description of the depression, fear, helplessness, and rage the population is experiencing. He said that impoverishment is driving even honest people to commit illegal acts. For instance, subway, bus, and train fares are to increase by 25% by the end of the year; people will just not pay. This is already happening, and in solidarity, many passengers pass their tickets to others, as they leave the subway.

Greek salaries, always among the lowest in the EU, have decreased even further, averaging EU750-1,500 (about \$965-1925) a month. A middle-level government employee, whose qualifications would entitle him to over EU2,000 a month in Germany, makes less than EU1,000 in Greece. Rents and mortgage payments are not much less than in Germany, and food is more expensive in Greece than in Germany. Prices for dairy products, bread, meat, and beverages such as beer and wine, are higher, in many cases, by as much as 30%. Now the government has announced an increase of 40% in fuel and electricity prices. This is a life-threatening increase. Heating fuel will go up to EU1.60 per liter, almost twice as high as in Germany, and equiva-

lent to the price of super-diesel, used in luxury turbo-charged diesel-engine cars.

## The Bailout Policy Has Failed

The so-called 50% haircut given to bondholders earlier this year had virtually no effect on Greece's foreign creditors, but did bankrupt the Greek banks, which held the largest portion of that debt. This led the French bank Crédit Agricole to sell off its Greek subsidiary, Emporiki bank. The freezing up of credit inside Greece has led major companies to transfer their headquarters and stock market listings, and hence potential tax revenue, to locations outside Greece.

Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company SA, the second-largest Coca-Cola affiliate in the world, and the largest company in Greece,

which also serviced 28 other countries, transferred its headquarters to Switzerland, and its stock market listing to London, thus cutting the total value of equity listed in Athens to about \$31 billion from \$39.2 billion, according to Bloomberg.com.

One of Greece's largest dairy companies, FAGE, moved its headquarters to Luxembourg, because it was unable to access credit lines in Greece.

These are only the largest of the companies to have fled; over the past three years, dozens of companies have moved their production facilities, for example, to Bulgaria, to escape the dramatic increase in taxation.

Clearly, the bailout policy has proven to be a total failure, even in the insane terms defined by the Troika. While Greece had a debt to gross domestic product ratio of 115% when it signed for the bailout in March, it is now expected to reach 189% next year. With the collapse of government revenues because of the collapse of the economy, the budget deficit will be 5.2%, and the economy, which has already shrunk by more than 20% since the bailout started, will collapse another 4.5% next year. According to the Troika's original plan, Greece was, by now, supposed to be in a growth cycle.

Greece has not even been receiving the bailout credits it was promised. It was scheduled to receive EU31 billion after the elections last June. Yet, although



Greece's creditors got the government they wanted, they have still not released the money. It really doesn't matter to the Greek people, since the funds will be going directly to the banks.

### Aware of the Danger of War

For many Greeks, the danger of a new Middle East war is seen as very much a part of the oppressive European policy being forced on them. They are well aware of their geostrategic location in the eastern Mediterranean, especially given the fact that the U.S. uses Greek bases as part its NATO deployment, while Great Britain has its most important overseas

military bases on Cyprus. Already, many of the illegal refugees who flee to Greece over Turkish border are coming from the Afghan and Iraqi war zones; there are fears that a flood of Syrian and Iranian refugees will soon follow. This fear is played upon by the EU to keep Greece from bringing down the whole house of cards, by declaring a debt moratorium and exiting the euro.

Turkey is seen now as following an aggressive Ottoman-style imperial policy under Foreign Minister Ahmed Davutoglu, and many fear that the weakening of Greece's ties with NATO and the EU could open Greece to threats from Turkey. Moreover many realize that behind the war danger is an aggressive policy by the Obama Administration and the European Union against Russia and China.

Russia, which traditionally shares Greece's Orthodox Christian faith, has expressed keen interest in investing in Greece, and is its primary source for oil and gas, while Russian tourists are among the top visitors to Greece. Leasing one of the two container terminals in Greece's main port of Piraeus, China has made Greece its major entry point for its exports to Europe. Yet Greece has been under pressure from both the EU and the U.S. not to enhance these ties. Greece is even being told it they cannot borrow money from Russia or China, on penalty of violating the terms of the EU bailout agreement.

The threat of thermonuclear war is less well understood. We met with Gen. Kostas Konstandinidis (ret.), a founding member of NATO Generals Against Nuclear War, who understood the danger of war, but was skepti-



*Some 2-3 million Greeks are now living below the EU poverty line. Official unemployment is over 25%; youth unemployment is officially over 55%, the highest in Europe. Shown: Digging through the trash for food, Thessaloniki, January 2012.*

cal that it would be a thermonuclear war prior to the meeting; he was soon convinced. Although well into his 80s, he committed himself mobilizing his networks against the war danger.

### Implement Glass-Steagall; Bury the Euro

If Greece is to survive, the United States will have to implement a Glass-Steagall reform, and Europe will have to follow. Then a new credit system would have to be created. This can only be accomplished if the nations of Europe take back their sovereignty, bury the euro, and return to national currencies backed by appropriate credit institutions to fund the LaRouche movement's "Program for an Economic Miracle in Southern Europe, the Mediterranean Region, and Africa," including the "Marshal Plan for Greece."<sup>1</sup> This was the message LaRouche representatives brought to our Greek partners.

There was tremendous interest in our program of reconstruction and development, but it provoked the question, "How will this be financed?" And this was the point at which real discussions and debates began. While there was widespread support for separation of banks along Glass-Steagall lines, there continues to be a great deal of blindness to the need to dump the euro, even among those opposing the hated Troika. It is clear that there is an active attempt to drag the opposition behind various dubious "European" schemes, such as enhancing federalism, joint budgets, having the ECB finance governments, and various schemes to "recycle"

1. See [EIR](#), June 8, 2012.

so-called “surpluses” of the North into the South. Thus, the issue of what LaRouche has defined as a real “credit system” is, was at the center of every discussion. Nonetheless, outside of parliament, there is a growing anti-euro movement, led by people who enjoy considerable credibility.

We had the opportunity to meet the leader of the “Gang of the Drachma,” economist and former parliamentarian Theodore Katsanevas, who is one of the most outspoken advocates for Greece to win back its sovereignty by dumping the euro and returning to the drachma.

“This is the worst period in Greece; it’s like the German occupation all over again,” he said (referring to the years 1941-45). He added that to be against the euro is to open oneself to massive attacks by the media and political class. One is either called a lunatic, based on the claim that if Greece were to return to the drachma, the country would fall into the abyss; or part of a mafia of rich Greeks who have huge Swiss bank accounts and will buy up everything, once Greece returns to the drachma. Katsanevas’s new book on exiting the euro, released the week of our meeting, had already sold 5,000 copies. Katsanevas’s plan, in addition to return-

ing to the drachma, calls for bilateral negotiations to reduce the value of the debt to 30% with a two-year moratorium on debt payments, government controls over speculation, etc.—steps which any sovereign state would implement within the rights of its national constitution, but which are expressly forbidden by Europe’s imperial euro system.

The widespread belief is that after the U.S. elections, a major financial crisis will explode, starting with Greece, and that the current government, led by the conservative New Democracy, and including the Pasok and Democratic Left parties, will collapse by the end of the year. This will bring to power some combination of parties, including the anti-bailout parties, the left-wing Syriza, and the nationalist Independent Greeks.

On the other hand, many Greeks see the need to go outside the party system, hoping for a leader who can unite the right and the left into a national salvation government. While Greek composer and resistance leader Mikis Theodorakis has demonstrated that he can inspire millions of Greeks to resist, and has an idea of a national policy of salvation, his advanced age and poor health prevent him from playing that role. Other leaders will have to come forward.

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# The Final Turn of The Screws on Greece

by Dr. George D. Vardangalos

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*Dr. George Vardangalos*

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*Here is a substantial excerpt, edited for EIR:*

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## The Greek Great Depression

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2012 was the beginning of the Greek Great Depression and Greek Yeltsin-like era. There is a lot of data describing the present situation in Greece; the most characteristic information is presented below:

The Greek unemployment rate again hit a record high of 25.1% in July, according to data released by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT). 1.26 million Greeks were unemployed, with more than 1,000 jobs lost every day over the past year. In the worst-affected 15-24 age group, unemployment was 54.2%. In July

2008, a year before Greece’s acute financial crisis broke, there were only about 364,000 registered unemployed.

The important data is again the labor force participation rate, which is getting continuously smaller. The number of employed during December 2011 was estimated at 3,899,319 people. The inactive workforce was 4,424,562 people. July’s data show the number of employed at 3,763,142 people and the inactive workforce at 3,356,276 people. One million disappeared from the “inactive workforce” during the last seven months. Moreover, according to the rules of unemployment measurement, the self-employed and owners of small businesses can never be counted as unemployed. As a result, in fact, nearly 2 million people in Greece are without work now, including those whose year-long benefits have run out.<sup>1</sup>

Furthermore, taking into account that employees paid by the public sector, one way or another, are 1.0-1.1 million people, the percentage of unemployment in the private sector is already 50%. In August, there were thousands of businesses that did not pay salaries; hundreds of thousands of Greek households had no income that month. There are also companies that do not pay their employees’ salaries for months. The special secretary of the Labor Inspectorate said that data show that 120,000 businesses have not paid their salaries on time. So, more than 400,000 workers were not paid in August, and over 400,000 families are without a wage earner. That also means that one in two Greeks who is being paid a salary nowadays belongs, one way or another, to the public sector.

It is obvious that the Troika still supports the public sector in order to be able to pay especially the guardians of the tyrannical regime—the Greek government—so as to proceed to the final stage of the rescue plan, as soon as possible (fast track): to buy Greece’s public wealth at 10% or less of its real value. Everything is going to be privatized. That will be the end of the Troika’s plan orchestrated by Germany, transforming Greece into a German protectorate, with a standard of living similar to that of the Third World countries. As an exchange, the Troika has promised to a certain part of the corrupted Greek political and financial elite, that they will remain in power afterwards.

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1. Greece’s population was estimated to be 10.8 million as of July 2012—EIR.

## The Collapse of Health Care

Another critical sector collapsing at an accelerating pace is health care. Health care in Greece is at a crisis point, with hospitals running out of vital supplies and drugs. Cancer patients have to source their own prescriptions, as pharmacies fail to stock vital drugs because the government has not provided funds to pay for them. The insolvent country's worsening liquidity has led to public insurers being unable to pay bills, and prescription drug stocks are running dangerously low.

Thousands of people have no access to public health care. Doctors estimate that right now, at least 40% of Greeks are either uninsured or cannot get public health care, and the trend is likely to grow. Furthermore, hospitals are under increased pressure, as austerity has resulted in many people abandoning private hospitals for those of the public sector. Additional strain is placed on hospitals due to the needs of illegal immigrants who have not contributed towards social security funds.

Greece's overall public health-care system is on the verge of collapse. Public hospitals are under-staffed and under-supplied. The government owes millions of euros to pharmacies and medical staff.

Finally, the most important thing: The economic crisis will have serious repercussions for even the youngest swathes of the population. The physical and psychological development of youngsters in the country is at risk because of malnutrition caused by poverty. The alarm has been raised in a report of April 2012 on the situation of young people in Greece, drafted by UNICEF's Greek committee, and by the University of Athens. The report says that 439,000 children in the country are currently living below the poverty line—underfed and in insalubrious conditions—in families that represent 20.1% of Greek households.

## The Final Blow

Under this depressionary financial situation, the Troika demands that Greece adopt austerity measures worth EU9 billion next year, rather than the EU7.8 billion Athens had planned for in the 2013 budget. The total package for 2013 and 2014 is worth EU13.5 billion in spending reductions and tax hikes (in order to give a two-year extension, they demand measures worth EU18.5 billion, according to the latest information).

Almost EU5 billion of the cuts next year will come from pensions, which is likely to mean larger reductions for pensioners who earn more than EU1,000 a month than had originally been planned. About EU1.7

billion will be cut from civil servants' salaries, rather than the planned EU1.4 billion. Welfare payments will be slashed by EU1.2 billion. The measures will include an increase in the retirement age from 65 to 67.

These austerity measures will add more pain and recession to Greece. My first estimation is that recession will be 5-7% in 2013. Now, it is not known if there will be a two-year extension for the implementation of austerity measures, but taking into account the fiscal multiplier effect the IMF describes in its latest report, it seems highly probable that in the following 2-3 years, Greek GDP will have a further decline of 10-15%.

In its latest report, the IMF has an extended reference to the fiscal multiplier. It admits that it made a huge mistake in its estimates for the recession as a result of austerity measures. In their latest researches, they found the coefficient on planned fiscal consolidation to be large, negative, and significant. These researches suggest that the actual fiscal multipliers were larger than forecasters assumed. In the case of Greece, the fiscal multiplier has actually been over 1.5, maybe about 2.0.

Returning to the austerity measures, the government is orchestrating the final attack on the private sector. The wages of the employed in the private sector are being cut down to Chinese standards in a completely deregulated labor market. The tax measures taken, concerning especially the very weak self-employed and the owners of very small businesses, continue the peaceful procedure, in a concept like [Nazi Germany's] *Kristallnacht* in a Greek version, against this part of the private sector. The aim is now obviously the elimination from the market of the self-employed and the owners of small businesses, as soon as possible.

In 2011, two anti-constitutional tax measures were implemented against the self-employed: a) a fixed tax of EU500 was paid by every self-employed person, in fact as a penalty for being one, and b) the amount of money paid by the self-employed in health-care and pension funds (flat amount, independent of income, paid even if there is no income) was not considered as an expense. On the contrary, it is considered as income, and is taxed additionally.

Among the tax measures the Greek government has in mind to implement against the self-employed next year, two more anti-constitutional ones have been proposed/decided: a) the self-employed will pay tax from the first euro of their income, and b) this tax will be 35% of their income.



What does this mean for the self-employed? Taking into account the real income of 80% of the self-employed in this period, he/she must pay 60-70%, on average, of their income for taxes and payments to health care and pension funds. As for the tax range, that payment is up to 50%. That means that the self-employed won't survive in the following months, because the government's tax measures are giving them the lethal blow. I have to repeat that the self-employed are never considered unemployed by law, they don't receive any aid when they are unemployed, and they have to pay each year EU4,000-8,000 to health-care and pension funds (this range is valid for the latest law governing self-employed engineers).

So the 10% of the self-employed and owners of businesses that gather 90% of the wealth from this sector will gather more money from the hundreds of thousands that will be out of the market, sooner or later. Most of the tax evasion is among this 10%, but nothing is done about it. On the contrary, the tax reforms that the Greek government advertises are in fact a significant reduction of taxes for the wealthiest part of the society and increased taxes for the rest.

Big private businesses also say the tax hikes are suf-

focating them. In the worsening financial climate, two of Greece's largest companies have announced that they are pulling out of the country. Coca-Cola Hellenic (CCH) announced that it was switching its primary listing from Athens to London, and moving its corporate base to stable, low-tax Switzerland. Its move follows the Greek dairy group FAGE's relocation to Luxembourg this month. There are rumors that many other large companies are preparing to pull out of the country.

In addition, with the latest information about large companies not paying September salaries, the Greek private sector is near a credit crunch that could create conditions for the immediate collapse of the Greek economy, without warning. These conditions are similar to those of the Capital Strike in the U.S. in 1937-38. The usual commentators will say simply, it was a "Black Swan" event.

### What Must Be Done

This collapse must be prevented immediately, or else it will cause an unprecedented event with chain reactions that will affect the EU, the wider region of the Mediterranean and the Middle East. I won't say much about the measures that have to be implemented, starting even before the American elections of November. In brief, these are needed:

- An EU120-160 billion haircut in Greek public debt (mainly OSI [official sector involvement]). A long extension to the loans taken from the Troika, reduction of their interest to the level at which the ECB is lending to banks now;
- Recapitalization of the banks and, at the same time, the separation of banks into their commercial and investment parts, under a law like the old Glass-Steagall Act in the U.S.
- Immediate implementation of a New Marshall Plan for the reconstruction of the Greek economy. The damage that has already been done by the Troika's rescue plan is irreversible.


Big countries are responsible for the destruction of the Greek economy because of the Troika's rescue plan. Even if some of them didn't force its implementation, they allowed other countries to proceed with this hubris that caused and causes thousands of deaths among the Greek population. Now, they must support the reconstruction of the Greek economy by any means. For the countries mainly responsible for this destruction, Nemesis is already on the way.

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SUPERSTORM SANDY

## Reality Shock for the Course of the Nation

by Marcia Merry Baker

Nov. 6—The impact of Superstorm Sandy on the United States is a reality shock in all respects. It is the end of the pretense that there is a functioning U.S. economy. It is the end of the pretense that apparent authorities—President Barack Obama, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and others—are anything but instruments of the very policies which brought about vulnerability to mass destruction to begin with: the British imperial policies of financial bailouts, industrial shutdown, food crises, mass unemployment, infrastructure takedown, subversion of science, green lies, and depopulation en masse.

There is no going back. Millions of people now realize the full horror of what has happened in Hurricane Sandy; and millions are proceeding to the next blow: There is no possibility or intention of this trio of office-holders to repair or rebuild anything, post-storm. Their words about being “in it for the long haul,” as Obama said alongside Christie in New Jersey, on Oct. 31, are just crass soundbytes.

The next day, Mayor Bloomberg, when asked for his view of the proposals for New York City sea surge barriers, like those protecting cities elsewhere, said, never. “I don’t think there’s any practical way to build barriers in the oceans.”

As of election eve, hundreds of thousands of people in the New York City boroughs, and nearby New Jersey and Connecticut, in particular, are in life-threatening conditions of frigid weather, no electricity, no food, no medical aid, no security, and a state of terror. The core



FEMA/Walt Jennings

*Devastation from Hurricane Sandy in Breezy Point, on the Rockaway Peninsula in Queens, New York. FEMA staff walk through the debris, to assess damage, aid survivors.*





U.S. Army

*U.S. Army servicemen rescue residents from floodwaters in New Jersey, Nov. 1.*

of the storm hit the most densely populated center of North America. There are over 20 million residents of Greater New York City.

Obama, Christie, Bloomberg, et al. used the very same cynical script—"I stand beside you"—last year, after Hurricane Irene hit this same region in August, after which no rebuilding program was launched. Moreover, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) welched on its reimbursement commitments to hundreds of localities, for even minimal repair expenses; and the civil works budget for the Army Corps of Engineers, already paltry, was cut even further.

In New Jersey, oversized Chris Christie speaks of ending Big Government and big projects—the very kinds of projects and skilled employment required nationally. Obama, doing the same, especially extols green jobs. Bloomberg, who has imposed mass employment cuts, officially endorsed Obama Nov. 1 for his greeniness. Now the largest metropolitan area of North America is under water, and dying.

Behind the false rhetoric and evil policies stands the political/financial nexus behind Wall Street, the City of London, and decades of anti-nation-state operations, best known as the British Empire, and now acting with its Saudi Kingdom operation to foster and deploy terrorism and threaten thermonuclear war.

The only course of action which can rebuild the Sandy storm zone, is the same as required to restore the U.S. economy, and establish a new nation-serving in-



FEMA/Liz Roll

*Many backyards in Hoboken, N.J., still flooded Nov. 1.*

ternational system: 1) re-establish the Glass-Steagall law in banking; 2) initiate a development-based credit system; 3) launch NAWAPA XXI (North American Water and Power Alliance XXI) and a crash rebuilding program in the storm states, along with other priority projects.

It is from this vantage point, that we review the dimensions of the current storm devastation, and key elements of what defines the rebuilding process, in order to further political intervention for a revolutionary policy shift. A short look-back to what built New York City historically, especially in the FDR period, underscores the political system we must restore today: non-partisan emergency action for the public good.

The essential post-storm projects include what should have been in place all along: shoreline protection from sea walls, gates and diversion systems; dense rail grids with inland redundancy; abundant power, centered on nuclear generation; modernized electricity generation, distribution, and reserves; sound and plentiful housing, based on serving a productive population,

not real estate bubbles from shoreline speculation; secure water provision; in-depth public health and medical treatment capacity, and more. Most important is the space/satellite program, for advanced storm warning, for developing understanding of the universe, and for protection from planetary threats.

### **Scale of Devastation**

Hurricane Sandy was huge in energy, extent, and damage. At one point, 23 Eastern and Midwest states were under wind gust warnings, and nearly as many for flash flooding. After widespread devastation in the Caribbean, Sandy's northward path, which brought dangerous weather to Florida, northward through the Mid-Atlantic states, then veered westward, making landfall Oct. 29 in southern New Jersey, and proceeding to inundate and pummel the low-lying part of New York City and environs.

At this point, Sandy, re-classified from Hurricane to Superstorm, was some 1,000 miles across, bringing high winds and rain to the Great Lakes region, and a terrible "thunder snow" to the Appalachians, especially West Virginia. Sandy finally tailed off to the north, leaving destruction in its wake in Canada.

At the peak, 8.5 million customers—households and businesses—in 21 states, were cut off from electricity. The storm affected, in part or extensively, a 23-state area, with a population of over 60 million in the worst-hit zone. As Superstorm Week Two began, 1.3 million residents still lack power.

Records were set for flooding and destruction in the coastal areas. In Lower Manhattan, the sea surge crest topped 13 feet, far exceeding the prior record of 11-plus feet from Hurricane Gloria in 1985. Southern Manhattan and the low-lying areas of the boroughs were engulfed suddenly—Rockaway in Queens, Coney Island, Staten Island, along the Jersey Hudson Riverside towns, and coastline generally.

Vehicular and rail tunnels to Manhattan and other links in the boroughs and New Jersey were flooded. For a time on Oct. 30, the island of Manhattan was completely cut off from all connection to surrounding mainland. Bridges were closed due to wind, and tunnels inundated. The New York Subway System was flooded for the first time in its 108-year history, and closed.

Accordingly, with this sweep of damage, plus the lack of infrastructure and the lack of redundancy of vital supplies, all areas of basic life have been overthrown for millions of people, centered in the New

York/New Jersey coastal region, but affecting the nation. Forty-nine years of takedown since the death of President Kennedy have been brought home within 48 hours of a severe storm.

### **Vast Infrastructure Damage**

**Transportation.** All heavy and light-rail systems were hit in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area, from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) subway system, to the PATH trains, Long Island commuter lines, New Jersey Transit (NJT) rail, and AMTRAK interstate. Since only 50% of residents in New York City have private cars, compared with the 90% average nationally, the lack of rail transit is a crippling blow.

New Jersey Transit, averaging 276,000 daily rail commuters, has 35% of its locomotives damaged, and 23% of its rail cars. The U.S. no longer makes this heavy equipment, which NJT gets from Canada, with very long lead times and custom designing involved. The NJT operations center was flooded, ruining its electronic control systems. Very partial train service was resumed after a week, but there is no timetable for restoring full service.

Pre-storm, the MTA subway system averaged 5.5 million riders daily, on its nearly 210 miles of routes (650 miles of revenue track), interconnecting the New York City boroughs. A week later, a few lines have been put back into operation, with slower speeds, and fewer trains, but there is extensive damage, including washed-out shoreline tracks and control systems. The de-watering phase continues for several flooded subway tubes. There is severe damage to switches, electronics, and other vital components from the effects of standing, salty, toxic water. Sources and reserves for replacement and repair parts don't exist in the United States.

"Think of it as a 90- to 100-year-old patient that got into an accident and is in the hospital," MTA chairman Joseph Lhota told the media. "Things always happen when you get in the hospital that you don't expect. The amount of saltwater that is in the system, as we clean it out, we're finding other things."

For vehicular traffic, the chaos in the first week, from lack of gasoline, lack of electricity for gas stations, etc., is par for the course, considering who is in charge. One special irony concerns heating oil for homes and commercial buildings. On Oct. 1, Bloomberg's new greenie mandate went into effect, saying that 5% of all fuel oil used in the boroughs had to be

biodiesel. This was to be a national green trendsetter. Now, in the storm aftermath, that stupid decree is waived, as are all the FDA emissions rules and local ethanol mandates, given that reality has struck.

**Housing.** There are now thousands of households, that are either homeless, or in unlivable circumstances. This ranges from those who are safe, but displaced because their homes are demolished or uninhabitable, to those in unsafe apartment buildings, nursing homes, or temporary shelters, with no resources for where to go next.

There is no redundancy of housing anywhere in the Northeast, for interim accommodation. FEMA is signing people up who qualify to receive grants to cover 30 months of their rental expense, but the housing isn't to be had. In New York City alone, 40,000 people need long-term interim housing, according to the understated count released by the City Housing Authority, which said that 20,000 are from the low-income, public-housing rolls.

For the 400,000 New Yorkers resident in hundreds of the 2,600 public housing buildings operated by the Housing Authority, there were thousands, as of Nov. 1, stuck in 267 tenement buildings known to have no power, no security, no food, and many with no water. For infants, the elderly, diabetics, and others, these conditions mean sickness and death.

For example, as late as Day 8, in Red Hook, Brooklyn, a resident of a public housing high rise appealed for help to a reporter, "We can't live like rats." No relief had come at all for a full week. Many fearful residents had not left their rooms the whole time. The building was without electricity, water, and sanitation. The hallways were pitch black; the stairwell landings, full of human waste. Since the gas still worked, people resorted to using their stoves for heat, a terrible fire danger.

The public housing units hardest hit are on the shoreline areas: Coney Island (Brooklyn), Rockaway Beach (Queens), Alphabet City (Manhattan), and Long



U.S. Army/E.J. Hersom

*Water pours into New York Harbor from pumps displacing floodwaters in the Battery Park underpass in Lower Manhattan, on Nov. 2. The Army Corps of Engineers 249th Batalion (Prime Power) continued its work of de-watering at 11 key sites throughout the island, in addition to pumping out tunnels.*

Island. For example, LaGuardia Houses and Vladock Houses on the Lower East Side of Manhattan have become houses of terror—for robbery, disease, and despair.

**Medical care.** Headlines covered the heroic, mid-storm evacuations of two Manhattan hospitals: 300 patients from the New York University Langone Medical Center on Oct. 29, and over 600 patients from Bellevue, on Nov. 1. These were necessitated by lack of reliable back-up electricity.

But behind these singular storm events are dozens of situations, where disabled people in nursing homes were left in danger; people needing treatment have no where to turn—all from both the Bloomberg and prior cuts to health care (with more to come from Obamacare). In Far Rockaway—known in advance to be in a high-target zone for the deluge, the City did not evacuate all nursing homes. Rockaway Care Center, Horizon Care Center, and a few others had residents taken to a school. But other facilities were left in extreme danger.

**Water, utilities.** Hundreds of thousands still have no safe water, and raw sewage is streaming amidst the flood waters at points throughout the five boroughs, and many parts of New Jersey.

**Food.** Thousands are without food, trapped in their



high-rise apartment buildings—confined by darkness, fear of assault, multi-story stairwells, no communications, and poverty. They have received no food relief for days. In addition, there are hundreds of localities where people can move about amidst the debris, but no food is to be had. Obama's FEMA, Homeland Security, Christie and Bloomberg, set up no contingencies for high-volume, long-term food security. After a week, the Federal Agriculture Department began shipping in foodstuffs.

Moreover, the immediate food crisis associated with the storm, occurs in the context of shrinking food

output nationally, no food reserves, and a sharp contraction in farm capacity.

## Flood, Sea Surge Protection

Having the right infrastructure in place of all kinds, would have mitigated the damage toll, even from Superstorm Sandy. Such infrastructure includes coastal surge defense, inland flood control, power, water supply, transportation, health-care logistics, and food security. The principle involved is illustrated most dramatically by the question of barriers against sea surge. They must be there.

## Lake Borgne Surge Barrier Now Protects New Orleans

Nov. 6—In Summer 2011, the IHNC (Inner Harbor Navigation Canal) Lake Borgne Surge Barrier was completed, to protect the city of New Orleans from storm surge flooding. It is the largest single civil works project ever carried out by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; it performed to perfection in its first use, August 2012, when Hurricane Isaac hit the Gulf Coast.

The structure consists of a 1.8-mile-long barrier wall, with gigantic gates (seen in the middle distance), situated at the upper end of Lake Borgne (east of Lake Pontchartrain), at the confluence of the Intra-coastal Channel. The barrier, made of concrete and steel, is shown here, with a view of the Seabrook Floodgate in the foreground.

Locally, the barrier is referred to as “The Great Wall.” It forms the first line of defense to protect against tidal surge from the Gulf of Mexico moving inward through Lake Ponchartrain. The Great Wall protects the parishes hit so badly in 2005—the Lower Ninth Ward and St. Bernard Parish.

The Corps reports that the project took “enough steel to construct eight Eiffel Towers, enough concrete to fill one football field, 94 feet deep ... [and] involves 160 miles of piles.”

The photo shows the massive gates,

during installation in May 2011.

The concept of surge protection for New Orleans—long proposed—was finally acted upon after the deadly impact of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. As of 2006, upgraded flood defense systems were mapped out for the entire city region—much of it below sea level—including new floodwalls, pumping capacity, and other logistics—amongst which, the Lake Borgne Surge Barrier was a centerpiece. In 2008, the the Corps awarded a \$1 billion design-build contract to Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc.—the largest such contract in Corps history. Under Corps supervision, Shaw finished the barrier and gates in an unbelievable time of two years and two weeks.

*Marcia Merry Baker*



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The proposal has been present for decades to protect the New York/New Jersey Bay area by a sea wall and surge barrier system. But this was always shelved, for reasons of political opposition citing costs, and more recently, by greenie, bogus environmental objections. First, consider the success of these barriers, then the specifics for New York City.

The other Northeast coastal towns with such anti-surge systems, though on a smaller scale, were almost fully protected during Superstorm Sandy, and also during Hurricane Irene in August 2011. These are:

- Providence, R.I. The Fox Point Hurricane Barrier was built in 1960-66, authorized by the 1958 Federal Flood Control Act. It is a 3,000 foot (910 meter) tidal flood wall across the Providence River, with rock and earthen dikes, vehicular and canal gates, and a pumping station.

- New Bedford, Mass., is protected by the New Bedford Harbor Hurricane Barrier, built by the Army Corps of Engineers. It was authorized and begun in 1958, and consists of a 3 km-long, 20-ft high wall of rock and dirt, with a set of hydraulically-operated doors, to be closed against storm surge.

- Stamford, Conn. In 1966, the Army Corps of Engineers built the Stamford Hurricane Barrier, which it continues to operate. It functioned perfectly during Sandy, as it has in all past storms. Stamford Director of Public Safety Ted Jankowski told the press Oct. 30, "The surge never breached the hurricane wall. It wasn't even close. The hurricane wall is 17 feet, and the highest ocean level was 11 feet, so we had 6 feet to go."

In Europe, there is the model complex of storm barriers in The Netherlands, called Delta Works, protecting against a North Sea surge. The system has several surge barriers, one of which is the Maeslantkering, which protects Rotterdam, and the largest of which is the Oosterscheldekering, which has 62 giant steel doors. In east England, there is the Thames Barrier, downstream from London, on the Thames River, to protect against exceptionally high tides and surges from the North Sea. Protecting St. Petersburg, is a 9.9 mile (16 m) barrier separating the Gulf of Finland from Neva Bay. The "Saint Petersburg Flood Prevention Facility Complex" was begun by the U.S.S.R. in 1978, and finished in 2011.

But the world's newest, large-scale anti-surge structure is in New Orleans—the Lake Borgne Surge Barrier, a \$1.1 billion project overseen by the Army Corps

of Engineers (see box). Completed in Summer 2011, this barrier was used for the first time, with full success, during Hurricane Isaac in August 2012. Ironically, it was commissioned in the wake of the Katrina-gate of the George W. Bush Presidency, then carried through to completion, ending with funding from the Obama Stimulus Act (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009).

But now, the Federal government refuses to even allocate funding to operate the big Lake Borgne Surge Barrier gates! On Nov. 6, local Louisiana residents of the Orleans Parish have a ballot referendum, on whether to approve raising their own tax rate, to pay for running the surge barrier, through the local Orleans Levee District.

### **Surge Barriers for New York/New Jersey**

There are several proposals for surge barriers to protect New York City and New Jersey. They involve different kinds of sea walls and gates, proposed for selected sites where the Outer Bay meets the Atlantic Ocean, and other critical, inland spans.

A strong advocate is Malcolm J. Bowman, Coordinator of the Storm Surge Group at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, on Long Island. "If we had implemented these barriers by now, there would have been no damage to New York City resulting from Sandy. By that I mean no damage coming from the ocean," Bowman told ABC News on Nov. 2. He has commissioned two top engineering firms to propose refined designs. Bowman said, "I am not proposing we start pouring concrete next week. What I am proposing is a feasibility study. We need to do that if we are serious about protecting the city from further catastrophes." He has stressed that this is not "far-out science or engineering."

In 2009, a seminar, titled "Against the Deluge: Storm Surge Barriers to Protect New York City," was held by the American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) New York Metropolitan Section Infrastructure Group and the New York Academy of Sciences. It was attended by New York City's Office of Emergency Management and the Army Corps of Engineers. They all discussed the likelihood of an impending sea surge. Featured presentations on storm surge barriers for New York were given by four firms: Arcadis, Halcrow/CHM2 Hill, Parsons Brickerhoff, and Camp Dresser & McKee.

Arcadis, the Holland-based, international infra-

structure firm, has extensive experience with surge barriers in The Netherlands. For New York, Arcadis proposes a barrier situated in the Verrazano Narrows, connecting the Upper New York Bay with the Atlantic Ocean. The barrier would be 4,800 ft in length, with a large sliding sector gate of 860 ft. This would allow the largest vessels to pass through during normal weather, and it could be closed during a storm (**Figure 1**).

An Arcadis statement April 2, 2009 summarized: “Parts of the New York and New Jersey Metropolitan Area (20 million inhabitants) are below the maximum water level of a probable storm surge, resulting from Northeast storms and hurricanes. . . . Although the area is not below sea level, the risk of human casualties is also present, as tunnels and the subway systems may flood. The proposed barrier in the Verrazano Narrows, combined with two other barriers at the East River and the Arthur Kill, will minimize the danger of a storm surge entering from the Atlantic Ocean into the Upper New York Bay. The costs of the Verrazano Barrier, roughly estimated at 6.5 billion dollars, may prove economically preferable to accepting the chance of flooding.”

The CH2M Hill plan is for a levee-like barrier to run five miles from the Sandy Hook promontory in New Jersey, northward to the Rockaway Peninsula in Queens, on Long Island (**Figure 2**). This would leave Rockaway and Long Island exposed, but protect the entire Inner Bay. Gaps would permit passage of vessels, the outflow of river water, and tidal ebbs and flows. In the event of storm surge, movable gates would close off New York Bay. The barrier would protect from a 30 ft surge. Halcrow worked on the same kind of project to protect St. Petersburg, Russia, completed in 2010.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo concurs with the idea that now is the time to seriously consider sea barriers, because, he says, it is the responsibility of government. However, Mayor Bloomberg snarled his opposition repeatedly this past week. “We cannot build a big barrier reef off the shore to stop the waves from coming in,” he said Oct. 29.

FIGURE 1

### Verrazano Narrows Storm Surge Barrier, proposed by Arcadis



Arcadis

*The Verrazano Narrows Storm Surge Barrier, shown here in an artist's concept, next to the Verrazano Narrows Suspension Bridge, has gates that can be closed against Atlantic stormwaters flowing into the Bay of New York. They are part of a surge protection proposal by Arcadis, presented in 2009, at a flood defense seminar, hosted by the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the New York Academy of Science.*

## Do or Die

Building infrastructure, and building up the economy to do so, is now a do-or-die question. It was the implementation of a sequence of large-scale infrastructure improvements, which made New York City into a world metropole in the mid-20th Century. It is now critical to return to the American System outlook behind this, or the nation and civilization itself are doomed. Look at a few events in the buildup of the productive platform in greater New York by 1950, and then at its takedown.

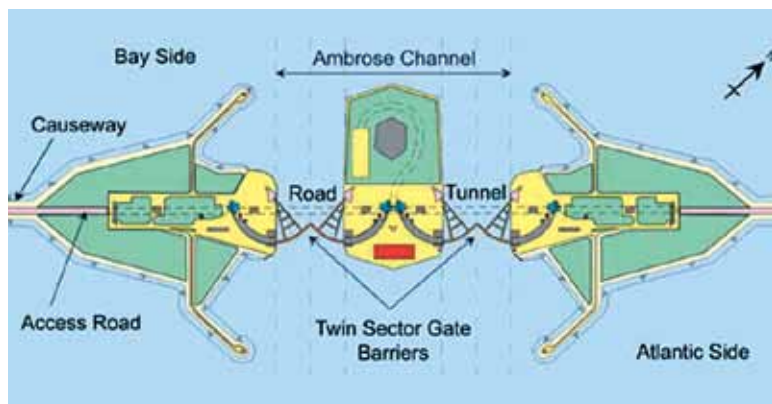
In 1900, New York City, with an area of 305 sq miles, had a population density of 11,124 persons per sq mi. As of 1960, the density had more than doubled, to 24,000 persons per sq. mi. The basis for this increase included such infrastructure upgrades as new water supplies, modern rail and mass transit, health-care systems to battle infectious disease, and provision of decent housing.

**Demographics.** As of the 1950s, 25% of the metro New York City workforce was employed in manufacturing, from food processing, printing, and other light industry, to highly skilled machining and medical equipment manufacture. From 1900 to 1960, the average life expectancy of a New Yorker rose from 43 to 69 years. The mortality rate went down, from 20.6 deaths

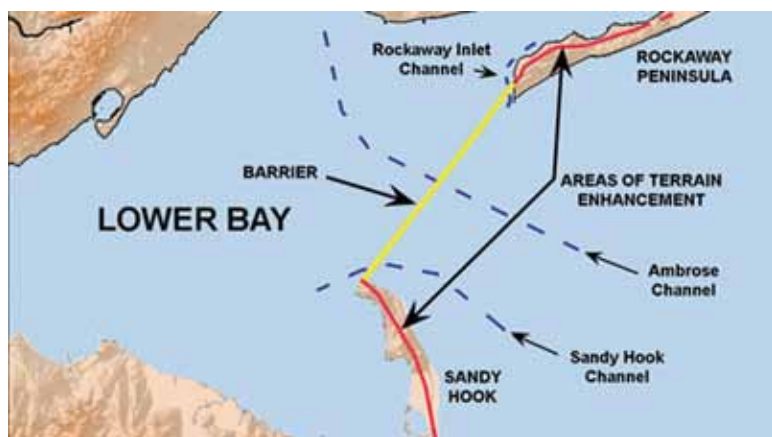


FIGURE 2

# The N.Y.-N.J. Outer Harbor Gateway—Flood Defense Barrier and Gates, proposed by Halcrow/CH2M Hill



*A five-mile flood-defense barrier would be built between the Rockaway Peninsula, N.Y., and Sandy Hook, N.J. A system of twin sector gates, on the Ambrose Channel, can be closed to storm surge. The proposal was made at a 2009 seminar in New York, and is based on a completed surge-protection system in St. Petersburg, Russia.*



per 100,000 per year in 1900, to 11.4 per 100,000 in 1960.

**Transportation.** The New York subway system began with its first underground line in 1904. Over the decades, the subways expanded, including corporate changes, mergers, and eventual consolidation under the municipal Board of Transportation, and later the MTA. As of 1940, the amalgamated system had 237 miles of service—the most extensive in the world.

Interstate rail lines came in from all three land directions, connecting to the national grid, whose peak density was in the 1920s. Directly related to the rail system, was access to fresh, abundant food.

World-class seaport facilities were developed in New Jersey and New York, featuring the Brooklyn Navy Yard and other marine specialty centers.

The major downgrade during this period, was a mistaken 1930s shift into “city beautiful” highway and boulevard construction, instead of expanding high-tech

mass transit.

**Water.** In the 1930s, a new, large-scale water-supply system was initiated, to add to the existing, excellent Croton Dam and Aqueduct water source, which had opened in 1842. The new projects—finally completed in the 1960s—collected water in new dams in the Catskill watershed, and the Delaware River Basin, and piped it 85 miles into the City.

**Housing.** After 1936, when a new charter was voted in, the New York City Housing Authority, with the assistance of the FDR Federal government, moved to provide decent housing for those in need, as part of a general relief and public welfare program to counter the Depression.

**Health.** The City deployed its Departments of Health, Sanitation, and Hospital Services, to suc-

cessfully roll back yellow fever, tuberculosis, and other widespread infectious diseases of early 1900s.

Then came the post-World War II decline, down to the present-day mass vulnerability to storm disaster, and economic wipeout. Over the past five decades, New York City was transformed into a center for financial activity, real estate speculation, and tourism, all while its productive base and infrastructure foundations were eroded. Hundreds of thousands of residents are now below the official poverty line.

Almost the only additional infrastructure project, was the completion of the Verrazano Narrows suspension bridge in 1964. The condition of rail and mass transit has been kept at a kind of museum-piece level of functioning. The number of hospitals and hospital beds per thousand residents has dropped drastically in all five boroughs.

As of the 1950s, manufacturers started re-locating out of New York City. Residents began leaving for the

suburbs, in a process of de-structuring of the urban and rural productive landscape of the nation. The population of New York City fell from 7.9 million in 1950 to 7.3 million in 1990, and only rose slightly again, up to 8 million in 2000, and 8.2 million in the 2010 census.

A key part of this process was the 1975 “Big MAC” episode, in which a contrived municipal debt crisis, was used as the pretext for coercing city leaders and the public to submit to a bankers’ dictatorship, called the Municipal Acceptance Corporation. Under the pretext of “making good on debt” in order to restore the City’s credit rating, essential municipal staff, services, and assets were slashed and looted, from firemen and police, to hospitals and sanitation workers.

The leading figures in this 1970s Big MAC crime, such as Felix Rohatyn and Paul Volcker, are political forebears of today’s trio of Obama, Bloomberg, and Christie, who are acting to undermine the means of existence and future of the nation.

### Cuts to Army Corps of Engineers

In line with this, are the blatant cuts to the Army Corps of Engineers budget by the Obama Administration and Congress. The Corps is the Federal agency most needed in emergency relief, and for rebuilding and the construction of NAWAPA XXI, and selected other projects.

Under Obama, the overall national budget of the Corps has been cut all along. In 2010, the USACE annual allocation was \$5.5 billion—a pittance. But then, Obama cut it down further to \$4.6 billion for 2012, and now, for 2013, proposes a paltry \$4.7 billion. Some of the Corps’ current expenses for its storm relief operations in the pre-election period, will be paid for by its Federal contractor, FEMA, but that is beside the point.

The entire Army Corps of Engineers annual Civil Works budget line for its 14-state North Atlantic Division is a measly \$650 million a year under Obama! This



U.S. Marine Corps/Cpl. Bryan Nygaard

*A team of Navy and Marine Corpsmen work to repair a pier in Hoboken, N.J., Nov. 3.*

is for operations and maintenance to cover all activities, which include, in addition to its coastal and inland flood-control operations: navigation, municipal water supply, irrigation, recreation, fish and wildlife, “environmental stewardship,” and disaster relief.

In the North Atlantic Division, the Corps operates 53 dams, 63 miles of levees, and 22 storm and hurricane barriers. The North Atlantic Division encompasses all or parts of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia, West Virginia, and North Carolina—all immediately affected by Superstorm Sandy. The Division has 12 Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Projects, including sections of Long Island, N.Y., down to the Del-Marva Peninsula and Virginia coasts.

Making the Corps’ underfunding even worse, is the way it has been mis-deployed in recent years, onto infrastructure work to aid casinos and private real estate boondoggles, and not to serve its mission for the national interest. Hurricane Sandy exposed an instance of this scandal in New Jersey. Under Gov. Christie, the Corps did beach-defense work for the Atlantic City casino strip, after Hurricane Irene last year. Gambling is a state “development” strategy of Christie. The Atlantic City casinos then were able to re-open within two days of Hurricane Sandy, thanks to the Corps’ selective

coastal defense work.

However, the Corps' standing proposal to build a seawall nearby, to protect the inlet area, where there is low- to mid-income residential and business activity, and no beach, remains unfunded and on hold. The project was not built after Hurricane Irene; Hurricane Sandy completely inundated the inlet area, destroying homes and businesses, and causing at least one fatality. In the pre-election week, state officials made claims to the

media, that they now support building the seawall.

FEMA has been run as a shell game. On Oct. 29, FEMA Director Craig Fugate said at an Obama show-concern briefing, "We have plenty of cash in the short term. . . ." That's part of the pretense. The way it works is this. Whereas last September, at the time Hurricane Irene slammed the Eastern states, Fugate said, "We have plenty of money" (Sept. 13), this was, as he admitted at the time, only because he put dozens of previous

## FDR Knew How To Respond To a Monster Storm

Among the more brilliant accomplishments of President Franklin Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration (WPA) was the creation of a mobile workforce that could be deployed on a moment's notice to battle hurricanes, floods, and fires. Where Barack Obama, like his predecessor during Hurricane Katrina, told Hurricane-devastated New Yorkers and New Jerseyans, effectively, "Don't count on your government; you're on your own," FDR's right-hand man, Harry Hopkins, was immediately on the scene, deploying his WPA army of formerly unemployed and desperate men and women, as a strike force capable of heroic action.

In January 1937, a series of torrential rains pelted the Ohio River Valley and left a trail of disaster. Fifteen percent of Cincinnati was underwater; 70% of Louisville, and 100% of Paducah, Ky were inundated. Cities up and down the Ohio River were in panic and chaos. Five hundred were dead and a million were left homeless. Hopkins, who was FDR's flood relief commissioner, immediately arrived at the scene and oversaw relief, construction, flood control, and cleanup. He deployed more than 200,000 WPA workers to build sanitary privies, nail wooden catwalks to carry foot traffic over the swamps of mud, deliver relief supplies to the stricken population, clear refuse, remove garbage, and cook hot meals for the hungry.

Hopkins even deployed the Federal Theater Project to perform over 40 plays and shows in the flood-ravaged states.

### The Great New England Hurricane

In his 2008 book, *The Enduring Legacy of the WPA: American-Made*, Nick Taylor recounts the heroic response of WPA to the catastrophic Great New England Hurricane which struck on Sept. 21, 1938. The fast-moving monster storm killed at least 682 people, and injured more than 1,700. Nine thousand homes were destroyed and 15,000 damaged. The toll to infrastructure was massive.

According to Taylor, President Roosevelt learned at 6:30 the next morning about the extent of the destruction. By 9:00 a.m., "the WPA, along with the Coast Guard, the army, the navy, the CCC [Civilian Conservation Corps], and the Red Cross, had field agents headed to Long Island and New England. Hopkins, in California, telephoned to say he was cutting his trip short, and would take the first available plane headed east."

The response of Hopkins and Roosevelt was impressive: Within 18 hours they had deployed 100,000 WPA workers on the scene to engage in everything from dam repairs (to prevent even more flooding), to sandbagging, evacuation of stranded victims, and cleanup. WPA workers produced new clothing for victims, staffed refugee centers, and orchestrated the cleanup efforts.

"[S]o swift and efficient was that recovery work that by late November, the storm debris had largely disappeared and much of New England was looking forward to a normal winter," Taylor wrote. The chairman of the Red Cross credited the WPA and the other agencies for "one of the most amazing disaster recoveries this organization has ever known."

—Stuart Rosenblatt

disaster-rebuilding commitments on hold.

Since then, those FEMA projects are not only still on ice, but a slew of new unmet Hurricane Irene commitments were added to the unpaid FEMA backlog. Then, along came Congress in the election year, and voted up expanded funding for FEMA (for one year), plus allowed FEMA to carry over year-to-year, any unspent funds. So Fugate can claim that he now has a neat \$7.1 billion to spend, plus another \$700 million he didn't spend last year, for a total of \$7.8 billion.

For FY 2013, Obama proposes reducing FEMA's Disaster Relief Funds by \$1 billion, down to \$6.1 billion. Romney and Ryan are proposing steeper, but unspecified cuts, even eliminating the agency altogether, under the deregulation excuse of making block hand-outs to states.

Look at the FEMA track record, in terms of a typical, local example. Fleischmanns, a very small town in the Catskills (Delaware County, N.Y.), had \$4 million of flood damage from Irene in 2011, and was hit again by Superstorm Sandy. Last Winter, FEMA stalled for months on its part of the \$4 million needed for rebuild-

ing, and therefore, the town could not obtain a municipal loan. In February 2012, an exasperated Deputy Mayor Todd Pascarella wrote to his New York Assemblyman, "We've got all these projects that need to be done. FEMA is taking its sweet time. What's Plan B [for getting funding, and getting started]? No one can tell me what Plan B is. Everybody's very sympathetic, but nobody can tell me how I can start the funding for these projects."

FEMA never came through for Fleischmanns. The same situation obtains for hundreds of localities in the many disaster zones, the Tornado Belt, the 2011 Missouri Basin flood zone, as well as Hurricane Irene.

To be sure, local FEMA staff are acting heroically, along with thousands of local responders, Red Cross personnel, volunteers, and 7,400 National Guardsmen, in the multi-state storm zone, where in many places, as in New Jersey, the harrowing rescue phase is still underway. But the Obama program at the top is: lie, cut, and kill.

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# Will the Empire's Genocide Policy Now Be Overthrown?

by Franklin Bell and Nancy Spannaus

Nov. 6—If the world escapes the fate of thermonuclear destruction, to which the British-Saudi 9/11 Two is inexorably leading, the British financial empire has another genocidal program in process—one that calls for the mass murder of the world's population through austerity, and outright Hitlerian genocide. As broadly advertised everywhere, including the discussion of the so-called “fiscal cliff” in the U.S., this program is set to dramatically intensify after the U.S. elections—no matter who wins—unless there is a revolution in policy along the lines that Lyndon LaRouche and his movement have demanded.

No area makes the point more evident than health care. In the so-called economic issues debate, Romney and Obama agree that they view health-care spending as the biggest “problem” driving up the deficit. Health-care “efficiency” through “cost-effectiveness” is their goal—but they vary in how to get there. What they both refuse to admit is that the rationale behind *both* their programs is the Hitlerian concept of declaring some lives “not worthy of life”—or, in more common parlance, “not worth the money.”

Obama's program for such genocide has been broadly exposed by this news service, for its copying of former British Prime Minister Tony Blair's version of the Hitlerian T-4 program of determining who should live, and who should die. Obama has virtually broadcast this approach, by calling for the infamous Independent Payments Advisory Board (“death panels”), which, when it goes into effect in 2014, will apply

“expert” cost-effectiveness criteria to decide which treatments will be paid for, and which will not. The direction this will take is obvious in the decisions already taken by the Obama Administration's Preventive Services Task Force, in calling for the mass reduction in use of life-saving mammograms and prostate cancer screening.

While screaming against IPAB, Republican Party spokesmen have advocated the same cost-accounting approach. For example: We can't pay the benefits promised to the elderly through Medicare and Medicaid, said nationally prominent economist Allan H. Meltzer in a speech Sept. 27, 2012. “We have to reduce the amount of benefits . . . and try to do it in the most humane way.” Later, he elaborated that people in the later stages of life should have access to the care they want—without interference of a group like IPAB—but only if they are willing to pay for it. Faced with those “serious choices,” he said, patients may opt to “die in peace and have hospice care.”

In other words, it is *money*, not human life, which is important here—in both approaches. This contrasts fundamentally with LaRouche's approach of going back to the Hill-Burton principle of providing adequate facilities for all, and making health care a right.

## Mass Murder in Britain

While Obamacare has been, by design, moving slowly into its deep cut period, the British model, begun in 1999, is finally provoking public outrage.





*"The Liverpool Killing Pathway is driven not just by crude economic calculation, but by a wider brutalisation of our culture, at the heart of which lies the erosion of respect for the innate value of human life," wrote Daily Mail correspondent Melanie Phillips.*

Resistance to an in-hospital murder program overseen by the British government's National Health Service is growing. Starting in 2009, pro-life groups began to raise an uproar about a practice, first instituted at the Marie Curie Hospice, called the Liverpool Care Pathway, a protocol for "continuous deep sedation." Britain's National Health Service, acting on the advice of Tony Blair's National Institutes for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE, his equivalent of IPAB), adopted the program in 2004. About one-sixth of all deaths in Britain in 2008 were attributable to this program.

As health-care cuts have been put in place, under the increasingly bankrupt monetarist system—both by Labour and Conservative governments—the spread of the Liverpool Care Pathway has accelerated. According to the latest exposé, published in Britain's *Daily Telegraph* Oct. 25, some 130,000 people a year—nearly a

third of all who die in British hospitals—are now killed through a program of forced dehydration and starvation, even without the consent of their families or themselves.

This past June, a professor and consulting neurologist, Patrick Pullicino of the University of Kent, in a speech before the Royal Society of Medicine in London, said that the Liverpool Care Pathway had become a "death pathway," the equivalent to euthanasia, a contention that the Department of Health, not surprisingly, denied.

But after obtaining documents through Britain's Freedom of Information Act, the *Daily Mail* of London has run a series of articles that made Pullicino's contention undeniable.

### **'A Society Devoid of Humanity Itself'**

What is the driving force behind the campaign to get rid of defenseless patients? Dr. Tony Cole, chairman of the Medical Ethics Alliance, says: "If death is accelerated by a single day, that will save the NHS nearly £200" (\$320)—the estimated cost for a patient each day in hospital. And hospitals also are interested in freeing up beds.

But Melanie Phillips, one of the *Mail* correspondents who has reported on the killing program, makes the point that the impetus is something more than "economics": "The fundamental driver of all this is the

belief that certain people are better off dead, because their lives are deemed worthless, a drain on the public purse, or both. The Liverpool Killing Pathway is driven not just by crude economic calculation, but by a wider brutalisation of our culture, at the heart of which lies the erosion of respect for the innate value of human life. And that way lies not just the degradation of the NHS, but a society devoid of humanity itself."

In other words, Hitler economics which decrees that there are lives "not worthy of life."

But just to make sure, the hospitals are being bribed to meet kill quotas, and are having funds withheld if they do not.

The *Mail* reported Oct. 25, "Hospitals are paid millions to hit targets for the number of patients who die on the Liverpool Care Pathway. The incentives have been paid to hospitals that ensure a set percentage of patients

who die on their wards have been put on the controversial regime. In some cases, hospitals have been set targets that between a third and two thirds of all the deaths should be on the LCP, which critics say is a way of hastening the deaths of terminally ill patients. At least £30 million [\$48 million] in extra money from taxpayers is estimated to have been handed to hospitals over the past three years to achieve these goals.”

This system of financial incentives is *precisely* what the Obama’s health-care bill is putting into effect now in certain areas, including hospital readmissions. In specific, in October of this year, according to expert Betsy McCaughey, “hospitals that spend the least on seniors will get rewarded; those that spend more will get whacked with demerits.” Guess who will lose care?

Such criteria for saving money will obviously hit the most expensive patients the hardest—the elderly, the chronically ill, and the handicapped.

The *Mail* exposés have prompted a group of mainly Roman Catholic doctors to denounce the Liverpool Pathway. They said in a statement that the withdrawal of tubes providing fluids from the great majority of patients on the Pathway “self-evidently” speeds dying. They noted that picking a patient who is about to die is a prediction rather than a medical diagnosis, which in practice is often in serious error. The statement added that wrong diagnosis could result in wrongful death.

The doctors who signed the statement are Dr. Philip Howard from the ethical committee of the Catholic Union, Dr. Robert Hardie of the Catholic Medical Association, Dr. Tony Cole of the Medical Ethics Alliance, and Dr. Mary Knowles of First Do No Harm. Two senior Catholic nurses also signed the statement.

## What Hippocratic Oath?

In September, a number of professional medical groups, including the Royal College of General Practitioners, the Royal College of Physicians, the National Council of Palliative Care, and the Royal College of Nursing, issued a consensus statement in support of the Pathway. This statement provoked a backlash from doctors who criticized various omissions such as the question of consent. “Patients should not be deprived of consciousness, but receive such treatment that is aimed at relieving all their symptoms including thirst,” the dissenters’ statement said. “Nothing should be done which intentionally hastens death.”

One of the groups that originally signed the con-

sensus statement has since broken with the defenders of euthanasia. The Association for Palliative Medicine (APM), which represents 1,000 doctors who work in hospices and specialist hospital wards, says that it will, as the *Mail* puts it, “identify and explore concerns over the system of caring for patients in their final days.”

The move by the APM breaks ranks with the public stand of other medical bodies, which continue to give the Liverpool Pathway full support. But a “review” is far from a commitment to cease the murder program. And to what extent even the review will be coopted by those determined to continue and expand it is up in the air.

Dr. Bee Wee of the APM said, “The APM intends to undertake such a piece of work about integrated care pathways for the last days of life, in collaboration with a number of national organisations. Discussions are taking place about the details of the proposal, who else is involved, etc.”

The government’s Department of Health has indicated that it will be involved in the inquiry.

And the still-limp level of opposition to the murder program was indicated by another “consensus statement,” issued by 20 organizations which are calling for at least *two* medical staff to assess patients to be put on the starvation and dehydration program. Presently only one is required. They said the Liverpool Pathway could bring substantial benefits to people who are dying and their families. The organizations include the Royal College of General Practitioners, the Royal College of Physicians, the National Council for Palliative Care, Age UK, the Alzheimers Society, and the Royal College of Nursing.

The British oligarchy will not give up its murder program without a fight, as Health Minister Lord Howe has unintentionally made plain. Trying to turn death into life, he has said that the Liverpool Care Pathway is not a means of killing people, but is used to “prevent dying patients from having the distress of receiving treatment or tests that are not beneficial and that may in fact cause harm rather than good.”

If that sounds like Hitler’s endorsement of offering people a “good death,” or Obama’s statement of stopping “unnecessary, harmful” tests, that should be no surprise. But the cost-accounting approach of your standard Republican economist, such as Meltzer, is no alternative. Unless you overthrow this monetarist system, you’ll be dead a lot earlier than you think.

# Human Rights Council To Investigate Obama's Killer-Drone Program

by Carl Osgood

Nov. 1—The British imperial control over the U.S. Presidency, which gained a significant foothold after the British/Saudi-spawned 9/11 attack under the Bush-Cheney Administration, has taken a huge step forward under British puppet-President Barack Obama. And now Obama, whether or not he wins re-election, is moving to make his dictatorial practices permanent, including his infamous killer-drone program. To regain their country, Americans have to not only get rid of Obama, but the entrenched apparatus determined to police the U.S. and the world in support of the British Empire.

Obama has set up a targeted killing machine, which he runs from the White House, and which is intended to be permanent, secret, and unaccountable. Every Tuesday, he is presented with a list of potential targets by John Brennan, his counter-terrorism advisor, and designates who, on that list, will be the next to die, most likely from a missile fired by a Predator or Reaper drone, operated by either the CIA or the military's Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC).

Officially, the Obama Administration has never acknowledged the targeted killing program, although everybody knows it exists, but, in the past year, has sent out three of its top officials to make speeches justifying the program, without even the fig leaf of due process. According to various estimates, Obama's killing spree has killed more than 3,000 people, a significant portion of them civilians, including three American citizens, yet there hasn't even been a pretense of oversight by Congress. Lawsuits filed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) seeking information about the program have been rebuffed by government lawyers who refuse to even acknowledge that it exists. The killing program was only superficially mentioned in the Presidential debates, with Mitt

Romney avowing that he completely supports the program, and would continue it.

However, there is a growing demand across the world for accountability for the Administration's targeted killing campaign. This was noted by Ben Emmerson QC (Queen's Council), the UN Human Rights Council's Special Rapporteur for Counter-Terrorism and Human Rights, in remarks delivered at Harvard University's School of Law on Oct. 25. Indeed, the Human Rights Council has been looking into the U.S. campaign for quite some time. Emmerson's colleague, South African lawyer Christof Heyns, the Special Rapporteur for Extrajudicial Killings, Summary and Arbitrary Executions, issued a report last June, calling on the U.S. to "specify bases for decisions to kill rather than capture 'human targets,' and whether the state in which the killing takes place has given consent."

Heyns had noted at the time that there were a number



UN/Eskinder Debebe

*Ben Emmerson, UN Special Rapporteur on Counter-Terrorism and Human Rights, has charged that the Obama Administration is "holding its finger in the dam of public accountability" on its killer-drone strikes.*

of cases in which initial drone attacks were followed by attacks on groups of people who had responded as *rescuers* to the initial attack. If those reports are true, Heyns said, then “those further attacks are a war crime,” a view with which Emmerson expressed sympathy.

## Obama Is Blocking Accountability

“Now the Obama Administration continues formally to adopt the position that it will neither confirm nor deny the existence of the drone program while allowing its senior officials to give public justifications of its supposed legality in personal lectures and interviews,” Emmerson said. “In reality, as the administration must no doubt be aware, it is holding its finger in the dam of public accountability.”

Emmerson cited three judicial cases, one in London and two in Pakistan, where the legality and lack of accountability of Obama’s program are being challenged. In the London case, a Pakistani man whose father was killed in a drone strike in March 2011 has brought suit against the British government for aiding the U.S. drone campaign. His goal is a declaration from the High Court in London that the sharing of intelligence data by Britain’s signals intelligence agency (GCHQ), is unlawful.

In Pakistan, there is a case moving through the courts against two former CIA officials who are alleged to have been responsible for a drone strike that caused a disproportionate number of casualties. In the second case, the plaintiffs are seeking a declaration that drone strikes inside Pakistan by U.S. forces amount to acts of war. Should such a declaration be issued, this would put pressure on Pakistan’s air force, to shoot down U.S. drones flying inside Pakistan’s airspace without specific permission.

In the U.S., the ACLU has two ongoing Freedom of Information Act lawsuits on the drone program, and a third, filed together with the Center for Constitutional Rights, charging that the targeted killings of Anwar al-Awlaki and two other American citizens in Yemen in 2011 “violated the Constitution’s fundamental guaran-



*Lawsuits filed by the ACLU and the Center for Constitutional Rights state that the targeted killings of three American citizens in Yemen in 2011 “violated the Constitution’s fundamental guarantee against the deprivation of life without due process of law.”*  
*Shown: a Predator drone firing a missile.*

tee against the deprivation of life without due process of law.”

Emmerson reported that the process began with calls by several members of the Human Rights Council, notably Russia and China, but also Pakistan, where the majority of drone strikes have taken place, for an investigation. “It is an issue which is moving rapidly up the international agenda,” Emmerson said. He noted that there has been a great deal of debate over how these operations should be judged, but “the first step is to establish the facts reliably,” and that requires investigative bodies that are truly independent from those countries whose actions are in question. He said that mechanisms can be established to protect the confidentiality of intelligence and technical data, “but if the relevant states are not willing to establish effective, independent monitoring mechanisms that meet those standards then, in the last resort it may be necessary for the United Nations to act and to establish such mechanisms, itself.”

## ‘Global War Paradigm’ Asserted

Emmerson also scored the “global war paradigm” which was put in place following 9/11 attacks in 2001, a paradigm that claims that the U.S., with its allies, is engaged in a war against a stateless enemy in which the entire globe is the battlefield, and that therefore actions by the U.S. and its allies globally are to be judged solely by the law of war, rather than the law applicable in



peacetime, including international humanitarian and human rights law.

Emmerson noted that the last 11 years have demonstrated that terrorism is a phenomenon that can't be defeated by military force. "It is a reality with which nations and the international community must continue to contend and it calls, therefore, for a sustainable approach that not only tackles the manifestations but also the causes and does so within a rule of law framework," Emmerson said.

"But in the meantime, since 2001, the global war paradigm has done immense damage to a previously shared international consensus on the legal framework underlying both international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and it has also, at the same time, and intentionally, given a spurious justification to a range of human rights and humanitarian law violations." Indeed, he could have added, the use of military force, both against terrorist groups and to promote regime change in the Arab world, has actually increased the chaos and lawlessness in these regions, and led to the further spread of the very terrorist groups that we have declared ourselves to be at war with.

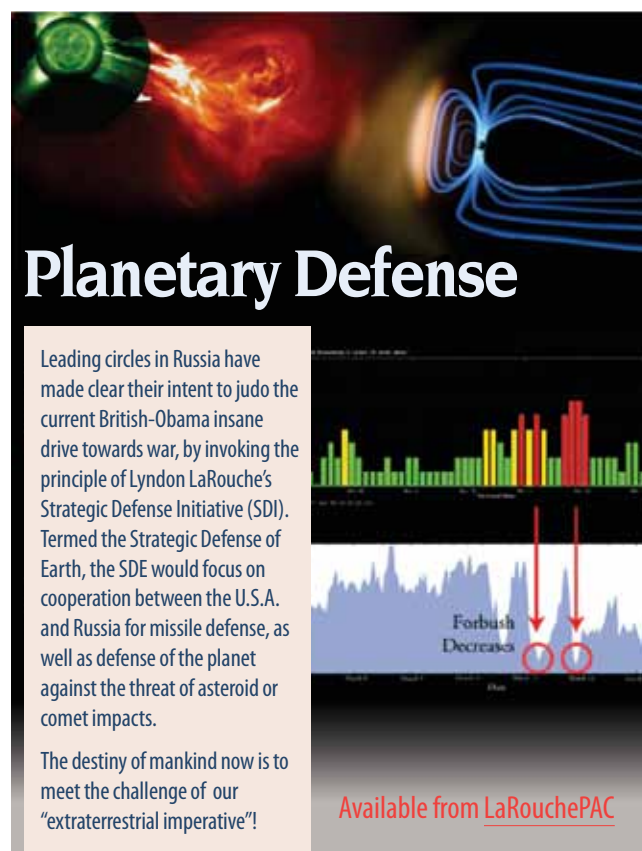
Emmerson also issued a challenge to Republican President candidate Mitt Romney, as it has been reported that Romney has said in the past that he doesn't believe that water boarding is torture. While Emmerson thoroughly demolished that argument, he expressed the belief that Obama is against torture. What he failed to acknowledge is that no one who was involved in the decisions that led to the use of torture, or so-called "enhanced interrogation techniques" against detainees during the George W. Bush Administration, has been prosecuted for those crimes, a decision that was made by Obama himself, at the outset of his administration, leaving those crimes as precedents for a future administration that might like to employ such techniques, again.

## Obama Plans To Make Drone War Permanent

Emmerson delivered his speech two days after the *Washington Post* revealed that Obama and his national security staff were putting in place the structures to make the drone war a self-perpetuating, permanent institution within the national security apparatus. The "disposition matrix," as the kill list is known within the government, is now the centerpiece of Obama's counter-insurgency policy, and the targeted killing campaign is likely to last another decade, the *Post* reported, citing unnamed officials.

Indeed, the campaign is reaching a milestone of sorts. The estimated death toll of 3,000 people exceeds the number of people who died in the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. The drone campaign has expanded from Pakistan and Afghanistan to North Africa. Centered on Camp Lemonnier, the U.S. commando base in Djibouti, it extends into Yemen, Somalia, the Seychelles, and elsewhere in Africa. The Central Intelligence Agency, under Director David Petraeus, has asked for White House approval of its plan to expand its own drone fleet, indicating how much of a paramilitary organization the CIA has become.

The intention, from the White House to the CIA to the JSOC, is to institutionalize this apparatus so that it perpetuates indefinitely, in a war that will never end. There will always be "terrorists" to add to the kill list. It will generate short-term results, but those results will obscure the long-term costs. "The problem with the drone is, it's like your lawn mower," Bruce Riedel, a former CIA analyst and Obama counter-terrorism adviser, told the *Post*. "You've got to mow the lawn all the time. The minute you stop mowing, the grass is going to grow back."



**Planetary Defense**

Leading circles in Russia have made clear their intent to judo the current British-Obama insane drive towards war, by invoking the principle of Lyndon LaRouche's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). Termed the Strategic Defense of Earth, the SDE would focus on cooperation between the U.S.A. and Russia for missile defense, as well as defense of the planet against the threat of asteroid or comet impacts.

The destiny of mankind now is to meet the challenge of our "extraterrestrial imperative"!

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The graphic features a top section with a green sphere and blue energy lines. Below is a bar chart with green and red bars. A line graph below that shows a blue line with a sharp dip labeled 'Forbush Decreases' with two red circles and arrows pointing to it. The bottom section is a dark grey area with the text 'Available from LaRouchePAC' in red.



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## Editorial

### *A Program for Survival*

It's been true all along, but the results of the just-concluded election should underscore it: The LaRouche movement has the *only* program for the survival of the United States, and the rest of the planet. And that's what American patriots had better start fighting *for* immediately.

It begins with the three-point program laid out in LaRouchePAC's "Platform for a New Presidency": reinstating President Franklin Roosevelt's Glass-Steagall Act, restoring a Federal credit system, and launching great projects beginning with NAWAPA XXI. But with the understanding that these three steps represent the implementation of a principle, a principle LaRouche emphasized in his Nov. 5 discussion on LPAC-TV.

What we need is a revolutionary leap in productivity, LaRouche said. "We have to have a real science-driver program, which is the same thing as a space-driver program." He elaborated:

"We've got to *stop* thinking small! We've been thinking small too long, and that's why we're in the mess we're in. We don't *have* the capabilities. And only by going to very *science-dense* capability, and the great science-dense challenge largely includes space. Therefore, the restoration of NASA, right now, is the thing that the United States must do *now*—immediately!—and get into the same kind of program in cooperation with other nations, which are in the same area. For example, China has a very large program in this direction; Russia has a smaller program, but a high-density program where it has something.

"France is a mess; Germany is a mess—the Green policy has destroyed much of Germany. Italy is a mess. Greece is a subject of murder! What's been happening to Greece under the European control is *murder, mass murder!* The same thing is now

happening in Spain, in Portugal. It's going to happen downstream in Italy. We're already there. This is not something that *could* happen; it's already fully in process and accelerating.

"We have to get rid of Wall Street, absolutely: If every Wall Street institution is bankrupted, I will cheer. Because what Wall Street is doing is absorbing capabilities which are precious and *needed* for something useful. Wall Street is worse than useless. Eliminate Wall Street, and then start from there, to use every resource that Wall Street has. *Cancel* it! Take it!

"And start building. We have scant ability to meet the needs of over 300 million people in the United States. We have nowhere near that. And therefore, we have to have a very high rate of acceleration of technological progress and scientific progress....

"You've got to have people make a leap into the future, the real future.... And the best way to stir that up, is to go with a space program, including an acceleration of Mars. Use the Mars mission, which is actually a back-up for helping us deal with the threat to mankind of asteroids and comets. And that should be the top-line objective of mankind....

"This is the kind of thing we can do, and we're going to have to do. But this is the high-tech end: the Mars objective, for dealing with problems on Earth.

"And that is the driver. Once we get that attitude put in, and a NASA approach to that, in cooperation with Russia, China, and other nations which are involved in this, *that* is going to be the driver. We want to start tomorrow, that's *tomorrow!* Tomorrow morning? Want to start it, on Wednesday morning? That's it!"

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